

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES - B.A.

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

About This Program

The Bachelor of Arts in International Studies program is your ticket to a global career. With a focus on language, culture and politics, this program prepares you for a wide range of roles in fields such as diplomacy, international business and non-profit organizations. Read more...

Contact Information

- **Julie Mazzei** | jmazzei@kent.edu | 330-672-8934
- Speak with an Advisor
- Chat with an Admissions Counselor

Program Delivery

- **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

Admission Requirements

The university affirmatively strives to provide educational opportunities and access to students with varied backgrounds, those with special talents and adult students.

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 campuses 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. For more information on admissions, contact the Regional Campuses admissions offices.

International Students: All international students must provide proof of proficiency of the English language (unless they meet specific exceptions) through the submission of an English language proficiency test score or by completing English language classes at Kent State’s English as a Second Language Center before entering their program. For more information, visit the admissions website for international students.

Former Students: Former Kent State students who have not attended another institution since Kent State and were not academically dismissed will complete the re-enrollment process through the Financial, Billing and Enrollment Center. Former students who attended another college or university since leaving Kent State must apply for admissions as a transfer or post-undergraduate student.

Transfer Students: Students who attended an educational institution after graduating from high school or earning their GED must apply as transfer students. For more information, visit the admissions website for transfer students.

Admission policies for undergraduate students may be found in the University Catalog’s Academic Policies.

Students may be required to meet certain criteria to progress in their program. Any progression requirements will be listed on the program’s Coursework tab

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements (courses count in major GPA)		
INTS 10504	THE NEW PANGAEA: YOUR ROLE IN OUR GLOBAL COMMUNITY	3
INTS 30001	"TRUE FACTS": MAKING SENSE OF YOUR WORLD	3
INTS 30101	WORLDS OF WEALTH AND POWER	3
INTS 30301	HUMAN SECURITY	3
INTS 30501	ORDER AND RESISTANCE	3
INTS 40799	CAPSTONE IN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES (ELR) (WIC) ¹	3
Major Electives, choose from the following: ²		18
AFS 23002	BLACK EXPERIENCE II: 1865 TO PRESENT (KHUM)	
AFS 23310	NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES	
AFS 32050	AFRICAN LITERATURES	
AFS 37020	THE MODEL AFRICAN UNION (ELR)	
CCI 20001	INTRODUCTION TO MEDIA ADVOCACY	
COMM 42000	MEDIA, WAR AND PROPAGANDA	
COMM 45678	SOCIAL MEDIA AND GLOBALIZATION	
COMM 45756	INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION	
COMM 45760	MEDIA AND NATIONALISM	
CRIM 37511	IMMIGRATION: LAW, CRIME AND JUSTICE	
CRIM 46800	INTELLIGENCE AND NATIONAL SECURITY	
CRIM 46802	TERRORISM AND COUNTERTERRORISM	
ECON 32084	ECONOMICS OF THE ENVIRONMENT	
ECON 42075	INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS	

