

GLOBAL AFFAIRS, BA

Banner Code: LA-BA-GLOA

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Global affairs is an interdisciplinary major that introduces students to the processes of globalization that affect all societies. Students gain a sophisticated understanding of complex issues such as terrorism, refugee crises, global inequality, and health and environmental challenges. Core courses in the major provide a knowledge foundation of the political, economic, cultural, and environmental processes in our global and globalizing world. The choice of a thematic or regional concentration helps students tailor the degree to their particular interests and career goals. Students in this program are encouraged to participate in study abroad opportunities and internships. They can complement their major with a second major or a minor.

This is a Green Leaf program.

Admissions & Policies

Policies

Students pursuing this degree must complete 36-39 credits within the major, with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00. Students completing the Smithsonian-Mason semester program will have a total of 40-43 credits. Students must have a minimum grade of 2.00 in each of the core courses and a minimum grade of 1.67 in each of the courses used to fulfill the concentration and the language requirement for global affairs majors. Students who major in global affairs may not also earn the minor in global systems.

Global affairs majors may fulfill the Mason Core Capstone requirement by successfully completing GLOA 400.

For policies governing all undergraduate degrees, see AP.5 Undergraduate Policies.

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Total credits: minimum 120

Students should be aware of the specific policies associated with this program, located on the Admissions & Policies tab.

Core Courses in the Major

GLOA 101	Introduction to Global Affairs (Mason Core)	3
or SOCI 120	Globalization and Society (Mason Core)	
CONF 340	Global Conflict Analysis and Resolution	3
CULT 320	Globalization and Culture	3
ECON 385	International Economic Policy	3

EVPP 337	Environmental Policy Making in Developing Countries	3
GOVT 322	International Relations Theory ¹	3
Total Credits		18

¹ Note the prerequisite for this course: GOVT 132 Introduction to International Politics (Mason Core) or GOVT 133 Introduction to Comparative Politics (Mason Core)

Language Study Beyond Intermediate Proficiency

To fulfill this requirement, students can continue the study of one language beyond the intermediate proficiency level (required for all BA degrees in the college) or choose to study other languages. After a student has demonstrated intermediate proficiency in one language, the remainder of the requirement may be fulfilled by taking any courses taught in a foreign language, at any level. Students are required to complete:

Select 6-9 credits of language study beyond intermediate proficiency	6-9
9 credits beyond the completion of 210 or the receipt of heritage language waiver	
6 credits beyond the completion of 202	
Total Credits	6-9

Concentrations in the Major

Students select one concentration and complete the requirements therein. Courses applied to a global affairs concentration must come from at least two different departments. Concentration courses must be unique to the concentration: they cannot be simultaneously used to fulfill any Mason Core or college requirement for the bachelor's degree. They cannot be applied to any other major, minor, concentration, or certificate.

In addition to the courses listed with each concentration, other relevant courses, including special topics courses, study abroad, and internships (maximum 3 credits), may be applied to a concentration with prior written approval from the director.

Concentration in the Environment (EVT)

Students may complete this concentration through 12 credits of regular coursework or through the Smithsonian-Mason Semester Program (15-16 credits).

Regular Coursework

Select 12 credits from the following:	12
ANTH 370	Environment and Culture
BIOL 301	Biology and Society (Mason Core)
ECON 335	Environmental Economics ¹
ECON 435	Economics of Energy
EVPP 110	The Ecosphere: An Introduction to Environmental Science I (Mason Core)
EVPP 336	Human Dimensions of the Environment
EVPP 377	Applied Ecology
GEOL 309	Introduction to Oceanography
GGG 302	Global Environmental Hazards
GGG 303	Geography of Resource Conservation (Mason Core)

GGG 307	Sustainable Development
GGG 311	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems
GOVT 361 or EVPP 361	Introduction to Environmental Policy
GOVT 362 or EVPP 362	Intermediate Environmental Policy
INTS 334	Environmental Justice
PHIL 243	Global Environmental Ethics (Mason Core)
PHIL 343	Topics in Environmental Philosophy (Mason Core)
TOUR 340	Sustainable Tourism
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Total Credits	12

¹ Note the prerequisites for this course: ECON 103 Contemporary Microeconomic Principles (Mason Core) and ECON 104 Contemporary Macroeconomic Principles (Mason Core)

Smithsonian-Mason Semester Program

Students complete 15-16 credits offered through the Mason Center for Conservation Studies in cooperation with the Smithsonian National Zoo Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute. Students may choose to focus their study on "Conservation, Biodiversity and Society", "Wildlife Ecology and Conservation", or "Endangered Species Conservation". Students take the courses in the selected focus area together in one semester, living on site at the institute in Front Royal, VA. Students who apply this coursework to the concentration cannot also apply it to the minor in Conservation Studies.

Select one of the following focus areas: 15-16

Conservation, Biodiversity and Society option (16 credits):	
CONS 320	Conservation in Practice
CONS 401	Conservation Theory
CONS 402	Applied Conservation
CONS 410	Human Dimensions in Conservation (Mason Core)
CONS 490	RS: Integrated Conservation Strategies (Mason Core)
Wildlife Ecology and Conservation option (15 credits):	
Offered only in Fall semesters, students complete four required courses:	
CONS 400	Conservation Seminar
CONS 404	Biodiversity Monitoring
CONS 405	Landscape and Macrosystems Ecology
CONS 496	Research in Conservation
Endangered Species and Conservation option (15 credits)	
Offered only in Spring semesters, students complete four required courses:	
CONS 400	Conservation Seminar
CONS 406	Small Population Management
CONS 491	RS: Conservation Management Planning (Mason Core)
CONS 496	Research in Conservation
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Total Credits	15-16

Concentration in Global Economy and Management (GEM)

In this concentration, students explore marketing, managing, financing, and networking dimensions of the globalizing world economy. Students will take classes on economic policies of national governments and international organizations as well as operations of non-government market actors.

