

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS - B.A.

College of Arts and Sciences
 School of Multidisciplinary Social Sciences and Humanities
www.kent.edu/multidisciplinary-studies

Contact Information

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- Speak with an Advisor
- Chat with an Admissions Counselor

Fully Offered

- **Delivery:**
 - In person
- **Location:**
 - Kent Campus

Examples of Possible Careers

- Government, including diplomacy, national intelligence and security agencies, as well as positions in Department of State, Department of Commerce, Department of Defense and Department of Homeland Security
- Law
- Business, including finance, communication and multi-national corporations
- International organizations, such as the United Nations and its affiliated agencies
- Non-governmental organizations in such areas as human rights, economic development and immigration

Description

The Bachelor of Arts degree in International Relations empowers students to make a difference on a global scale. Whether students are interested in human rights, economic development, international law, peacebuilding, climate change or some other global question, the program encourages them to understand international problems from a range of perspectives and see more clearly how they can make an impact on them.

The major is interdisciplinary, which enables students to explore issues from such perspectives as political science, economics and geography, as well as history, literature and Africana studies. Students engage in advanced language study, enhancing their ability to communicate globally, and they are encouraged to study abroad if they are able. The program has permanent arrangements for study in Florence or Geneva, and more customized opportunities are also possible.

Because of their broad exposure to global issues and their language training, International Relations students go on to rewarding careers in almost every imaginable sector, including international organizations, non-profit agencies, business, law and government. To all of those areas, they bring a multifaceted understanding of the global system.

Admission Requirements

The university affirmatively strives to provide educational opportunities and access to students with varied backgrounds, those with special talents and adult students who graduated from high school three or more years ago.

First-Year Students on the Kent Campus: First-year admission policy on the Kent Campus is selective. Admission decisions are based upon cumulative grade point average, strength of high school college preparatory curriculum and grade trends. Students not admissible to the Kent Campus may be administratively referred to one of the seven regional campus to begin their college coursework. For more information, visit the admissions website for first-year students.

First-Year Students on the Regional Campuses: First-year admission to Kent State's campuses at Ashtabula, East Liverpool, Geauga, Salem, Stark, Trumbull and Tuscarawas, as well as the Twinsburg Academic Center, is open to anyone with a high school diploma or its equivalent. Check with a regional campus admissions office to determine application requirements, as they may differ among campuses.

International Students: All international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions) by earning a minimum 525 TOEFL score (71 on the Internet-based version), minimum 75 MELAB score, minimum 6.0 IELTS score, minimum 48 PTE score or minimum 100 DET score; or by completing the ESL level 112 Intensive Program. For more information, visit the admissions website for international students.

Transfer Students: For more information, visit the admissions website for transfer students.

Former Students: Former Kent State students or graduates who have not attended another college or university since Kent State may complete the reenrollment or reinstatement form on the University Registrar's website.

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a basic understanding of global economics, politics, geography, literature and societies.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of at least one foreign language through intermediate II.

University Requirements

All students in a bachelor's degree program at Kent State University must complete the following university requirements for graduation.

NOTE: University requirements may be fulfilled in this program by specific course requirements. Please see Program Requirements for details.

Destination Kent State: First Year Experience	1
Course is not required for students with 25 transfer credits, excluding College Credit Plus, or age 21+ at time of admission.	
Diversity Domestic/Global (DIVD/DIVG)	2 courses
Students must successfully complete one domestic and one global course, of which one must be from the Kent Core.	
Experiential Learning Requirement (ELR)	varies
Students must successfully complete one course or approved experience.	
Kent Core (see table below)	36-37
Writing-Intensive Course (WIC)	1 course

Students must earn a minimum C grade in the course.

