MA Student Handbook

Program in International Relations
New York University

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Welcome to the Program in International Relations at NYU housed in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. I am pleased that you decided to join us. The entire IR team is committed to making your experience at New York University rewarding and productive.

The Master of Arts in International Relations is a predominantly terminal MA degree. The curriculum exposes students to substantive knowledge and scholarly research in the field of International Relations in order to help students develop critical thinking, analytical, research, and writing skills that will be applied in careers found in the practice of international affairs.

Alumni of the program have embarked on successful professional careers in government, the public sector, non-profits, and the private sector; while others have gone on to pursue a Ph.D. in political science or other related fields.

The faculty teaching in the MA Program in International Relations include both full-time and part-time NYU faculty drawn from across NYU. Some faculty are based in the IR program, while many other full-time faculty are based in world-class departments such as Politics, History, Anthropology, the Wagner School, the Stern School of Business and NYU Law. NYU faculty are leaders in their field and their research is influential in their respective academic disciplines, as well as impacting public policy. Additionally, the IR Program benefits greatly from our part-time faculty who bring experience from the public and private sectors into the classroom. The ability to learn from these scholars and professionals is part of what makes NYU special.

This handbook provides you with the necessary information concerning degree requirements and program policies and procedures. Please note that the GSAS and NYU University rules and regulations supersede this handbook. The web link to the GSAS Policies and Procedures Manual has also been provided in your course pack – please review this online document carefully.

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Director
MA Program Contact Information

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Master of Arts in International Relations

The Masters of Arts in International Relations is a terminal master’s degree program. The MA in International Relations is a 40-point program. Most students attending on a full-time basis typically complete the program in two years. A full-time course load consists of 12 points per semester.

**MA IR Degree Requirements**

40 points of coursework are required as defined below:

*Core Courses:*

Students must take: **8 points**

1) International Relations, INTRL-GA 1700
2) Global and International History, INTRL-GA 1600

And they must choose one of the following: **4 points**

- Quantitative Analysis I, INTRL-GA 1120
- Qualitative Analysis I, INTRL-GA 1220
- Regional and Comparative Politics, INTRL-GA 1450
- The World Economy, INTRL-GA 1900

*Required Courses:*

1) 2 points:
   Master’s Thesis Seminar INTRL-GA 4000

2) 2 points:
   Field Study Seminar INTRL-GA 3995 or 9995, or
   Readings and Research INTRL-GA 3991;
   or any other 2 point course at NYU, subject to approval by the MA Director,

*Elective Courses: **24 points**

- At least 12 points must be taken in IR electives

*Total **40 points**

International Relations electives are defined as any course listed under International Relations course code, INTRL-GA. Students cannot double-count core or required courses as elective courses but they may take additional core courses as elective courses. A general elective can be a graduate level course from any NYU department or school (with the exception of the School of Professional Studies), subject to approval from the Program Director.

*Thesis Requirement:*
Students enroll in the MA Thesis Seminar, INTRL-GA 4000, in their last semester. The course is designed to provide structure and guidance to students writing a thesis. The thesis will be an academic work of approximately 15,000 words dealing with an important and timely topic in international relations. Please see the MA Thesis Handbook for further instructions. Visit http://goo.gl/kazfH4 for forms and resources.

Field Study Requirement:
To further their professional development all MAIR students are required to complete a field study project and the corresponding Field Study Seminar, INTRL-GA 3995. The field study project places students in a professional work environment in either the public or private sector. The project must total at least 120 hours over 14 weeks. Students can opt out of the Field Study requirement if they are pursuing a scholarly track with the intention of completing a Ph.D. after earning the MA. In this case, students complete the ‘Readings and Research’ course, INTRL-GA 3991, in their second to last term, in addition to the MA Thesis Seminar, INTRL-GA 4000, in their final term. The R&R course work should be designed with the student’s thesis supervisor to provide for a more advanced and rigorous MA thesis. Please see the MA Field Study Handbook for further instructions. Visit http://goo.gl/kazfH4 for forms and resources.

Language requirement:
Students must demonstrate proficiency in one language other than English. Students demonstrate proficiency in a foreign language by completing one of the following:

- Passing the GSAS foreign language proficiency examination
- Completing an intermediate-level foreign language course with a grade of B or better at NYU or another accredited institution. Student must submit official transcript as proof of completion.
- Completing secondary education or undergraduate degree in an institution where language of instruction is not English.