Select 12 credits from the following: 12

ECON 310	Money and Banking
ECON 360	Economics of Developing Areas (Mason Core)
ECON 361	Economic Development of Latin America (Mason Core)
ECON 362	African Economic Development (Mason Core)
ECON 380	Economies in Transition (Mason Core)
ECON 390	International Economics (Mason Core)
FNAN 440	International Financial Management
GOVT 343	International Political Economy
GOVT 367	Money, Markets and Economic Policy (Mason Core)
IT 304	IT in the Global Economy (Mason Core)
MGMT 461	Cross Cultural and Global Management
MKTG 407	Global Marketing
MBUS 302	Managing Information in a Global Economy
MBUS 303	Marketing in a Global Economy
MBUS 305	Introduction to International Business (Mason Core)
MBUS 491	Special Topics: Business Minor
BULE 303	Legal Environment of Business ¹
BULE 402	Commercial Law ¹
Or other course approved by the program director	
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Total Credits	12

¹ BULE courses require the approval of the director.

Concentration in Global Governance (GLGV)

In this concentration students explore how national governments, international organizations, and non-governmental organizations interact to identify, understand, and address global issues. Coursework covers such topics as transnational challenges, theories of international relations, global institutions, international law and ethics, international security, and conflict. Students are expected to garner theoretical and practical understanding of the ways in which national and transnational actors approach global problems.

Select 12 credits from the following: 12

ANTH 312	Political Anthropology (Mason Core)
COMM 305	Foundations of Intercultural Communication (Mason Core)
CRIM 405	Law and Justice around the World (Mason Core)
CRIM 475	Theory and Politics of Terrorism
GGG 301	Political Geography
GOVT 342	Diplomacy
GOVT 343	International Political Economy

GOVT 344	American Foreign Policy
GOVT 346	American Security Policy
GOVT 347	International Security
GOVT 412	Politics and the Mass Media
GOVT 434	Democracy in Global Perspective
GOVT 445	Human Rights
GOVT 446	International Law and Organization
GOVT 447	Revolution and International Politics
GOVT 448	Ethics and International Politics
INTS 305	Conflict Resolution and Transformation
INTS 416	Refugee and Internal Displacement
INTS 422	An Experiential Approach to American Foreign Policy
SOCI 340	Power, Politics, and Society
Or other course approved by the program director	
Total Credits	12

Concentration in Global Inequalities and Responses (GIR)

This concentration addresses global social issues and the steps actors such as non-profits, social movements, and international organizations take to address these issues. Courses cover human rights, refugee crises, gender violence, racial discrimination, and economic inequality from both historical and contemporary perspectives and in different parts of the world. Students are expected to acquire the skills to analyze complex social problems and to be able to formulate effective strategies to address these.

Select 12 credits from the following:		12
ANTH 365	Human Variation	
ANTH 488	Gender, Sexuality, and Culture	
CONF 394	Human Rights and Inequality	
CRIM 405	Law and Justice around the World (Mason Core)	
GCH 332	Health and Disease	
GCH 450	Culture, Sexuality and the Global AIDS Epidemic	
GGG 304	Population Geography (Mason Core)	
GOVT 414	Politics of Race and Gender	
HIST 366	Comparative Slavery	
INTS 304	Social Movements and Community Activism	
INTS 416	Refugee and Internal Displacement	
SOCI 307	Social Movements and Political Protest	
SOCI 308	Race and Ethnicity in a Changing World	
SOCI 315	Contemporary Gender Relations	
SOCI 355	Social Inequality (Mason Core)	
WMST 100	Representations of Women (Mason Core)	
WMST 200	Introduction to Women and Gender Studies (Mason Core)	
Or other course approved by the program director		
Total Credits	12	

Concentration in Human Security (HMSC)

This concentration is designed to conceptualize security beyond the boundaries of national security and to promote a more comprehensive understanding of "human security" in its multiple facets, including:

food and health (famine and infectious disease), environmental security (natural disasters and climate change), and economic security (development). Coursework addresses these and other themes and draws on government, sociology, criminology, environmental science and policy, and other fields. Students are expected to garner an understanding of the sources of insecurity in today's world.

Select 12 credits from the following:		12
ANTH 331	Refugees (Mason Core)	
ANTH 340	Comparative Perspectives on Immigration	
CONF 345	Social Dynamics of Terrorism, Security, and Justice	
CRIM 475	Theory and Politics of Terrorism	
ECON 360	Economics of Developing Areas (Mason Core)	
EVPP 436	The Human Dimensions of Global Climate Change	
GCH 332	Health and Disease	
GCH 405	Global Health Interventions: History and Systems	
GGG 311	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems	
GOVT 346	American Security Policy	
GOVT 347	International Security	
GOVT 460	Surveillance and Privacy in Contemporary Society	
INTS 305	Conflict Resolution and Transformation	
INTS 314	Conflict, Trauma and Healing	
INTS 378	Medicine, Justice, and Public Policy	
INTS 416	Refugee and Internal Displacement	
SOCI 320	Social Structure and Globalization (Mason Core)	
Or other course approved by the program director		
Total Credits	12	

Concentration in International Development (IDEV)

In this concentration, students examine international development, its challenges, and how these are addressed by governments, international organizations, and non-governmental organizations. Coursework covers development economics, the politics of developing regions and transitional economies, the social consequences of global inequality, public health and health-related development issues, humanitarian relief, and more. Students are expected to gain the knowledge and skills to prepare them for work in the development sector or for further specialized studies in international development.