Upper-Division Requirement	39
Students must successfully complete 39 upper-division (numbered 30000 to 49999) credit hours to graduate.	
Total Credit Hour Requirement	120

Kent Core Requirements

Kent Core Composition (KCOMP)	6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning (KMCR)	3
Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (KHUM/KFA) (min one course each)	9
Kent Core Social Sciences (KSS) (must be from two disciplines)	6
Kent Core Basic Sciences (KBS/KLAB) (must include one laboratory)	6-7
Kent Core Additional (KADL)	6
Total Credit Hours:	36-37

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements (courses count in major GPA)		
ECON 22060 or HIST 11051	PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS (KSS) WORLD HISTORY: MODERN (DIVG) (KHUM)	3
GEOG 22061	HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (DIVG) (KSS)	3
POL 10504	THE NEW PANGAEA: YOUR ROLE IN OUR GLOBAL COMMUNITY	3
Foreign Language ¹		6-8
Global Economics Elective, choose from the following: 3		
AFS 33130	GENDER AND SEXUALITY IN AFRICA AND THE AFRICAN DIASPORA	
AFS 37020	THE MODEL AFRICAN UNION (ELR)	
ECON 22061	PRINCIPLES OF MACROECONOMICS (KSS)	
ECON 32084	ECONOMICS OF THE ENVIRONMENT	
ECON 42075	INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS	
ECON 42076	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	
ECON 42079	EUROPEAN ECONOMIC ISSUES	
GEOG 31070	POPULATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT	
GEOG 41066	GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE	
GEOG 44010	GEOGRAPHIES OF GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT ²	
POL 30003	POLITICAL ECONOMY	
POL 30810	POLITICS OF THE GLOBAL ECONOMY	
POL 40540	POLITICS OF DEVELOPMENT (DIVG)	
Global Politics Elective, choose from the following: 3		
GEOG 17063	WORLD GEOGRAPHY (DIVG) (KSS)	
GEOG 32080	POLITICS AND PLACE (DIVG)	
HIST 31035	THE GLOBAL COLD WAR	
HIST 31071	U.S. FOREIGN RELATIONS THROUGH 1898	
HIST 31072	U.S. FOREIGN RELATIONS, 1898-1945	
HIST 31073	U.S. FOREIGN RELATIONS SINCE 1945	
HIST 31124	HIGHLIFE HISTORIES: MODERN AFRICAN URBAN EXPERIENCE	
HIST 41060	COMPARATIVE FASCISM	
PACS 31003	NONVIOLENCE: THEORY AND PRACTICE	
PACS 32030	INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT RESOLUTION (DIVG)	

