

# INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (BA)

Director: Jonathan DiCicco, PhD

## Introduction

The International Relations program at Canisius College is a multidisciplinary program that is anchored in History, Modern Languages, and Political Science but also includes courses in international business, economics, religious studies, philosophy, and other academic disciplines. The goals of the program are to provide the International Relations major with a basic understanding of the issues, functions and theories of the international system and to cultivate skills in research, writing, critical thinking, analysis, and oral presentation that are necessary for success in a career in the fields of international affairs, international business, law, education, and academia. Students majoring in International Relations must also satisfy a requirement for an International Educational Experience. Each student's program is structured to maximize options after graduation. Completion of the major program will lead to a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Relations. For a more detailed description of the program, faculty, facilities, academic, and co-curricular opportunities please go to the International Relations website (<https://www.canisius.edu/academics/programs/international-relations>).

## Qualifications

The International Relations major and minor are open to any student who has completed PSC 140 (Introduction to International Relations) with a minimum grade of C. A minimum overall average of 2.00 in all courses taken to complete the major or the minor, and a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA, is required for program completion.

## Advisement

All students should have an advisor in the major and should contact the department directly to have an advisor assigned if they do not already have one. Meetings with academic advisors are required prior to students receiving their PIN for course registration each semester. All majors should work closely with their advisor in discussing career expectations, choosing their major electives, developing their entire academic program and planning their co-curricular or supplemental academic experiences.

Note: Advisement is the responsibility of the Director of the International Relations Program, who may share this responsibility with other members of the International Relations Advisory Council. All International Relations majors and minors are expected to consult with their advisor in the program at least once each semester.

## Double Majors

Students who wish to expand their educational opportunities may decide to declare a double major. The decision may be based on career goals or planned graduate studies. Before a student declares a double major, it is important to meet with the appropriate academic departments for advisement. Some double major combinations can be completed within the minimum 120 credit hour degree requirement, but in some cases additional course work may be required. In order to declare a double major, the student must complete the appropriate double major request form and get the signature of each department chairperson and the appropriate associate dean. Please note that students will receive only one degree, regardless of the number of majors they complete.

Double majors have been developed between the International Relations Program and the Departments of History (<http://catalog.canisius.edu/undergraduate/college-arts-sciences/history>); Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (<http://catalog.canisius.edu/undergraduate/college-arts-sciences/modern-languages-literatures-cultures>); and Political Science (<http://catalog.canisius.edu/undergraduate/college-arts-sciences/political-science>) as well as with the programs in European Studies, (<http://catalog.canisius.edu/undergraduate/college-arts-sciences/european-studies>) Latin American Studies (<http://catalog.canisius.edu/undergraduate/college-arts-sciences/latin-american-studies>), and International Business (<http://catalog.canisius.edu/undergraduate/wehle-school-business/international-business-programs>). It is also possible to pursue a double major with other academic programs such as Communication Studies, Criminal Justice, Economics, and Sociology/Anthropology. For further information on double majors, contact the director of the International Relations Program. Students pursuing a dual major in International Relations and another major may double count as many courses as possible toward the satisfaction of International Relations major requirements.

## Minors in other DISCIPLINES

Minors provide students the opportunity to pursue additional interests but generally do not require as many courses as a major. Minors generally range from five to eight required courses. The minors page (<http://catalog.canisius.edu/undergraduate/minors>) provides a complete list of minors and provides links to each minor. Some majors and minors can be completed within the minimum 120 credit hour degree requirement, but in some cases additional coursework may be required. Students must complete the appropriate minor request form.

## Curriculum

### An Ignatian Foundation

All undergraduate students must complete either the Canisius Core Curriculum (<http://catalog.canisius.edu/undergraduate/academics/curricular-information/core-curriculum>) or the All-College Honors Curriculum (<http://catalog.canisius.edu/undergraduate/academics/curricular-information/all-college-honors-program>). Many schools refer to their college-wide undergraduate requirements as "general education" requirements. We believe that the core curriculum and the honors curriculum are more than a series of required classes, they provide the basis for a Jesuit education both with content and with required knowledge and skills attributes that are central to our mission.

### Free Electives

Students may graduate with more but not less than 120 credit hours. Free electives are courses in addition to the Core Curriculum or Honors Curriculum and major requirements sufficient to reach the minimum of 120 credit hours required for graduation.

### Major Requirements

All International Relations majors must take a core of nine courses in history, political science and economics, including an upper-level course in international business, and seven electives that have been approved by the International Relations Program Advisory Council for major credit. In addition, all International Relations majors must demonstrate proficiency in a modern foreign language through the Intermediate High level according to guidelines established by the American Council of Teachers of Foreign Languages, which at Canisius College typically requires successful completion of at least one 300-level foreign language course. All International Relations majors must also satisfy an international experience

requirement that includes but is not limited to study abroad in a foreign university or an approved short-term program.

Code	Title	Credits
Select one of the following three regional history course groupings:		
HIS 107 & HIS 108	History of Modern Europe to 1815 and History of Modern Europe since 1815 <sup>1</sup>	6
HIS 109 & HIS 110	History of Asia to 1800 and History of Asia Since 1800	
HIS 131 & HIS 132	Latin American History to 1830 and Latin American History since 1830	
PSC 140	International Relations	3
PSC 150	Comparative Government and Politics	3
HIS 300	Historical Geography	3
ECO 101	Principles of Macroeconomics	3
International Business (300- or 400-level, approved by the International Relations Director)		
PSC 245	American Foreign Policy	3
PSC 442	Seminar in International Relations	3
7 approved International Relations major electives (see list below; including no more than 2 world culture electives)		
Foreign Language Requirement (see text below)		
International Educational Experience (study abroad or alternative approved by the International Relations Director)		
Total Credits		48

<sup>1</sup> Students may substitute HIS 213 or HIS 230 for HIS 108. If students use one of these courses to fulfill the general requirements for the major, the same course may not be used as a major elective course.

