

Program Overview

The Master of Arts (M.A.) with a major in International Studies is an interdisciplinary program that prepares students for work and leadership in an interdependent world. Through training in area studies, technology information training, oral and written communication skills, and business acumen, the program aims to develop leaders for business, government, military, education, non-profit organizations, and international institutions that are collectively facing an increasingly interdependent world where cultural diversity is a reality and the need to appreciate and value such heterogeneity is a prerequisite to global peace and prosperity.

Paul D. Coverdell Fellows Program

The Coverdell Fellowship Program for returned Peace Corps volunteers is currently available for returned volunteers pursuing the master's degree in International Studies at the Center for International Studies.

Financial Assistance

A limited number of fellowships and scholarships are available to qualified graduate students. Departmental fellowships and scholarships are listed on the Center for International Studies website: <http://www.txstate.edu/internationalstudies> (<http://www.txstate.edu/internationalstudies/>). The Graduate College can provide further information about scholarships.

Application Requirements

The items listed below are required for admission consideration for applicable semesters of entry during the current academic year. Submission instructions, additional details, and changes to admission requirements for semesters other than the current academic year can be found on The Graduate College's website (<http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu>). International students should review the International Admission Documents page (<http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/graduate/admission-documents/international/>) for additional requirements.

- completed online application
- \$55 nonrefundable application fee
- or
- \$90 nonrefundable application fee for applications with international credentials
- baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited university
- official transcripts from **each institution** where course credit was granted. (Non-U.S. degrees must be equivalent to a four-year U.S. Bachelor's degree. In most cases, three-year degrees are not considered. Visit our International FAQs (<https://www.gradcollege.txst.edu/international/faqs.html>) for more information.)
- a 3.0 overall GPA or a 3.0 GPA in the last 60 hours of undergraduate course work (plus any completed graduate courses)*
- proficiency in the speaking, reading, and oral comprehension of a modern language other than English as demonstrated by the following:
 - grade of B or better in modern language course work beyond the second year that was taken within the last three years at an accredited college, university, or language institute.

- examination for proficiency levels in reading, speaking, and listening that would place the student beyond the second year of language courses*
- recent foreign living experience of at least six continuous months in a single non-English-speaking culture outside the U.S.
- GRE not required*
- resume/CV
- statement of purpose (2–5 pages) describing the following:
 - the reasons for considering the international studies program
 - how it fits into a process of professional development
 - what the student hopes to accomplish by enrolling in the program
- three letters of recommendation from professors

Coverdell Applicants Requirements

- completed online application
- baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited university. (Non-U.S. degrees must be equivalent to a four-year U.S. Bachelor's degree. In most cases, three-year degrees are not considered. Visit our International FAQs (<https://www.gradcollege.txst.edu/international/faqs.html>) for more information.)
- official transcripts from each institution where course credit was granted
- a 3.0 overall GPA or a 3.0 GPA in the last 60 hours of undergraduate course work (plus any completed graduate courses)*
- background course work: a passing grade in at least 6 hours in introductory (principles of) microeconomics and macroeconomics courses (can be taken prior to the start of the program or concurrently with first year courses) at a regionally accredited college of university
- proficiency in the speaking, reading, and oral comprehension of a modern language other than English as demonstrated by the following:
 - grade of B or better in modern language course work beyond the second year that was taken within the last three years at an accredited college, university, or language institute
 - examination of proficiency levels in reading, speaking, and listening that would place the student beyond the second year of language courses*
 - recent foreign living experience of at least 6 continuous months in a single non-English-speaking culture outside the U.S.
- GRE not required*
- official Peace Corps description of service (application fees will be waived upon receipt)
- resume/CV listing Peace Corps Service
- statement of purpose (2–5 pages) describing the following:
 - the reasons for considering the international studies program
 - how it fits into a process of professional development
 - what the student hopes to accomplish by enrolling in the program
 - Peace Corps service
- two letters of recommendation from professors

Approved English Proficiency Exam Scores

Applicants are required to submit an approved English proficiency exam score that meets the minimum program requirements below unless they have earned a bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally accredited U.S. institution or the equivalent from a country on our exempt

countries list (<http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/international/language.html#waiver>).

- official TOEFL iBT scores required with a 78 overall
- official PTE scores required with a 52
- official IELTS (academic) scores required with a 6.5 overall and minimum individual module scores of 6.0
- official Duolingo Scores required with a 110 overall
- official TOEFL Essentials scores required with an 8.5 overall

*Additional Information

GPA and GRE Requirement

If the overall GPA or last-60-hours GPA falls between 2.8–2.99, the student may submit the following:

- official GRE (general test only) scores with competitive scores

Foreign Language Proficiency Requirement

If the last language course was taken more than three years before the date of admission, and there has been no significant involvement in the language in the interim, the student may be asked to take a refresher course(s) in the language.