Select 12 credits from the following:		12
ANTH 331	Refugees (Mason Core)	
ECON 360	Economics of Developing Areas (Mason Core)	
ECON 361	Economic Development of Latin America (Mason Core)	
ECON 362	African Economic Development (Mason Core)	
GCH 205	Global Health (Mason Core)	
GCH 405	Global Health Interventions: History and Systems	

GGS 303	Geography of Resource Conservation (Mason Core)
GGS 307	Sustainable Development
GOVT 336	Political Development and Change
GOVT 434	Democracy in Global Perspective
GOVT 445	Human Rights
GOVT 446	International Law and Organization
HEAL 350	Interventions for Populations and Communities at Risk
INTS 401	Conservation Biology
INTS 416	Refugee and Internal Displacement
PHIL 344	Ethical Issues in Global Health
TOUR 340	Sustainable Tourism
Or other course approved by the program director	
Total Credits	12

Concentration in Media, Communication, and Culture (MCC)

In this concentration, students examine historic trends and recent changes in media and communication technologies as well as their cultural contexts. Coursework includes critical analysis of media content, comparison of global media infrastructures and systems of political communication, discussion of the foundations of intercultural communication, and more. Students are expected to gain an understanding of the role of media and communication in shaping and responding to global issues of concern.

Select 12 credits from the following: 12

ANTH 332	Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Globalization (Mason Core)
ANTH 380	Language and Culture
ANTH 395	Work, Technology, and Society: An IT Perspective (Mason Core)
AVT 372	Hip Hop Culture
COMM 202	Media and Society
COMM 305	Foundations of Intercultural Communication (Mason Core)
COMM 306	Issues in Intercultural Communication
COMM 380	Media Criticism
COMM 412	Politics and the Mass Media
COMM 456	Comparative Mass Media (Mason Core)
DANC 318	Global Perspectives: World Dance Forms (Mason Core)
ENGH 315	Folklore and Folklife
ENGH 362	Global Voices (Mason Core)
ENGH 366	The Idea of a World Literature (Mason Core)
ENGH 367	World Literatures in English
FRLN 330	Topics in World Literature (Mason Core)
FRLN 331	Topics in World Cinema (Mason Core)
IT 300	Modern Telecommunications
INTS 345	Introduction to Multimedia
INTS 348	Digital Futures
INTS 381	When Cultural Worlds Collide
PSYC 379	Applied Cross-Cultural Psychology (Mason Core)

SOCI 314	Sociology of Culture
THR 359	World Stages (Mason Core)
or other course approved by the program director	
Total Credits	12

Concentration in Africa (AFR)

This concentration focuses on the societies of Africa, their history, culture, economics, and politics, including the pre-colonial, colonial, and post-colonial experiences. Course options include African diaspora experiences. Upon completion of this concentration, students will have an in-depth understanding of Africa as an international actor, African contributions (past and present) to global society, the political and economic challenges facing the continent today, and African solutions to problems such as civil wars and inequality.

Select 12 credits from the following: 12

ARTH 206	Survey of African Art (Mason Core)
ECON 362	African Economic Development (Mason Core)
FREN 451	Topics in Sub-Saharan Francophone Literature and Culture
GGS 325	Geography of North Africa and the Middle East
GOVT 432	Political Change and Social Development in Sub-Saharan Africa
HIST 261	Survey of African History (Mason Core)
HIST 262	Survey of African History (Mason Core)
HIST 335	The African American Experience in the United States: African Background to 1885
HIST 336	The African American Experience in the United States: Reconstruction to the Present
HIST 360	History of South Africa (Mason Core)
Or other course approved by the program director	
Total Credits	12

Concentration in Asia (ASA)

This concentration emphasizes Asia's increasingly significant role in contemporary global issues as well as its historical contexts. The courses in this concentration cover the economic, social, and political issues that confront the Asia-Pacific region (that is, East and Southeast Asian countries). Students interested in anthropology, history, art history, government, and religious studies should consider this concentration.

Select 12 credits from the following: 12

ANTH 306	Peoples and Cultures of Island Asia (Mason Core)
ANTH 309	Peoples and Cultures of India (Mason Core)
ARTH 203	Survey of Asian Art (Mason Core)
ARTH 382	Arts of India (Mason Core)
ARTH 383	Arts of Southeast Asia (Mason Core)
ARTH 384	Arts of China (Mason Core)
ARTH 385	Arts of Japan (Mason Core)
ARTH 386	The Silk Road (Mason Core)
CHIN 310	Survey of Chinese Literature (Mason Core)

CHIN 311	Modern Chinese Literature in Translation (Mason Core)
CHIN 328	Asian American Women Writers (Mason Core)
CHIN 320	Contemporary Chinese Film
GOVT 333	Government and Politics of Asia
GOVT 338	Government and Politics of Russia
GOVT 341	Chinese Foreign Policy
GOVT 433	Political Economy of East Asia
HIST 251	Survey of East Asian History (Mason Core)
HIST 252	Survey of East Asian History (Mason Core)
HIST 353	History of Traditional China
HIST 354	Modern China
HIST 356	Modern Japan (Mason Core)
HIST 357	Postwar Japan (Mason Core)
HIST 358	Post-1949 China (Mason Core)
JAPA 310	Japanese Culture in a Global World (Mason Core)
JAPA 320	Japanese Cinema
RELI 212	Religions of Asia (Mason Core)
RELI 313	Hinduism (Mason Core)
RELI 314	Chinese Philosophies and Religious Traditions
RELI 315	Buddhism (Mason Core)
RELI 317	Daoism
RUSS 353	Russian Civilization (Mason Core)
Or other course approved by the program director	

Total Credits 12

Concentration in Europe (EU)

This concentration is designed to equip students with a deep and broad understanding of politics, history, culture, religion, and the arts in Europe as well as Europe's lasting legacies across the globe. Coursework includes broad surveys on government, geography, literature, and economics as well as special topics courses on the Renaissance, World Wars I and II, and nationalism in Eastern Europe. Upon completion of this concentration, students will have the ability to think critically about how historical processes and current events in Europe not only impact Europeans, but also the global community at large.