Please contact ir.masters@nyu.edu to confirm language proficiency before your second year in the program.
MA in IR with Concentration in European and Mediterranean Studies

The MA in IR with a concentration in European & Mediterranean Studies is a 40-point program (12 points undertaken at the NYU Center for European and Mediterranean Studies). The coursework requirements for students opting for the concentration would consist of the following:

Core Courses:

Students must take: 12 points
- International Relations, INTRL-GA 1700
- Global and International History, INTRL-GA 1600
- What is Europe?, EURO-GA 2301

And they must choose one of the following: 4 points
- Quantitative Analysis I, INTRL-GA 1120
- Qualitative Analysis I, INTRL-GA 1220
- Regional and Comparative Politics, INTRL-GA 1450
- The World Economy, INTRL-GA 1900

Required Courses:

Master’s Thesis Seminar INTRL-GA 4000 2 points
Field Study Seminar INTRL-GA 3995 or 9995, or Readings and Research INTRL-GA 3991; 2 points
or any other 2 point course at NYU, subject to approval by the MA Director,

Elective Courses:

International Relations electives, 12 points
European & Mediterranean Studies electives, 8 points

Total 40 points

The International Relations electives are defined as any course listed under International Relations course code, INTRL-GA. Students cannot double-count core or required courses as elective courses but may take additional core courses as elective courses. European & Mediterranean studies electives are defined as any graduate level elective courses listed on the CEMS (Center for European and Mediterranean Studies) website.

Thesis Requirement:
Students enroll in the MA Thesis Seminar, INTRL-GA 4000, in their last semester. The course is designed to provide structure and guidance to students writing a thesis. The thesis will be an academic work of approximately 15,000 words dealing with an important and timely topic in

Field Study Requirement:
To further their professional development all MAIR students are required to complete a field study project and the corresponding Field Study Seminar, INTRL-GA 3995. The field study project places students in a professional work environment in either the public or private sector. The project must total at least 120 hours over 14 weeks. Students can opt out of the Field Study requirement if they are pursuing a scholarly track with the intention of completing a Ph.D. after earning the MA. In this case, students complete the ‘Readings and Research’ course, INTRL-GA 3991, in their second to last term, in addition to the MA Thesis Seminar, INTRL-GA 4000, in their final term. The R&R course work should be designed with the student’s thesis supervisor to provide for a more advanced and rigorous MA thesis. Please see the MA Field Study Handbook for further instructions. Visit http://goo.gl/kazfH4 for forms and resources.

Language Requirement:
Before being granted the MA, students must attain the level of “advanced” in a contemporary European language (speaking, oral comprehension, reading, and writing), to be demonstrated by either passing an examination or completing a third-year language course with a grade of B+ or higher. Please contact ir.masters@nyu.edu to confirm language proficiency before your second year in the program.
MA in IR with Concentration in International Politics and International Business

Students complete the core courses and required components for the revised M.A. program described above. However, among the Elective Courses the students must acquire at least twelve credits from a designated group in other disciplines in the Leonard N. Stern School of Business. There are no changes in the concentration reflected below. The only changes are in the requirements of the MA program itself. The coursework requirements for students opting for this concentration would now look as follows:

Core Courses:

Students must take:

1) International Relations, INTRL-GA 1700
2) Global and International History, INTRL-GA 1600

And they must choose one of the following:

- Quantitative Analysis I, INTRL-GA 1120
- Qualitative Analysis I, INTRL-GA 1220
- Regional and Comparative Politics, INTRL-GA 1450
- The World Economy, INTRL-GA 1900

Required Courses:

Master’s Thesis Seminar INTRL-GA 4000

Field Study Seminar INTRL-GA 3995 or 9995, or
Readings and Research INTRL-GA 3991;
or any other 2 point course at NYU, subject to approval by the MA Director,

Elective Courses:

Stern School of Business courses
International Relations Electives
General Electives

Total

The International Relations electives are defined as any course listed under International Relations course code, INTRL-GA. Students cannot double-count core or required courses as elective courses but may take additional core courses as elective courses. A general elective can be a graduate level course from any NYU department or school, subject to approval from the Program Director.

Thesis Requirement:

Students enroll in the MA Thesis Seminar, INTRL-GA 4000, in their last semester. The course is designed to provide structure and guidance to students writing a thesis. The thesis will be an
academic work of approximately 15,000 words dealing with an important and timely topic in international relations. Please see the MA Thesis Handbook for further instructions. Visit http://goo.gl/kazfH4 for forms and resources.