PACS 32040	CROSS-CULTURAL CONFLICT MANAGEMENT (DIVG)	
PACS 41010	RECONCILIATION VERSUS REVENGE: TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE (DIVG) (WIC) ²	
POL 10500	WORLD POLITICS (DIVG) (KSS)	
POL 30500	INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS THEORY	
POL 30511	PROBLEMS OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION	
POL 30820	INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AND LAW	
POL 30840	NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS	
POL 39592	GENEVA INTERNSHIP (ELR)	
POL 40112	POLITICS AND THE MASS MEDIA	
POL 40530	POLITICS OF WAR	
POL 40560	HUMAN RIGHTS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE (DIVG)	
POL 40591	SEMINAR IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS-COMPARATIVE POLITICS (WIC) ²	
POL 40620	POLITICS OF SOCIAL MOVEMENTS (DIVD)	
POL 40840	COMPARATIVE FOREIGN POLICY	
POL 40930	U.S. FOREIGN POLICY	
Global Societies Elective, choose from the following:		3
AFS 15200	INTRODUCTION TO WEST AFRICAN CULTURES	
AFS 22200	INTRODUCTION TO THE AFRICAN ARTS	
AFS 23310	NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES	
AFS 24407	INTRODUCTION TO CARIBBEAN STUDIES (DIVG)	
AFS 33310	AFRO-LATINX COMMUNITIES IN THE U.S. (DIVD)	
AFS 34000	INTRODUCTION TO AFRICAN WORLD VIEW (DIVG)	
AFS 34100	ISLAMIC WEST AFRICA	
AFS 35200	AFRICAN SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SYSTEMS	
ENG 31006	WORLD ENGLISHES (DIVG) (WIC) ²	
ENG 33013	AFRICANA WOMEN'S LITERATURE (DIVG)	
or AFS 37100	AFRICANA WOMEN'S LITERATURE (DIVG)	
ENG 33015	AFRICAN LITERATURES (DIVG)	
or AFS 32050	AFRICAN LITERATURES (DIVG)	
ENG 34005	BRITISH AND IRISH LITERATURE, 1900-PRESENT	
ENG 34011	WORLD LITERATURE IN ENGLISH (DIVG)	
GEOG 37040	GEOGRAPHY OF AFRICA (DIVG)	
GEOG 37045	GEOGRAPHY OF THE MIDDLE EAST	
GEOG 37066	GEOGRAPHY OF EUROPE (DIVG)	
GEOG 37070	GEOGRAPHY OF EAST AND SOUTHEAST ASIA (DIVG)	
GEOG 37072	GEOGRAPHY OF CHINA	
GEOG 37084	GEOGRAPHY OF SOUTH AMERICA (DIVG)	
GEOG 37085	GEOGRAPHY OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (DIVG)	
HIST 31055	POLITICS, CULTURE AND SOCIETY OF 20TH-CENTURY EUROPE	
HIST 31112	CHINESE CIVILIZATION	
HIST 31113	HISTORY OF JAPAN	
HIST 31114	TRADITION AND REVOLUTION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA	
HIST 31115	INDIA SINCE 1526	
HIST 31118	VIETNAM WAR	
HIST 31130	HISTORY OF PRE-COLONIAL AFRICA TO 1880	
HIST 31140	MODERN LATIN AMERICA (DIVG)	

HIST 31141	EARLY MODERN LATIN AMERICA (C. 1450-1820) (DIVG)	
HIST 41020	NINETEENTH-CENTURY EUROPE	
HIST 41024	MODERN EUROPEAN HISTORY, 1914-1945	
HIST 41025	MODERN EUROPEAN HISTORY:1945-PRESENT	
HIST 41041	HISTORY OF GERMANY, 1871-PRESENT	
HIST 41129	THE HOLOCAUST: THE DESTRUCTION OF EUROPEAN JEWRY, 1938-1945	
HIST 41132	HISTORY OF COLONIAL AFRICA, 1880-1994	
POL 10004	COMPARATIVE POLITICS (DIVG) (KSS)	
POL 30002	POLITICAL THOUGHT	
POL 30520	EUROPEAN POLITICS (DIVG)	
POL 30530	ASIAN POLITICS (DIVG)	
POL 30540	AFRICAN POLITICS (DIVG)	
POL 30550	LATIN AMERICAN POLITICS (DIVG)	
POL 30560	MIDDLE EAST POLITICS (DIVG)	
POL 30570	PALESTINE AND ISRAEL	
REL 11020	INTRODUCTION TO WORLD RELIGIONS (DIVG) (ELR) (KHUM)	
Global Economics, Global Politics and Global Societies Upper-Division Electives (30000 and 40000 level) ³		12
Additional Requirements (courses do not count in major GPA)		
UC 10097	DESTINATION KENT STATE: FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE	1
Foreign Language (see Foreign Language College Requirement below)		14-16
Kent Core Composition		6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning		3
Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (minimum one course from each) ⁴		6-9
Kent Core Social Sciences (must be from two disciplines) ⁴		0-3
Kent Core Basic Sciences (must include one laboratory)		6-7
Kent Core Additional		6
General Electives (total credit hours depends on earning 120 credit hours, including 39 upper-division credit hours)		39
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		120

¹ Students must complete a foreign language offered at Kent State (Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Russian, Spanish) at the Intermediate II level (or equivalent). This also will satisfy the college's foreign language requirement (see Foreign Language College Requirement below for additional information). In addition, students must either complete two upper-division courses in the same language or complete a second language at the Elementary II level (or equivalent). With approval of the political science undergraduate coordinator, students may apply courses taken in a foreign language abroad and/or by a proficiency exam (e.g., ACTFL) to satisfy all or part of the language requirement.