Degree Requirements

The Master of Arts (M.A.) degree with a major in International Studies requires 30 semester credit hours, including a thesis.

Course Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
Choose 3 hours of global history from the following:		3
HIST 5309D	Early Modern Spain	
HIST 5310	Western European History Since 1815	
HIST 5318C	The Age of the Stuarts	
HIST 5318D	European Imperialism	
HIST 5318E	European Sexualities	
HIST 5318F	European Fascisms and Historical Memory	
HIST 5323A	Society and Culture in Brazil	
HIST 5324B	Race, Class, and Nation in Modern Latin America	
HIST 5324C	Slavery and Emancipation in the Americas	
HIST 5324D	Writing the History of Latin America: The Colonial Era	
HIST 5324E	Modern Latin American Revolutions	
HIST 5325C	Revolutionary Mexico	
HIST 5325D	Mexico Since the Revolution	
HIST 5335	Twentieth-Century Russia	
HIST 5336	East European History	
HIST 5341B	Caribbean Transnationalism and Diplomacy	
HIST 5345O	Immigration and US History	
HIST 5362	Military History	
HIST 5381	Chinese Communism	
HIST 5382	China and the Modern World	
HIST 5395I	Global Cold War	
Choose 9 hours of global politics from the following:		9
PS 5310	Studies in Ancient and Medieval Political Thought	

PS 5311	Social Contract Theory
PS 5315	Contemporary Perspectives in Modern Liberalism
PS 5316	The Crisis of Liberalism and The Future of Democracy
PS 5318	The Problem of Power and the Crisis of Modernity
PS 5330A	Nuclear Weapons in International Politics
PS 5330F	Topics in Comparative Politics of European and Developing Countries
PS 5330J	Authoritarian Regimes
PS 5332	Problems in American Foreign Relations
PS 5359	Comparative Democratization
PS 5361	Government and Politics of African States
PS 5362	Problems of Democracy in Latin America
PS 5375	Seminar in International Relations Theory
PS 5377	Problems in International Organizations
PS 5378	Problems in International Law
PS 5380	International Conflict and Security
PS 5381	The International Politics of Nuclear Weapons
PS 5398	Directed Reading and Research

Prescribed Electives

Choose 12 hours from the following (No more than 6 hours may come from the same discipline.): 12

ANTH 5306	Anthropology and Art
ANTH 5308	Cultural Resource Management and Archaeology
ANTH 5311	Seminar in Cultural Anthropology
ANTH 5320	Rise of Civilization
ANTH 5322	Peoples and Cultures of Africa
ANTH 5345	Archaeology of Mesoamerica
ANTH 5355	Seminar in Culture Theory
ANTH 5356	Andean Civilizations
ANTH 5373L	Cultural Heritage Management
BILG 5388	The Politics of Language
CI 5330	Multicultural Teaching and Learning
CI 5336	Methods and Materials for Teaching English as a Second Language
CJ 5355	Intelligence Gathering and Operational Issues As Applied to Terrorism and Counterterrorism Operation
COMM 5325	Seminar in Human Communication Theory
DVST 5310	Diversity Studies: Theories & Issues
DVST 5320	Global Issues in Diversity
ECO 5310	International Economics
ECO 5320	Emerging Market Economies
ENG 5311	Foundations in Technical Communication ²
ENG 5313	Studies in Principles of Technical Communication ²
ENG 5314	Specializations in Technical Communication ²
ENG 5383	Studies in Rhetorical Theory
GEO 5313	Environmental Studies ²
GEO 5318	Environment Problems of the U.S.-Mexico Border
GEO 5326	Parks and Protected Places
GEO 5349	Population Geography
HIST 5309D	Early Modern Spain

