

International Affairs, M.A.

College of Arts and Sciences

Department: School of Interdisciplinary Global Studies

Major Contacts, Deadlines, and Delivery Information

Concentrations:

- Security and Diplomacy
 - Society and Development
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The M.A. in International Affairs is a professional degree program which prepares students for careers in public and private organizations with global missions by developing their critical thinking, analytical writing, and public speaking skills, while learning and applying international relations theories to analyze major trends and events in world politics.

Admission Information

Must meet University Admission and English Proficiency requirements as well as requirements for admission to the major, listed below.

- GRE recommended
- Three (3) letters of recommendation, preferably from academic sources
- A 500-word statement of purpose which explains why you are applying to the program
- Official transcripts

Curriculum Requirements

Total Minimum Hours: 33 Credit Hours

- **Core Requirements – 6 credit hours**
- **Research Methods – 3 credit hours**
- **Concentration – 9 credit hours**
- **Electives – 9 credit hours minimum**

- **Thesis/Non-Thesis – 6 credit hours**

Core Requirements (6 Credit Hours)

- **INR 6007 Seminar in International Relations Credit Hours: 3**
- **INR 6036 Seminar in International Political Economy Credit Hours: 3**

Research Methods (3 Credit Hours)

Select one:

- **POS 6746 Quantitative Analysis I Credit Hours: 3**
- **POS 6707 Qualitative Analysis Credit Hours: 3**

Concentration (9 Credit Hours Minimum)

Students pick a concentration in Security and Diplomacy or Society and Development.

Concentration in Security and Diplomacy - 9 Credit Hours

Select three:

- **INR 6340 Survey of International Security Credit Hours: 3**
- **INR 6107 American Foreign Policy Credit Hours: 3**
- **INR 6067 Human Rights and Security Credit Hours: 3**
- **INR 5086 Issues in International Relations Credit Hours: 3**
- **AFA 6387 Genocide & Human Rights Credit Hours: 3**
- **Or other graduate course approved by the Graduate Director**

Concentration in Society and Development - 9 Credit Hours

Select three:

- **CPO 6091 Seminar in Comparative Politics Credit Hours: 3**
- **CPO 6077 Social Movements Credit Hours: 3**

- **CPO 5934 Selected Topics in Comparative Politics Credit Hours: 3**
- **INR 5086 Issues in International Relations Credit Hours: 3**
- **AFA 6120 Social Theory and Social Thought Credit Hours: 3**
- **AFA 6108 Social Construction of Race and Racism Credit Hours: 3**
- Or other graduate course approved by the Graduate Director

Electives (9 Credit Hours Minimum)

All 5000- and 6000-level courses with prefixes AFA, CPO, INR, LAS, POS, or POT that are open to master's students are eligible electives. Elective courses taken outside of the School of Interdisciplinary Global Studies must be approved by the Graduate Director.

Thesis/Non-Thesis (6 Credit Hours Minimum)

Thesis:

Students must enroll in [**POS 6971**](#) Thesis: Master's for a minimum of 6 credit hours. In their thesis, students must provide new insight into a relevant topic in international affairs. As students approach the thesis stage, they need to compose a thesis committee consisting of a major professor, who must be a member of the School of Interdisciplinary Global Studies, and two readers. One of the two readers can be from another department, but that person must first be approved by the Graduate Director. Students must prepare a written thesis and defend their work in a formal oral presentation before their committee.

- [**POS 6971 Thesis: Master's**](#) Credit Hours: 2-19 (6 credits for this program)

Non-Thesis:

Students who choose not to write a thesis should take an additional six (6) credit hours of graduate coursework in the School of Interdisciplinary Global Studies, or another department at USF.

Comprehensive Examination

For students in the thesis option, successful completion of the thesis serves in lieu of the Comprehensive Exam. Students in the non-thesis option satisfy the comprehensive examination requirement by submitting a portfolio of written work completed in their courses including a major research project; it will be reviewed and evaluated by a two- or three-person faculty committee.

Other Requirements

Students may apply a maximum of three (3) credit hours of [POS 6909 Independent Study](#) and three (3) credit hours of [POS 6919 Directed Research](#) toward degree requirements.