Select 12 credits from the following: 12

ARTH 340	Early Renaissance Art in Italy, 1300-1500 (Mason Core)
ARTH 360	Nineteenth-Century European Art (Mason Core)
ARTH 362	Twentieth-Century European Art (Mason Core)
ENGH 339	British and Irish Drama after 1900
ENGH 361	Continental Fiction, 1880-1950
FREN 325	Major French Writers (Topic Varies) (Mason Core)
FREN 470	French and Francophone Cinema
GERM 325	Major Writers (Mason Core)
GERM 340	Survey of German Literature

GERM 451	Modern Literature: 1925 to the Present
GGS 320	Geography of Europe
GOVT 334	Government and Politics of Europe
GOVT 337	Ethnic Politics in Western Europe and North America
GOVT 338	Government and Politics of Russia
HIST 304	Western Europe in the Middle Ages
HIST 305	The Renaissance
HIST 306	The Reformation
HIST 307	Old Regime and Revolutionary Europe
HIST 308	Nineteenth-Century Europe
HIST 309	Europe in Crisis: 1914-1948
HIST 312	Nationalism in Eastern Europe
HIST 314	History of Germany
HIST 322	Modern Britain
HIST 436	European Society and Culture: 19th and 20th Centuries
RUSS 353	Russian Civilization (Mason Core)
SPAN 321	Introduction to Spanish Culture
SPAN 325	Major Hispanic Writers (Mason Core)
SPAN 461	Spanish Civilization and Culture
SPAN 483	Medieval and Early Modern Literature of Spain
SPAN 484	Modern and Contemporary Literature of Spain
Or other course approved by the program director	

Total Credits 12

Concentration in Latin America (LA)

This concentration is designed to provide students with an overview of Latin America and its diaspora. Course options include broad surveys of Latin American history, art, literature, music, culture, and politics, as well as courses that provide in-depth exploration of topics such as colonialism, economic development, political movements, race and ethnicity, migration, and aesthetic trends. Upon completion of this concentration, students will have an in-depth understanding of Latin America as an international actor, Latin American contributions (past and present) to global society, and the political and economic challenges faced by the region.

Select 12 credits from the following: 12

ANTH 302	Peoples and Cultures of Latin America (Mason Core)
ANTH 307	Ancient Mesoamerica (Mason Core)
ARTH 204	Survey of Latin American Art (Mason Core)
ARTH 376	Twentieth-Century Latin American Art (Mason Core)
ECON 361	Economic Development of Latin America (Mason Core)
GGS 316	Geography of Latin America
GOVT 331	Government and Politics of Latin America
HIST 271	Survey of Latin American History (Mason Core)
HIST 272	Survey of Latin American History (Mason Core)

HIST 364	Revolution and Radical Politics in Latin America (Mason Core)
HIST 365	Conquest and Colonization in Latin America (Mason Core)
HIST 367	History, Fiction, and Film in Latin America
SPAN 322	Introduction to Latin American Culture (Mason Core)
SPAN 325	Major Hispanic Writers (Mason Core)
SPAN 388	Introduction to Latina/o Studies (Mason Core)
SPAN 390	Introduction to Hispanic Literary Analysis
SPAN 466	Latin American Civilization and Culture (Mason Core)
SPAN 488	The Literature of Spanish America
Or other course approved by the program director	
Total Credits	12

Concentration in Middle East and North Africa (MNA)

This concentration provides students with a contemporary and historical perspective on the politics, economics, and religious diversity of the Middle East and North Africa. Coursework includes broad surveys as well as courses on specific topics such as the Arab-Israeli conflict, francophone literature from North Africa, politics and Islam, and art and archeology of the ancient Near East. Upon completion of this concentration, students are expected to have an in-depth understanding of the current state of the Middle East and North Africa and how this state has developed historically.

Select 12 credits from the following:		12
ANTH 308	Peoples and Cultures of the Middle East (Mason Core)	
ARTH 319	Art and Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (Mason Core)	
ARTH 320	Art of the Islamic World (Mason Core)	
ARTH 386	The Silk Road (Mason Core)	
FREN 453	Topics in North African Francophone Literature and Culture	
GGG 325	Geography of North Africa and the Middle East	
GOVT 332	Government and Politics of the Middle East and North Africa	
GOVT 345	Islam and Politics	
HIST 281	Survey of Middle Eastern Civilization (Mason Core)	
HIST 282	Survey of Middle Eastern Civilization (Mason Core)	
HIST 460	Modern Iran (Mason Core)	
HIST 461	Arab-Israeli Conflict	
HIST 462	Women in Islamic Society (Mason Core)	
HIST 465	The Middle East in the 20th Century	
RELI 211	Religions of the West (Mason Core)	
RELI 272	Islam	
RELI 352	Judaism from Exile to Talmud	
RELI 355	Sufism	
RELI 375	Qur'an and Hadith	
RELI 387	Islam, Democracy, and Human Rights	

Or other course approved by the program director	
Total Credits	12

Concentration in North America (NA)

In this concentration, students explore the multifaceted development of the United States and its relationship with its North American neighbors. Coursework includes historical examinations of pre-American culture, as well as in-depth surveys of political, economic, cultural, and artistic developments in United States. Upon completion of this concentration, students will have the ability to critically assess how the US has influenced and been influenced by European and non-European societies and traditions, knowledge of the development of American government and its consequences within and beyond North America, and an appreciation of the role of arts and literature in American culture.