Field Study Requirement:
To further their professional development all MAIR students are required to complete a field study project and the corresponding Field Study Seminar, INTRL-GA 3995. The field study project places students in a professional work environment in either the public or private sector. The project must total at least 120 hours over 14 weeks. Students can opt out of the Field Study requirement if they are pursuing a scholarly track with the intention of completing a Ph.D. after earning the MA. In this case, students complete the ‘Readings and Research’ course, INTRL-GA 3991, in their second to last term, in addition to the MA Thesis Seminar, INTRL-GA 4000, in their final term. The R&R course work should be designed with the student’s thesis supervisor to provide for a more advanced and rigorous MA thesis. Please see the MA Field Study Handbook for further instructions. Visit http://goo.gl/kazfH4 for forms and resources.

Language requirement:
Students must demonstrate proficiency in one language other than English. Students demonstrate proficiency in a foreign language by completing one of the following:

- Passing the GSAS foreign language proficiency examination
- Completing an intermediate-level foreign language course with a grade of B or better at NYU or another accredited institution. Student must submit official transcript as proof of completion.
- Completing secondary education or undergraduate degree in an institution where language of instruction is not English.

Please contact ir.masters@nyu.edu to confirm language proficiency before your second year in the program.
Given our international focus, we are eager to see our students develop advanced area studies skills and draw on NYU’s extensive area studies resources. The nature of contemporary European geopolitics and the role that Russia plays in modern Europe necessitates a strong foundational study in Russian and Slavic studies for students interested in this region.

The MA in IR with a concentration in Russian & Slavic Studies is a 40-point program (12 points undertaken in RSS). The coursework requirements for students opting for the concentration would consist of the following:

**Core Courses:**

Students must take:  
12 points
- International Relations, INTRL-GA 1700
- Global and International History, INTRL-GA 1600
- Defining Russia, RUSSN-GA 2121

And they must choose one of the following:  
4 points
- Quantitative Analysis I, INTRL-GA 1120
- Qualitative Analysis I, INTRL-GA 1220
- Regional and Comparative Politics, INTRL-GA 1450
- The World Economy, INTRL-GA 1900

**Required Courses:**

- Master’s Thesis Seminar INTRL-GA 4000  
  2 points
- Field Study Seminar INTRL-GA 3995 or 9995, or  
  2 points
  Readings and Research INTRL-GA 3991;  
  or any other 2 point course at NYU, subject to approval by the MA Director,

**Elective Courses:**

- International Relations electives,  
  12 points
- Russian and Slavic Studies electives,  
  8 points

**Total**  
40 points

The International Relations electives are defined as any course listed under International Relations course code, INTRL-GA. Students cannot double-count core or required courses as elective courses but may take additional core courses as elective courses. RSS electives are graduate level courses with RUSSN-GA subject number and are subject to approval from the program director.
**Thesis Requirement:**
Students enroll in the MA Thesis Seminar, INTRL-GA 4000, in their last semester. The course is designed to provide structure and guidance to students writing a thesis. The thesis will be an academic work of approximately 15,000 words dealing with an important and timely topic in international relations. Please see the MA Thesis Handbook for further instructions. Visit [http://goo.gl/kazfH4](http://goo.gl/kazfH4) for forms and resources.

**Field Study Requirement:**
To further their professional development all MAIR students are required to complete a field study project and the corresponding Field Study Seminar, INTRL-GA 3995. The field study project places students in a professional work environment in either the public or private sector. The project must total at least 120 hours over 14 weeks. Students can opt out of the Field Study requirement if they are pursuing a scholarly track with the intention of completing a Ph.D. after earning the MA. In this case, students complete the ‘Readings and Research’ course, INTRL-GA 3991, in their second to last term, in addition to the MA Thesis Seminar, INTRL-GA 4000, in their final term. The R&R course work should be designed with the student’s thesis supervisor to provide for a more advanced and rigorous MA thesis. Please see the MA Field Study Handbook for further instructions. Visit [http://goo.gl/kazfH4](http://goo.gl/kazfH4) for forms and resources.

**Russian Language Requirement:**
Before being granted the MA, students must attain the level of “advanced” in all Russian language skills (speaking, oral comprehension, reading, and writing), to be demonstrated by either passing an examination or completing a third-year Russian language course (NYU’s RUSSN-UA 108 Advanced Russian II equivalent) with a grade of B+ or higher. Please contact [ir.masters@nyu.edu](mailto:ir.masters@nyu.edu) to confirm language proficiency before your second year in the program.
Joint Degree in Journalism and International Relations

Students complete a hybrid program of study consisting of 16 points in IR and 20 points in Journalism, with a 2-credit directed reading for the Master’s project and 2-credit field study or reading and research course.