HIST 5310	Western European History Since 1815
HIST 5318D	European Imperialism
HIST 5318E	European Sexualities
HIST 5318F	European Fascisms and Historical Memory
HIST 5323A	Society and Culture in Brazil
HIST 5324B	Race, Class, and Nation in Modern Latin America
HIST 5324D	Writing the History of Latin America: The Colonial Era
HIST 5324E	Modern Latin American Revolutions
HIST 5325C	Revolutionary Mexico
HIST 5325C	Revolutionary Mexico
HIST 5335	Twentieth-Century Russia
HIST 5336	East European History
HIST 5341B	Caribbean Transnationalism and Diplomacy
HIST 5345O	Immigration and US History
HIST 5362	Military History
HIST 5381	Chinese Communism
HIST 5382	China and the Modern World
HIST 5395I	Global Cold War
IS 5387	International Studies Internship
IS 5390	Problems in International Studies Research
IS 5398	General Research Methods
MC 5321	Latinos and Media
MGT 5312	Seminar in Management
MKT 5322	Marketing Research Methods
MKT 5330	International Marketing
PHIL 5301	Applied Philosophy
PHIL 5322	Professional Ethics
PHIL 5323	Environmental Ethics
PHIL 5329	Food Ethics
PHIL 5332	Social and Political Philosophy
PHIL 5373	Themes in Africana Philosophy
PA 5352	Comparative Public Administration
PS 5310	Studies in Ancient and Medieval Political Thought
PS 5311	Social Contract Theory
PS 5315	Contemporary Perspectives in Modern Liberalism
PS 5316	The Crisis of Liberalism and The Future of Democracy
PS 5318	The Problem of Power and the Crisis of Modernity
PS 5330A	Nuclear Weapons in International Politics
PS 5330F	Topics in Comparative Politics of European and Developing Countries
PS 5330J	Authoritarian Regimes
PS 5332	Problems in American Foreign Relations
PS 5359	Comparative Democratization
PS 5360	Economic Development in Developing Nations
PS 5361	Government and Politics of African States
PS 5362	Problems of Democracy in Latin America
PS 5375	Seminar in International Relations Theory
PS 5377	Problems in International Organizations
PS 5378	Problems in International Law
PS 5380	International Conflict and Security
SOCI 5320	Seminar in Demography

SOCI 5367	Seminar in Sustainable Cities
SOCI 5368	Seminar in Environmental Sociology
SOCI 5390	Seminar in Globalization and Development
SOCI 5395	Global Insecurity
SOWK 5300F	International Social Work
SPAN 5310E	Hispanic Literature: Hispanic Film
SPAN 5310F	Contemporary Mexican Narratives
SPAN 5313	Studies in South American Literatures
SPAN 5314	Studies in Central American and Caribbean Literatures
SPAN 5316	Studies in Spanish Peninsular Culture
SPAN 5317	Studies in the Cultures of the Americas
SPAN 5321	Spanish Applied Linguistics
SPAN 5322	Spanish for the Professions
SPAN 5323	Translation History and Theory
Thesis	
Choose 3 hours from the following: ¹	
GEO 5399A	Thesis
HIST 5399A	Thesis
MC 5399A	Thesis
PS 5399A	Thesis
SOCI 5399A	Thesis
SPAN 5399A	Thesis
Choose a minimum of 3 hours from the following: ¹	
GEO 5199B	Thesis
GEO 5299B	Thesis
GEO 5399B	Thesis
GEO 5599B	Thesis
GEO 5999B	Thesis
HIST 5199B	Thesis
HIST 5299B	Thesis
HIST 5399B	Thesis
HIST 5599B	Thesis
HIST 5999B	Thesis
MC 5199B	Thesis
MC 5299B	Thesis
MC 5399B	Thesis
MC 5599B	Thesis
MC 5999B	Thesis
PS 5199B	Thesis
PS 5299B	Thesis
PS 5399B	Thesis
PS 5599B	Thesis
PS 5999B	Thesis
SOCI 5199B	Thesis
SOCI 5299B	Thesis
SOCI 5399B	Thesis
SOCI 5599B	Thesis
SOCI 5999B	Thesis
SPAN 5199B	Thesis
SPAN 5299B	Thesis
SPAN 5399B	Thesis

SPAN 5599B Thesis

SPAN 5999B Thesis

Total Hours**30**¹ All thesis courses must be in the same department.² Classes must have global/international emphasis

Comprehensive Examination Requirement

Students are required to take a written comprehensive exam in their last semester of the program. Students must pass the comprehensive exam during the last semester in at most two attempts. If the student fails to pass the comprehensive exam in two attempts during the final semester, the student will retake the comprehensive exam during the next regular semester.

An oral exam is part of the comprehensive examination requirement. Students are required to take the exam in their last semester and must pass in at most two attempts. If the student fails to pass the oral exam in two attempts during the final semester, the student will retake the oral exam during the next regular semester.

Students who do not successfully complete the requirements for the degree within the timelines specified will be dismissed from the program.

If a student elects to follow the thesis option for the degree, a committee to direct the written thesis will be established. The thesis must demonstrate the student's capability for research and independent thought. Preparation of the thesis must be in conformity with the *Graduate College Guide to Preparing and Submitting a Thesis or Dissertation*.