² A minimum C grade must be earned to fulfill the writing-intensive requirement.

³ Maximum three courses in one subject area from the four elective groups (Global Economics, Global Politics and/or Global Societies electives lists above)

⁴ The credit hours depends on if the student completes major requirement ECON 22060 (Social Sciences) or HIST 11051 (Humanities).

Graduation Requirements

Minimum Major GPA	Minimum Overall GPA
2.000	2.000

Foreign Language College Requirement, B.A.

Students pursuing the Bachelor of Arts degree in the College of Arts and Sciences must complete 14-16 credit hours of foreign language.¹ To complete the requirement, students need the equivalent of Elementary I and II in any language, plus one of the following options²:

1. Intermediate I and II of the same language
2. Elementary I and II of a second language
3. Any combination of two courses from the following list:

- Intermediate I of the same language
- ARAB 21401
- ASL 19401
- CHIN 25421
- MCLS 10001
- MCLS 20001
- MCLS 20091
- MCLS 21417
- MCLS 21420
- MCLS 22217
- MCLS 28403
- MCLS 28404

¹ All students with prior foreign language experience should take the foreign language placement test to determine the appropriate level at which to start. Some students may start beyond the Elementary I level and will complete the requirement with fewer credit hours and fewer courses. This may be accomplished by (1) passing a course beyond Elementary I through Intermediate II level; (2) receiving credit through one of the alternative credit programs offered by Kent State University; or (3) demonstrating language proficiency comparable to Elementary II of a foreign language. When students complete the requirement with fewer than 14 credit hours and four courses, they will complete remaining credit hours with general electives.

² Certain majors, concentrations and minors may require specific languages, limit the languages from which a student may choose or require coursework through Intermediate II. Students who plan to pursue graduate study may need particular language coursework.

Roadmap

This roadmap is a recommended semester-by-semester plan of study for this major. However, courses designated as critical (!) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation.

Semester One		Credits
GEOG 22061	HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (DIVG) (KSS)	3
or	or THE NEW PANGAEA: YOUR ROLE IN OUR	
POL 10504	GLOBAL COMMUNITY	
UC 10097	DESTINATION KENT STATE: FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE	1
Foreign Language		4
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Credit Hours		14

Semester Two

GEOG 22061	HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (DIVG) (KSS)	3
or	or THE NEW PANGAEA: YOUR ROLE IN OUR	
POL 10504	GLOBAL COMMUNITY	
Foreign Language		4
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Credit Hours		16

Semester Three

ECON 22060	PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS (KSS)	3
or	or WORLD HISTORY: MODERN (DIVG) (KHUM)	
HIST 11051		
Foreign Language		3-4
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Credit Hours		15

Semester Four

Global Societies Elective		3
Foreign Language		3-4
Kent Core Requirement		3
General Electives		6
Credit Hours		15

Semester Five

Global Economics Elective		3
Global Politics Elective		3
Global Economics, Politics and Societies Upper-Division Electives (30000 and 40000 level) (30000 and 40000 level)		3
Foreign Language		3-4
General Elective		3
Credit Hours		15

Semester Six

Note: Students are encouraged to undertake a study abroad experience in junior or senior year.		
General Electives		15
Credit Hours		15

Semester Seven

Global Economics, Politics and Societies Upper-Division Electives (30000 and 40000 level)		9
Foreign Language		3-4
General Elective		3
Credit Hours		15

Semester Eight

Note: Students are encouraged to undertake a study abroad experience in junior or senior year.		
General Electives		15
Credit Hours		15
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		120