**Core IR Journalism Courses**

- Writing, Research and Reporting I, JOUR-GA 1021
- Writing, Research and Reporting II, JOUR-GA 1022
- Any Three Journalism Electives *(at least 2 reporting)*

20 points

**Core IR Courses:**

- International Relations, INTRL-GA 1700
- Global and International History, INTRL-GA 1600
- Any Two IR Elective Courses

16 points

**Required Courses:**

- Directed Reading JOUR-GA 1299 (for the Master’s project) 2 points
- Field Study Seminar INTRL-GA 3995 2 points
- or Readings and Research INTRL-GA 3991, with the Program Directors’ approval

Total 40 points

Please contact Professor Asli Peker, Academic Advisor for MA in IR and Journalism, and your respective Journalism advisor for details about what is required from each program.
IR Program Plagiarism Policy

A COMMUNITY OF THE MIND

New York University is a "community of the mind." Its students, faculty, and staff all share the goal of pursuing truth through free and open inquiry, and we support one another's endeavors in this regard. As in any community, membership comes with certain rights and responsibilities. Foremost among these is academic integrity. Cheating on an exam, falsifying data, or having someone else write a paper undermines others who are "doing it on their own"; it makes it difficult or impossible to assess fairly a student's interest, aptitude, and achievement; and it diminishes the cheater, depriving him/her of an education. Most importantly, academic dishonesty is a violation of the very principles upon which the academy is founded. Thus, one of the first things that we ask of students entering the program is to recognize these principles of academic integrity. For this reason also, violations of these principles are treated with the utmost seriousness. Perhaps the most serious form of academic dishonesty is plagiarism.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is copying someone else’s work and portraying it as your own without properly referencing it (i.e. not citing it). For further clarification please see Indiana University Bloomington’s comprehensive website on how to recognize plagiarism: https://indiana.edu/~istd. Plagiarism can be done purposefully or accidentally – either way it is still plagiarism. Plagiarism will be dealt with according to GSAS Regulations. This is a severe offense – not to be taken lightly. If you need assistance on understanding plagiarism please see the Program Director immediately.

If a faculty member suspects plagiarism in a piece of work the faculty member with knowledge of the facts shall file a complaint with the IR Program Director per GSAS regulation 8.2.s.

The IR program director will notify the student in writing of the complaint within two working days of receipt of the complaint (GSAS reg 8.2.2).

If a student’s work is suspected of plagiarism the student will be requested by the Program Director (per GSAS reg 8.2.3) to meet with a faculty panel consisting of the Program Director and one permanent faculty member. The student will be asked to explain the case of plagiarism and the student will be queried about the issue and provided with the evidence the program has used to determine the existence of plagiarism.

The faculty panel has a range of options regarding decisions, but in cases where plagiarism has been found the penalties are as follows:

- If a student is found guilty of plagiarism, in the first instance the student receives a fail for the piece of work. The guilty verdict will be placed on the student’s file and the student will receive a written warning of their violation.
- If a student is found guilty of a second case of plagiarism the student will be removed from the IR program permanently.

Student may reject the program’s resolution. If there is no consensual resolution of the situation (GSAS reg 8.2.3) then the Program Director will forward the program’s complaint of plagiarism to the Associate Dean for Academic Support and Student Affairs, in which case the procedures beginning with section 8.4 of the GSAS Policies and Procedures Manual (v.January 2013) will apply. Please consult your GSAS manual for further details on procedure 8.4.

**Students’ Religious Observance and Class Attendance**

As a nonsectarian, inclusive institution, NYU policy permits members of any religious group to absent themselves from classes without penalty when required for compliance with their religious obligations. The policy and principles to be followed by students and faculty may be found here: [http://goo.gl/cRmQL9](http://goo.gl/cRmQL9)

**MA in International Relations Program Policies and Procedures**

- Please note that GSAS and NYU University rules and regulations supersede this handbook. See the most current GSAS Policies and Procedures Manual here: [http://gsas.nyu.edu/page/grad.pp.manual](http://gsas.nyu.edu/page/grad.pp.manual)
- For the most current MA Program in International Relations forms and resources see here: [http://goo.gl/kazfH4](http://goo.gl/kazfH4)