Select 12 credits from the following:		12
ANTH 301	Native North Americans	
ARTH 371	American Architecture and Material Culture	
ARTH 372	Studies in 18th- and 19th-Century Art of the United States (Mason Core)	
ARTH 373	Studies in 20th-Century Art of the United States (Mason Core)	
ENGH 355	Recent American Fiction	
ENGH 356	Recent American Poetry	
GGG 315	Geography of the United States	
GOVT 301	Public Law and the Judicial Process	
GOVT 307	Legislative Behavior	
GOVT 308	The American Presidency	
GOVT 337	Ethnic Politics in Western Europe and North America	
GOVT 420	American Political Thought	
HIST 331	Postwar United States, 1945-1973	
HIST 332	United States since 1973	
HIST 336	The African American Experience in the United States: Reconstruction to the Present	
HIST 350	U.S. Women's History	
HIST 351	History of the Old South	
HIST 352	The South since 1865	
HIST 370	War and American Society	
USST 401	Seminar: The Future of Metropolitan America	
Or other course approved by the program director		
Total Credits	12	

Concentration in Russia and Central Asia (RCA)

This concentration provides students contemporary and historical perspectives on the political, economic, and cultural climates and trends in Russia and Central Asia. Upon completion of this concentration, students will not only have the skills to critically assess the impacts of Soviet-era legacies on newly independent political systems, economies in transition, and re-emerging cultural traditions, but also knowledge of pre-Soviet sociocultural and political environments in Russia and Central Asia.

Select 12 credits from the following:		12
ARTH 386	The Silk Road (Mason Core)	

ECON 380	Economies in Transition (Mason Core)
GGG 330	Geography of the Soviet Succession States
GOVT 338	Government and Politics of Russia
GOVT 340	Central Asian Politics
GOVT 447	Revolution and International Politics
HIST 327	The Soviet Union and Russia Since World War II
HIST 328	Rise of Russia (Mason Core)
HIST 329	Modern Russia and the Soviet Union (Mason Core)
HIST 426	The Russian Revolution
RUSS 325	Major Russian Writers (Mason Core)
RUSS 326	A Survey of Russian Literature (Mason Core)
RUSS 327	A Survey of Russian Literature (Mason Core)
RUSS 353	Russian Civilization (Mason Core)
RUSS 354	Contemporary Post-Soviet Life (Mason Core)
RUSS 407	Russian Drama and Theater
RUSS 410	Russian Poetry
RUSS 470	Topics in (Post) Soviet Film
Or other course approved by the program director	
Total Credits	12

Individualized Concentration (IND)

Students who wish to design their own concentration must submit a one-page proposal and create a curriculum plan to be approved by the director.

Writing-Intensive Requirement

The university requires all students to complete at least one course designated "writing intensive" in their majors at the 300 level or above. Students majoring in global affairs may fulfill this requirement by successfully completing EVPP 337 Environmental Policy Making in Developing Countries.

Upper Level Requirement

Students seeking a bachelor's degree must apply at least 45 credits of upper-level courses (numbered 300 or above) toward graduation requirements.

College Level Requirements in the BA Degree

In addition to the Mason Core program, students pursuing a BA degree must complete the coursework below. Except where expressly prohibited, a course used to fulfill a college level requirement may also be used simultaneously to satisfy other requirements (Mason Core requirements or requirements for the major).

Philosophy or Religious Studies

Code	Title	Credits
Select 3 credits from the following:		3
PHIL ¹		
RELI		

¹ Note that the following courses may not be used to fulfill this requirement:

- PHIL 323 Classical Western Political Theory
- PHIL 324 Modern Western Political Theory
- PHIL 327 Contemporary Western Political Theory
- PHIL 393 Humanities College to Career
- PHIL 460 Senior Seminar in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Additionally, PHIL 253 Philosophy and Literature (Mason Core) and RELI 235 Religion and Literature (Mason Core) cannot be used to fulfill both the philosophy/religious studies requirement and the Mason Core literature requirement.

Social and Behavioral Sciences

Code	Title	Credits
Select 3 credits of social and behavioral sciences from the following (additional to the Mason Core social and behavioral sciences requirement) ¹		3

ANTH	
CRIM	
ECON	
GOVT	
HIST ²	
LING	
PSYC	
SOCI	
Or choose from the following GGS courses:	
GGG 101	Major World Regions (Mason Core)
GGG 103	Human Geography (Mason Core)
GGG 110	Introduction to Geoinformation Technologies
GGG 301	Political Geography
GGG 303	Geography of Resource Conservation (Mason Core)
GGG 304	Population Geography (Mason Core)
GGG 305	Economic Geography
GGG 306	Urban Geography
GGG 315	Geography of the United States
GGG 316	Geography of Latin America
GGG 320	Geography of Europe
GGG 325	Geography of North Africa and the Middle East
GGG 330	Geography of the Soviet Succession States
GGG 357	Structures in Urban Governance and Planning
GGG 380	Geography of Virginia

¹ The two courses used to fulfill the combined college and Mason Core requirements must be from different disciplines in the social and behavioral sciences.

² HIST 100 History of Western Civilization (Mason Core) and HIST 125 Introduction to World History (Mason Core) may not be used to fulfill this requirement.

Foreign Language

Code	Title	Credits
Intermediate-level proficiency in one foreign language, fulfilled by: ¹		
Completing a course in a foreign language numbered 202, 209, or 210 (or higher level courses taught in the language)		
Or achieving a satisfactory score on an approved proficiency test		
Or completing the following ASL three course sequence:		
EDSE 115	American Sign Language (ASL) I	
EDSE 116	American Sign Language (ASL) II	
EDSE 219	American Sign Language (ASL) III	

¹ Students who are already proficient in a second language may be eligible for a waiver of this requirement. Additional information on waivers can be found at the Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs (<http://chssundergrad.gmu.edu>).