Thesis Proposal (http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/docs/Thesis_Diss_Guide.pdf)

The student must submit an official Thesis Proposal Form (<http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/forms.html>) and proposal to his or her thesis committee. Thesis proposals vary by department and discipline. Please see your department for proposal guidelines and requirements. After signing the form and obtaining committee members' signatures, the graduate advisor's signature if required by the program and the department chair's signature, the student must submit the Thesis Proposal Form with one copy of the proposal attached to the dean of The Graduate College for approval before proceeding with research on the thesis. If the thesis research involves human subjects, the student must obtain exemption or approval from the Texas State Institutional Review Board prior to submitting the proposal form to The Graduate College. The IRB approval letter should be included with the proposal form. If the thesis research involves vertebrate animals, the proposal form must include the Texas State IACUC approval code. It is recommended that the thesis proposal form be submitted to the dean of The Graduate College by the end of the student's enrollment in 5399A. Failure to submit the thesis proposal in a timely fashion may result in delayed graduation.

Thesis Committee

The thesis committee must be composed of a minimum of three approved graduate faculty members.

Thesis Enrollment and Credit

The completion of a minimum of six hours of thesis enrollment is required. For a student's initial thesis course enrollment, the student will need to register for thesis course number 5399A. After that, the student will enroll in thesis B courses, in each subsequent semester until the thesis is defended with the department and approved by The Graduate College. Preliminary discussions regarding the selection of a topic and assignment to a research supervisor will not require enrollment for the thesis course.

Students must be enrolled in thesis credits if they are receiving supervision and/or are using university resources related to their thesis work. The number of thesis credit hours students enroll in must reflect the amount of work being done on the thesis that semester. It is the responsibility of the committee chair to ensure that students are making adequate progress toward their degree throughout the thesis process. Failure to register for the thesis course during a term in which supervision is received may result in postponement of graduation. After initial enrollment in 5399A, the student will continue to enroll in a thesis B course as long as it takes to complete the thesis. Thesis projects are by definition original and individualized projects. As such, depending on the topic, methodology, and other factors, some projects may take longer than others to complete. If the thesis requires work beyond the minimum number of thesis credits needed for the degree, the student may enroll in additional thesis credits at the committee chair's discretion. In the rare case when a student has not previously enrolled in thesis and plans to work on and complete the thesis in one term, the student will enroll in both 5399A and 5399B.

The only grades assigned for thesis courses are PR (progress), CR (credit), W (withdrew), and F (failing). If acceptable progress is not being made in a thesis course, the instructor may issue a grade of F. If the student is making acceptable progress, a grade of PR is assigned until the thesis is completed. The minimum number of hours of thesis credit ("CR") will be awarded only after the thesis has been both approved by The Graduate College and released to Alkek Library.

A student who has selected the thesis option must be registered for the thesis course during the term or Summer I (during the summer, the thesis course runs ten weeks for both sessions) in which the degree will be conferred.

Thesis Deadlines and Approval Process

Thesis deadlines are posted on The Graduate College (<http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/>) website under "Current Students." The completed thesis must be submitted to the chair of the thesis committee on or before the deadlines listed on The Graduate College website.

The following must be submitted to The Graduate College by the thesis deadline listed on The Graduate College website:

1. The Thesis Submission Approval Form bearing original (wet) and/or electronic signatures of the student and all committee members.
2. One (1) PDF of the thesis in final form, approved by all committee members, uploaded in the online Vireo submission system.

After the dean of The Graduate College approves the thesis, Alkek Library will harvest the document from the Vireo submission system for publishing in the Digital Collections database (according to the student's embargo selection). **NOTE: MFA Creative Writing theses will have a permanent embargo and will never be published to Digital Collections.**

While original (wet) signatures are preferred, there may be situations as determined by the chair of the committee in which obtaining original signatures is inefficient or has the potential to delay the student's progress. In those situations, the following methods of signing are acceptable:

- signing and faxing the form
- signing, scanning, and emailing the form
- notifying the department in an email from their university's or institution's email account that the committee chair can sign the form on their behalf
- electronically signing the form using the university's licensed signature platform.

If this process results in more than one document with signatures, all documents need to be submitted to The Graduate College together.

No copies are required to be submitted to Alkek Library. However, the library will bind copies submitted that the student wants bound for personal use. Personal copies are not required to be printed on archival quality paper. The student will take the personal copies to Alkek Library and pay the binding fee for personal copies.

Master's level courses in International Studies: IS

Courses Offered

International Studies (IS)

IS 5387. International Studies Internship.

A work/research experience in a government agency or company related to the students' career interests. The internship will consist of a minimum of 150 hours in the workplace and will require a research paper. This course may be repeated once for additional internship credit. Prerequisite: Instructor approval.

3 Credit Hours. 0 Lecture Contact Hours. 1 Lab Contact Hour.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

IS 5390. Problems in International Studies Research.

The instructor and student create an in-depth research project on a topic of interest to both participants.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

IS 5398. General Research Methods.

The principal purpose of the General Research Methods seminar is to prepare students to successfully produce research papers and/or theses. Students in this course will produce a research paper using primary and secondary source materials.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter