

International Studies Program

Fulton School of Liberal Arts

PROGRAMS

MAJOR

- International Studies, B.A.

AREA STUDIES MINORS

- African Studies
- Africana Studies
- Asian Studies
- European Studies
- Latin American Studies
- Middle East Studies

About the Program

The 21st century global system has been buffeted by change and instability. Many believed that the end of the Cold War would bring about what Francis Fukuyama called the “End of History,” marked by international stability under the stewardship of a single great global hegemon, the United States. Instead, the post-Cold War era has witnessed a range of new challenges, including climate change, globalization and the nationalist backlash against the forces of globalization, migration crises, continuing instability and conflict in the developing world, terrorism, the emergence of China as a major power, Russia’s effort to reassert its importance on the global stage, and the COVID-19 Pandemic.

The International Studies Program at Salisbury University is designed to provide students with the intellectual tools and skills they need both to make sense of the contemporary world and to play a productive role in helping to meet the issues and crises that challenge the global community. The program encourages students to view the world from multiple perspectives and helps them gain a deeper understanding of the social, political, economic, historical and cultural processes – along with the power dynamics and global connections – that shape individuals, communities, states and regions in the international system.

Our Curriculum

The International Studies Program offers a robust interdisciplinary curriculum, drawing from more than half a dozen departments at SU, including Political Science, Conflict Analysis and Dispute Resolution, History, Sociology, Economics, Philosophy, and Modern Languages and Intercultural Studies.

The structure of the international studies major allows each student, in consultation with their academic advisor, to select from more than 100 courses based on their individual interests. The program further supports students’ understanding of the contemporary global system by incorporating both foreign language and study abroad components within the major, while also providing students with the opportunity to participate in SU’s highly successful Model UN Club.

Study Abroad and Area Studies Minors

SU’s International Studies Program provides students with the opportunity to study abroad. The student’s academic advisor and SU’s Dudley-Eshbach Center for International Education assist in identifying study abroad opportunities that match a student’s academic interests. Salisbury University has forged institutional agreements with several foreign universities designed to ensure that the cost of studying at those institutions is equivalent to studying at Salisbury and that all courses taken by the student while studying abroad easily transfer back to SU.

For students interested in a specific region of the world, the international studies curriculum connects seamlessly with SU’s area studies minors. These include Africa, Africana, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Middle East. Students pursuing one of these minors may also have the opportunity to complete part of their coursework at a university within their chosen region.

Internships and Award Fellowships

The International Studies Program works with The Washington Center to provide our majors with the opportunity to live, work and study in Washington, DC. in relevant employment areas, including Congress, the media and various government agencies. Students may earn up to 16 credits toward their degree through this program.

Each fall, the program awards the Justin Y. Shen Study Abroad Fellowship to a deserving international studies major to help cover study abroad expenses for the following academic year. In addition, the program honors an outstanding graduating senior each spring with the Justin Y. Shen Award for International Studies.



Salisbury University Model UN Delegation at the United Nations General Assembly, Spring 2025.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH AN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES DEGREE?

The Bachelor of Arts in international studies provides students with the foundational knowledge and skills to pursue careers in sectors such as government, international organizations, non-governmental organizations and business. A B.A. in international studies opens a world of employment opportunities, including:

- Foreign Service
- Policy Analyst
- Intelligence Services
- International Organization Employment (e.g., the UN System)
- Nongovernmental Organization Employment (e.g., Amnesty International)
- Congressional Aide
- Lobbyist

The B.A. in international studies can also serve as a springboard for graduate study. *Forbes* magazine ranks a master’s degree in international studies among the top five graduate degrees for job prospects. In addition, the program prepares students who plan to pursue a Ph.D. in international relations or a related field – a degree that can lead to a career in academia.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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salisbury.edu/international-studies

Visit the International Studies Program website at:



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