Non-Western Culture

Select 3 credits of an approved course in the study of a non-Western culture (additional to the Mason Core requirement in global understanding)

Code	Title	Credits
Select 3 credits (additional to Mason Core Global Understanding requirement) ¹		
ANTH 114	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 300	Civilizations	3
ANTH 301	Native North Americans	3
ANTH 302	Peoples and Cultures of Latin America (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 303	Peoples and Cultures of the Andes	3
ANTH 306	Peoples and Cultures of Island Asia (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 307	Ancient Mesoamerica (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 308	Peoples and Cultures of the Middle East (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 309	Peoples and Cultures of India (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 313	Myth, Magic, and Mind (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 314	Zombies	3
ANTH 316	Peoples and Cultures of the Caribbean (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 323	Digging and Dealing in the Dead: Ethics in Archaeology	3
ANTH 330	Peoples and Cultures of Selected Regions: Non-Western	3
ANTH 332	Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Globalization (Mason Core)	3
ANTH 381	Medical Anthropology	3
ANTH 383	Cities of the Global South	3
ANTH 396	Issues in Anthropology: Social Sciences (Mason Core)	3
ARAB 360	Topics in Arabic Cultural Production	3
ARAB 420	Survey of Arabic Literature	3

ARAB 440	Topics in Arabic Religious Thought and Texts (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 203	Survey of Asian Art (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 204	Survey of Latin American Art (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 206	Survey of African Art (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 318	Art and Archaeology of Ancient Egypt	3
ARTH 319	Art and Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 320	Art of the Islamic World (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 382	Arts of India (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 383	Arts of Southeast Asia (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 384	Arts of China (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 385	Arts of Japan (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 386	The Silk Road (Mason Core)	3
ARTH 482	RS: Advanced Studies in Asian Art	3
CHIN 318	Introduction to Classical Chinese (Mason Core)	3
CHIN 320	Contemporary Chinese Film	3
CHIN 325	Major Chinese Writers (Mason Core)	3
DANC 118	World Dance (Mason Core)	3
ECON 361	Economic Development of Latin America (Mason Core)	3
ECON 362	African Economic Development (Mason Core)	3
FREN 451	Topics in Sub-Saharan Francophone Literature and Culture	3
FREN 454	Topics in Caribbean Francophone Literature and Culture	3
GGG 101	Major World Regions (Mason Core)	3
GGG 316	Geography of Latin America	3
GGG 325	Geography of North Africa and the Middle East	3
GGG 330	Geography of the Soviet Succession States	3
GGG 399	Select Topics in GGS	3
GOVT 328	Non-Western Political Theory	3
GOVT 332	Government and Politics of the Middle East and North Africa	3
GOVT 333	Government and Politics of Asia	3
GOVT 340	Central Asian Politics	3
GOVT 341	Chinese Foreign Policy	3
GOVT 345	Islam and Politics	3
GOVT 432	Political Change and Social Development in Sub-Saharan Africa	3
GOVT 433	Political Economy of East Asia	3
HIST 251	Survey of East Asian History (Mason Core)	3
HIST 252	Survey of East Asian History (Mason Core)	3
HIST 261	Survey of African History (Mason Core)	3
HIST 262	Survey of African History (Mason Core)	3
HIST 271	Survey of Latin American History (Mason Core)	3

HIST 272	Survey of Latin American History (Mason Core)	3	RUSS 354	Contemporary Post-Soviet Life (Mason Core)	3
HIST 281	Survey of Middle Eastern Civilization (Mason Core)	3	¹ A course used to fulfill the Mason Core global understanding requirement may not be simultaneously used to satisfy this college-level requirement. A course used to fulfill this requirement may be used simultaneously to fulfill any other requirements (Mason Core requirements, college-level requirements, or requirements for the major). Additional information on waivers can be found at the Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs (http://chssundergrad.gmu.edu).		
HIST 282	Survey of Middle Eastern Civilization (Mason Core)	3			
HIST 326	Stalinism	3			
HIST 327	The Soviet Union and Russia Since World War II	3			
HIST 328	Rise of Russia (Mason Core)	3			
HIST 329	Modern Russia and the Soviet Union (Mason Core)	3			
HIST 353	History of Traditional China	3			
HIST 354	Modern China	3			
HIST 356	Modern Japan (Mason Core)	3			
HIST 357	Postwar Japan (Mason Core)	3			
HIST 358	Post-1949 China (Mason Core)	3			
HIST 360	History of South Africa (Mason Core)	3			
HIST 364	Revolution and Radical Politics in Latin America (Mason Core)	3			
HIST 365	Conquest and Colonization in Latin America (Mason Core)	3			
HIST 366	Comparative Slavery	3			
HIST 367	History, Fiction, and Film in Latin America	3			
HIST 387	Topics in Global History (Mason Core)	3-6			
HIST 426	The Russian Revolution	3			
HIST 460	Modern Iran (Mason Core)	3			
HIST 461	Arab-Israeli Conflict	3			
HIST 462	Women in Islamic Society (Mason Core)	3			
HIST 465	The Middle East in the 20th Century	3			
JAPA 310	Japanese Culture in a Global World (Mason Core)	3			
JAPA 340	Topics in Japanese Literature (Mason Core)	3			
KORE 320	Korean Popular Culture in a Global World	3			
MUSI 103	Musics of the World (Mason Core)	3			
RELI 211	Religions of the West (Mason Core)	3			
RELI 212	Religions of Asia (Mason Core)	3			
RELI 240	Death and the Afterlife in World Religions	3			
RELI 272	Islam	3			
RELI 313	Hinduism (Mason Core)	3			
RELI 314	Chinese Philosophies and Religious Traditions	3			
RELI 315	Buddhism (Mason Core)	3			
RELI 337	Mysticism: East and West	3			
RELI 365	Muhammad: Life and Legacy	3			
RELI 374	Islamic Thought (Mason Core)	3			
RELI 375	Qur'an and Hadith	3			
RELI 379	Islamic Law, Society, and Ethics	3			
RELI 387	Islam, Democracy, and Human Rights	3			
RELI 490	Comparative Study of Religions (Mason Core)	3			
RUSS 353	Russian Civilization (Mason Core)	3			

Mason Core

Note: Some Mason Core requirements may already be fulfilled by the major requirements listed above. Students are strongly encouraged to consult their advisors to ensure they fulfill all remaining Mason Core requirements.