ENG 33015	AFRICAN LITERATURES
ENG 34011	WORLD LITERATURE IN ENGLISH
ENG 35105	LITERATURE, CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
ENGR 27210	INTRODUCTION TO SUSTAINABILITY
ENVS 22070	NATURE AND SOCIETY (KSS)
FDM 35012	SUSTAINABILITY IN FASHION
GEOG 31070	POPULATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT
GEOG 34070	ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY
GEOG 41077	WATER AND SOCIETY
GEOG 41800	GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES
GEOG 42070	SEMINAR IN ETHNIC, LIFESTYLE AND NATIONAL COMMUNITIES
GEOG 44010	GEOGRAPHIES OF GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT
GEOG 46060	FOOD SECURITY AND SUSTAINABILITY
HIST 11051	WORLD HISTORY: MODERN (KHUM)
HIST 31035	THE GLOBAL COLD WAR
HIST 31082	HISTORY OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS AND BLACK POWER MOVEMENTS IN THE UNITED STATES
HIST 31104	MIGRATIONS TO AMERICA, 1607 TO PRESENT
HIST 31114	TRADITION AND REVOLUTION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA
HIST 31131	HISTORY OF COLONIAL AFRICA, 1880-1994
HIST 31132	HISTORY OF POST-COLONIAL AFRICA
HIST 41060	COMPARATIVE FASCISM
INTS 30570	PALESTINE AND ISRAEL
INTS 40089	INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE (ELR) ³
INTS 40092	INTERNSHIP (ELR)
INTS 40095	SPECIAL TOPICS IN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
INTS 40096	INDIVIDUAL INVESTIGATION
INTS 40560	HUMAN RIGHTS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE
PACS 32030	INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT RESOLUTION
PACS 41010	RECONCILIATION VERSUS REVENGE: TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE (WIC) ¹
POL 30810	POLITICS OF THE GLOBAL ECONOMY
POL 30840	NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS
POL 39592	GENEVA INTERNSHIP (ELR)
POL 40540	POLITICS OF DEVELOPMENT
POL 40620	POLITICS OF SOCIAL MOVEMENTS
REL 41010	RELIGION, VIOLENCE AND TERROR
RPTM 45047	GLOBAL ISSUES OF TOURISM TRADE
SOC 32565	SOCIOLOGY OF SEXUALITIES
SOC 32569	MINORITIES IN THE UNITED STATES
SOC 42359	SOCIAL MOVEMENTS
SOC 42558	WEALTH, POVERTY AND POWER
SOC 42560	SOCIOLOGY OF FOOD (ELR)
Any American Sign Language (ASL) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)	
Any Arabic (ARAB) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)	
Any Chinese (CHIN) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)	
Any French (FR) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)	
Any German (GER) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)	
Any Greek (GRE) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)	
Any Hebrew (HEBR) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)	
Any Italian (ITAL) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)	
Any Japanese (JAPN) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)	
Any Latin (LAT) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)	
Any Russian (RUSS) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)	

Any Spanish (SPAN) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)		
Additional Requirements (courses do not count in major GPA)		
UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1
Foreign Language (see Foreign Language College Requirement below)		10-16
American Civic Literacy Requirement ⁴		3
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		3-6
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)		37
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		120

- ¹ A minimum C grade must be earned to fulfill the writing-intensive requirement.
- ² Students will meet with the international studies advisor during the close of the third or beginning of the fourth semester to plan their path through electives in a way that offers coherence given their interests and goals.
- ³ Students may substitute a different study abroad experience with permission from the program coordinator.
- ⁴ If students complete the American Civic Literacy requirement by taking HIST 12061, the course will apply to the Kent Core Humanities category. If they complete it with POL 10101, the course will apply to the Kent Core Social Sciences category.

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 Sciences and Humanities must complete the following:

1. Elementary I and II of any language (or equivalent) **and**
2. One of the following options:
 - a. Intermediate I and II of the same language
 - b. Elementary I and II of a second language
 - c. Any combination of two courses from the following list:
 - i. Intermediate I of the same language
 - ii. One to two college-level course(s) completed outside the United States
 - iii. Courses: ARAB 21401, ASL 19401, CHIN 25421, MCLS 10001, MCLS 20001, MCLS 20091, MCLS 21417, MCLS 21420, MCLS 22217, MCLS 28403, MCLS 28404

*The Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication Studies is exempt from the foreign language requirement until fall 2028 due to its previous longstanding academic placement in the College of Communication and Information, which does not have a foreign language requirement.

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 courses. This may be accomplished in one of three ways:

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
3. Demonstrating language proficiency comparable to Elementary II of a foreign language

Certain programs 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 a particular language proficiency.

Roadmap

This roadmap is a recommended semester-by-semester plan of study for this program. Students will work with their advisor to develop a sequence based on their academic goals and history. Courses designated as critical (!) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation.