Code	Title	Credits
Foundation Requirements		
	Written Communication	6
	Oral Communication	3
	Quantitative Reasoning	3
	Information Technology	3-7
Core Requirements		
	Arts	3
	Global Understanding	3
	Literature	3
	Natural Science	7
	Social and Behavioral Sciences	3
	Western Civilization/World History	3
Synthesis/Capstone Requirement ¹		
	Synthesis/Capstone	3
Total Credits		40

¹ minimum 3 credits

Additional Electives

Any remaining credits may be completed with electives to bring the degree total to 120.

Honors

Honors in the Major

Highly qualified students may pursue advanced work leading to graduation with honors in the major. Global Affairs majors who have completed 75 credits with an overall GPA of 3.50 and a GPA of 3.50 in courses for the major are eligible to apply to graduate with honors.

Students pursuing honors in the major must complete a two-course honors sequence GLOA 491 Honors Seminar in Global Affairs and GLOA 492 Honors Research Project in Global Affairs with a minimum GPA of 3.50 in the sequence. Not all applicants who meet the minimum requirements are guaranteed acceptance.

Accelerated Master's

The accelerated master's programs listed below specify the BA in global affairs as a feeder degree for their programs. It is important to note, however, that many accelerated master's programs are available for any bachelor's degree at Mason, including this one. See the full list of master's degrees with accelerated programs at George Mason. In addition, as a student with a BA in global affairs you may be particularly interested in the accelerated MA in global affairs.

Bachelor's Degree (selected)/Middle East and Islamic Studies, Accelerated MA

Overview

Highly-qualified undergraduates pursuing a BA in select majors (listed below) may apply to the accelerated master's degree in Middle East and Islamic studies. If accepted, and depending on their undergraduate major, students will be able to earn a bachelor's degree in their chosen major and a master's degree in Middle East and Islamic studies after satisfactory completion of 144 credits, sometimes within five years. See AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees.

Students in an accelerated degree program must fulfill all university requirements for the master's degree. For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP.6 Graduate Policies.

Selected Majors

- government and international politics
- global affairs
- history
- religious studies
- Russian and Eurasian studies
- sociology
- anthropology

It is preferred, though not required, that the student have a minor in Middle East studies or Islamic studies.

Application Requirements

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in Graduate Admissions. For information specific to the accelerated MA in Middle East and Islamic studies, see Application Requirements and Deadlines (<http://meis.gmu.edu/programs/la-ma-acel-meis>).

Accelerated Option Requirements

While undergraduate students, accelerated master's students complete two graduate courses as indicated on their Accelerated Master's Program Application with a minimum grade of 3.00 in each course. Once admitted to the accelerated master's pathway, students must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25 in all course work. Upon completion and conferral of the undergraduate degree in the semester indicated in the application, they submit the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form and are admitted to graduate status.

Code	Title	Credits
Select two courses from the following:		6

MEIS 500	Critical Issues and Debates in Middle East and Islamic Studies
HIST 575	Approaches to Middle East and Islamic History
GOVT 632	Politics and Societies of the Middle East
RELI 644	Islamic Texts and Contexts

Total Credits	6
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As graduate students, accelerated master's students have an advanced standing. They must meet all master's degree requirements except for the two courses (6 credits) they completed as undergraduates. Students must begin their master's program the semester immediately following conferral of the undergraduate degree.

Reserve Graduate Credit

Students may take up to 6 additional graduate credits as reserve graduate credit. These credits do not apply to the undergraduate degree. To apply these credits to the master's degree, students should use the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form.

Code	Title	Credits
Select up to 6 additional graduate credits from the following:		6
MEIS 500	Critical Issues and Debates in Middle East and Islamic Studies	
HIST 575	Approaches to Middle East and Islamic History	
GOVT 731	Advanced Seminar in Comparative Politics (when content focus is the Middle East)	
GOVT 733	Islam and Politics	
RELI 644	Islamic Texts and Contexts	
Total Credits		6

The ability to take courses, including ones not listed above, for reserve graduate credit is available to all high achieving undergraduates with the permission of the department. Permission is normally granted only to qualified Mason seniors within 15 hours of graduation. Permission is normally granted only to qualified Mason seniors within 15 hours of graduation. See AP.1.4.4 Graduate Course Enrollment by Undergraduates.

Bachelor's Degree (selected)/Interdisciplinary Studies, Accelerated MAIS (Religion, Culture, and Values Concentration)

Overview

Highly-qualified undergraduates in selected majors (see below) may apply to the accelerated master's degree in interdisciplinary studies with a concentration in religion, culture, and values. If accepted, and depending on their undergraduate major, students will be able to earn a bachelor's degree in their chosen major and a master's in interdisciplinary studies with a concentration in religion, culture, and values after satisfactory completion of 150 credits, sometimes within five years. See AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees.

Students in an accelerated degree program must fulfill all university requirements for the master's degree. For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP.6 Graduate Policies.

Selected Majors

- Art history
- Philosophy
- Conflict analysis and resolution
- Global affairs
- History
- Religious studies
- Russian and Eurasian studies
- Sociology
- Anthropology

If the student has not majored in religious studies, it is preferred, though not required, that the student have a minor in religious studies.

Application Requirements

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in the Admissions. For information specific to the accelerated MAIS, see Application Requirements and Deadlines (<http://mais.gmu.edu/programs/la-mais-isin/application>).

Accelerated Option Requirements

While undergraduate students, accelerated master's students complete two graduate courses as indicated on their Accelerated Master's Program Application with a minimum grade of 3.00 in each course. Once admitted to the accelerated master's pathway, students must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25 in all coursework. Upon completion and conferral of the undergraduate degree in the semester indicated in the application, they submit the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form and are admitted to graduate status.

Code	Title	Credits
Select two from the following:		6
RELI 630	Approaches to the Study of Religion	
RELI 631	Sacred as Secular in Modern Spirituality	
RELI 632	World Religions in Conflict and Dialogue	
RELI 633	Ethical Perspectives of World Religions	
RELI 635	World Religions in Transition and Transformation	
RELI 636	Religion and the Natural Environment	
RELI 642	Sacred Language, Scripture, and Culture	
Total Credits		6

As graduate students, accelerated master's students have an advanced standing. They must meet all master's degree requirements except for the two courses (6 credits) they completed as undergraduates. Students must begin their master's program the semester immediately following conferral of the undergraduate degree.

Reserve Graduate Credit

Students may take up to 6 additional graduate credits as reserve graduate credit. These credits do not apply to the undergraduate degree. To apply these credits to the master's degree, students should use the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form.

Code	Title	Credits
Select 6 credits from the following:		6
RELI 630	Approaches to the Study of Religion	

RELI 631	Sacred as Secular in Modern Spirituality	
RELI 632	World Religions in Conflict and Dialogue	
RELI 633	Ethical Perspectives of World Religions	
RELI 635	World Religions in Transition and Transformation	
RELI 636	Religion and the Natural Environment	
RELI 642	Sacred Language, Scripture, and Culture	
Total Credits		6

The ability to take courses, including ones not listed above, for reserve graduate credit is available to all high achieving undergraduates with the permission of the department. Permission is normally granted only to qualified Mason seniors within 15 hours of graduation. See AP.1.4.4 Graduate Course Enrollment by Undergraduates.

Bachelor's Degree (Green Leaf)/ Environmental Science and Policy, Accelerated MS

Overview

This degree option allows highly qualified George Mason University students to earn an Environmental Science and Policy, MS in less time than if they had first graduated with an environmentally-focused Green Leaf-designated BA or BS degree and then applied to the MS program sequentially.

For more detailed information, see AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees. For policies governing all graduate programs, see AP.6 Graduate Policies.

Admission Requirements

Students with an overall GPA of at least 3.20 who are pursuing any Green Leaf-designated major or minor may apply for provisional acceptance into this accelerated master's program after completing two semesters of chemistry (including CHEM 211 General Chemistry I (Mason Core) and CHEM 212 General Chemistry II (Mason Core)) and three semesters of biology, including a course in ecology, or the equivalent, for example:

Code	Title	Credits
Select one of the following options:		13
Option 1:		
BIOL 213	Cell Structure and Function (Mason Core)	
BIOL 214	Biostatistics for Biology Majors	
BIOL 308	Foundations of Ecology and Evolution	
Option 2:		
EVPP 210	Environmental Biology: Molecules and Cells	
EVPP 301	Environmental Science: Biological Diversity and Ecosystems	
EVPP 302	Environmental Science: Biomes and Human Dimensions	
EVPP 305	Environmental Microbiology Essentials	
EVPP 306	Environmental Microbiology Essentials Laboratory	
Option 3:		
CONS 401	Conservation Theory	

CONS 402	Applied Conservation
6 credits of 6 credits of BIOL or CONS electives	

Option 4:

CONS 403	Ecology and Conservation Theory
CONS 404	Biodiversity Monitoring
BIOL or CONS electives	

By the beginning of the undergraduate's senior year, they should first submit a Graduate Application for Accelerated Master's Program form (obtained from the Office of Academic and Student Affairs (<https://cos.gmu.edu/about/contact-us>)). Secondly, in their senior year accelerated master's students must complete the two graduate courses indicated on their Accelerated Master's Program Application with a minimum grade of 3.00 in each course. They must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.00 in all coursework and in coursework applied to their major. Upon completion and conferral of the undergraduate degree in a Green Leaf-designated program, in the semester indicated in the application, they must additionally submit the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition form (found on the Office of the University Registrar website (<http://registrar.gmu.edu/forms>)) and will subsequently be admitted into graduate status.

By at least the beginning of their senior year, they should seek out a faculty member in the Department of Environmental Science and Policy who is willing to serve as their advisor (unless the student is planning to enroll in the MS concentration in Environmental Management). This advisor will aid the student in choosing the appropriate graduate courses to take and help to prepare the student for graduate studies. Admission into a research-oriented master's concentration is dependent upon securing the agreement of a faculty advisor. Faculty from a variety of departments and colleges at George Mason (called "program faculty") can serve as master's advisors. Potential students are encouraged to speak with the graduate program coordinator in the department to obtain guidance on this issue.

Application Requirements

Applicants to all graduate programs at Mason must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in the Graduate Admission Policies section of this catalog, *excluding* the GRE exam requirement (which is not required for those enrolled in the accelerated program). This includes three letters of recommendation (at least one from a former professor or someone with a PhD), a recent resume, a statement of interest/research goals and interests (including information on the candidate's proposed MS research), and a letter from their advisor stating that the advisor agrees to take on the candidate as an MS student, how the candidate would be a good fit for them and why candidate's research topic would be suitable (please note that a letter of endorsement from an advisor not necessary for candidates taking the Environmental Management concentration).

For information specific to the accelerated Environmental Science and Policy, MS, see Graduate Admissions on the department's website (<http://esp.gmu.edu/academic-programs/graduate/admissions>).

Reserve Graduate Credits

Students admitted to this program may take graduate courses after completing 90 undergraduate credits, and up to 6 credits of appropriate environmentally-focused graduate coursework may be used in partial satisfaction of the requirements for the undergraduate degree. If students earn at least a 3.00 GPA in these classes, they are granted

advanced standing in the master's program and must then complete an additional 27-31 credits to receive the master's degree.

To apply these credits to the master's degree, students must request that the credits be moved from the undergraduate degree to the graduate degree using the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition form found on the Office of the University Registrar website (<http://registrar.gmu.edu/forms>) (as noted above).

Students may take up to 6 additional environmentally-focused graduate credits as reserve graduate credit. These credits do not apply to the undergraduate degree but will reduce the subsequent master's degree credits accordingly (e.g., with 6 credits counted towards undergraduate degree plus the maximum 6 reserve credits, an MS could be completed with 21 post-bachelor's credits). The ability to take courses for reserve graduate credit is available to all high achieving undergraduates with the permission of the department.