Semester One		Credits
INTS 10504	THE NEW PANGAEA: YOUR ROLE IN OUR GLOBAL COMMUNITY	3
UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1
Foreign Language		4
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Credit Hours		14
Semester Two		Credits
INTS 30001	"TRUE FACTS": MAKING SENSE OF YOUR WORLD	3
INTS 30101	WORLDS OF WEALTH AND POWER	3
Foreign Language		4
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Credit Hours		16
Semester Three		Credits
INTS 30301	HUMAN SECURITY	3
INTS 30501	ORDER AND RESISTANCE	3
Foreign Language and/or General Elective		3
American Civic Literacy Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Credit Hours		15
Semester Four		Credits
Major Electives		6
Foreign Language and/or General Elective		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Credit Hours		15
Semester Five		Credits
Major Electives		6
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
General Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Semester Six		Credits

Note: Students are encouraged to undertake a study abroad experience during junior or senior year.

Major Elective	3	
Kent Core Requirement	3	
Kent Core Requirement	3	
General Electives	6	
Credit Hours	15	
Semester Seven		
Major Elective	3	
General Electives	12	
Credit Hours	15	
Semester Eight		
Note: Students are encouraged to undertake a study abroad experience during junior or senior year.		
INTS 40799	CAPSTONE IN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES (ELR) (WIC)	3
General Electives	12	
Credit Hours	15	
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		120

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.

Flashes 101 (UC 10001)	1 credit hour
Course is not required for students with 30+ transfer credits (excluding College Credit Plus) or age 21+ at time of admission.	
American Civic Literacy	3 credit hours
Experiential Learning Requirement (ELR)	varies
Students must successfully complete one course or approved experience.	
Kent Core (see table below)	36-37 credit hours
Writing-Intensive Course (WIC)	1 course
Students must earn a minimum C grade in the course.	
Upper-Division Requirement	39 credit hours
Students must successfully complete 39 upper-division (numbered 30000 to 49999) credit hours to graduate.	
Total Credit Hour Requirement	120 credit hours

Kent Core Requirements

Kent Core Composition (KCMP)	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 Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Describe their own agency as global actors.
2. Explain how a multidisciplinary understanding of international problems can reshape long-standing approaches to those issues.
3. Identify and utilize appropriate research tools for analyzing an international problem.
4. Articulate in writing ways in which the cumulation of coursework and problem analysis skills speak to specific career aspirations.

Program Policies

Foreign Language Requirements

In general, students may elect any foreign language taught through the Department of Modern and Classical Language Studies. However, certain majors, concentrations and minors require specific languages or limit the languages from which students may choose. In addition, students who plan to pursue graduate study may need particular languages for that study. In such cases, students should seek the advice of the appropriate department before selecting a language.

Progress Toward Fulfillment

College of Sciences and Humanities students are encouraged to begin meeting the foreign language requirement as early as possible in their program to ensure timely degree completion.

Mandatory Outcomes Assessment

In addition to the other General Requirements of the college, candidates for an undergraduate degree in the College of Sciences and Humanities are required, as a condition of graduation, to participate in an outcomes assessment. These outcomes assessments are conducted by each undergraduate degree program in the College of Sciences and Humanities.

Full Description

The Bachelor of Arts degree in International Studies 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, they are encouraged to understand international problems from a range of perspectives and see more clearly how they can make an impact on them.

The International Studies major is multidisciplinary, which enables students to explore issues from a combination of perspectives, including African studies, communication, economics, geography, history, peace and conflict studies, political science and sociology.

Study abroad is available and encouraged. The program has permanent arrangements for study in Geneva, Switzerland and Florence, Italy, with more customized opportunities possible.

Due to their broad exposure to global issues, program graduates go on to rewarding careers in almost every imaginable sector, including international organizations, non-profit agencies, law, advocacy, journalism, business and government.