## Major Electives

All students must successfully complete a 300 or 400-level course in a modern foreign language (3 credits) as well as seven courses (21 credits) chosen from approved list in Economics, Finance, History, International Business, Modern Languages, Political Science, Philosophy, and Religious Studies.

## Approved Major Elective Courses

Code	Title	Credits
ECO 460	International Trade	3
ENT 312	International Entrepreneurship	3
HIS 213	Twentieth Century Europe	3
HIS 229	The Violent Century in Films	3
HIS 230	The Holocaust in Historical Perspective	3
HIS 260	Canada and the World	3
HIS 263	Wars of Latin America	3
HIS 280	The Making of Modern Africa	3
HIS 309	World War I	3
HIS 339	Nazi Germany, World War II and the Holocaust, 1933-45	3
HIS 342	The Global Cold War	3
HIS 345	The Soviet Union and After	3
HIS 346	The Age of European Fascism, 1919-1945	3
HIS 347	The History of Marxism	3
HIS 348	Twentieth Century Marxism	3
HIS 365	U.S.-Latin American Relations since 1898	3

HIS 394	Modern Middle East	3
HON 231	War & Peace since 9/11	3
HON 247	Islam: Religion, History, and Culture	3
IBUS 301	Fundamentals of International Business	3
MGT 380	International Business Seminar	3
MGT 440	Global Supply Chain Management	3
MGT 472	Comparative Management Systems	3
MGT 475	Doing Business in Latin America	3
MKT 375	International Marketing	3
MKT 478	Global Logistics	3
PSC 241	Human Rights and Globalization	3
PSC 242	International Organizations	3
PSC 244	War: Causes and Consequences	3
PSC 245	American Foreign Policy	3
PSC 249	Protest, Politics, & the State	3
PSC 250	Politics in Latin America	3
PSC 345	Transnational Crime After 9/11	3
PSC 346	National Security Council	3
PSC 355	European Union	3
PSC 360	Political Economy of the Developing World	3
PSC 370	Domestic Conflicts & Peace	3
PSC 452	Politics of Identity in Europe	3

## Approved World Culture Electives

International Relations Majors are encouraged to satisfy their Core Curriculum requirements in Fields 1, 2, and 3 by taking courses that provide a cultural dimension to the study of international relations. Under the current IR major curriculum students may take one or two of these courses – depending upon the particular track they may be following – as IR major electives. Courses offered by the Department of Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (e.g., FRC, GER, SPA) require prerequisites and are generally taught in the language of study.

Code	Title	Credits
FRC 417	The French and Francophone World at Work	3
FRC 427	Identities and Globalization	3
FRC 433	Survey of French and Francophone Literature	3
FRC 452	Tour de l'Amérique du Nord: Following the French in North America	3
FRC 453	War and Memory	3
FRC 454	Heritages Francophones	3
GER 467	Germany since 1871 - Political System and Form of Government	3
PHI 271	Philosophy of Human Rights	3
GER 441	The Young Generation and Civil Courage - 1848 to today	3
GER 445	German Customs and Traditions	3
GER 453	German Literature after 1945	3
GER 455	The Weimar Republic: Culture and Literature	3
GER 465	1968 in the European Context	3
GER 472	Contemporary German Film	3
GER 475	The History of German Film since Weimar	3
HIS 226	History of Ireland	3
HIS 331	British Monarchy	3

HIS 358	Traditional Japan	3
HIS 387	Representations of the Holocaust in Film, Literature, Art and Music	3
HON 248	Religions of the East	3
HON 357	Global Pentecostalism	3
RST 220	Introduction to Eastern Religions	3
RST 222	African Religions	3
RST 224	Islam: Tradition and Revival	3
RST 327	Modern Global Christianity	3
SPA 405	Spanish Literary Myths	3
SPA 406	History & Politics in Cuba	3
SPA 420	Personal Narrative: Understanding Reality and the Self in Contemporary Spanish Narrative.	3
SPA 453	Almodóvar and La Movida: The Films of Pedro Almodóvar	3
SPA 455	Spanish Short Fiction	3
SPA 456	Cuban Cinema of the Revolution	3
SPA 459	The Body Erotic/The Body Politic: Sexuality as Political Discourse in Latin America and Spain	3
SPA 460	Lorca and his Époque	3

### Foreign Language Requirement

The modern foreign language requirement in the International Relations major is not a course but a proficiency requirement that at Canisius is normally satisfied by successfully completing ML 215-216/217 plus at least one course at the 300 level or above. If students are not placed at the 215-216/217 level when they enroll at Canisius, it will take them two extra semesters in the foreign language to meet this requirement. In other cases students may already have taken the equivalent of these courses in high school and therefore do not have to take them at Canisius but should continue their language preparation with a 300-level course in the language they have studied in high school. Students who study abroad in a country where the spoken language is a language other than English and take courses in that language as part of their study abroad experience may use this to satisfy the modern language requirement in the International Relations major.

### International Educational Experience

All students majoring in International Relations must satisfy a requirement for International Education Experience. The most popular, but by no means the only way in which this requirement is satisfied, is by studying abroad. The International Relations Program strongly encourages its majors to fulfill the international experience requirement by spending at least one semester abroad studying at a foreign university. The Director of the International Relations Program works closely with the Director of Study Abroad at Canisius College to set up and monitor study abroad programs for Canisius students at a wide range of universities throughout the world. A complete list of sites with current articulations is available at the Study Abroad website (<https://www.canisius.edu/study-abroad-locations-1>). Students may also study at an accredited university abroad other than those with articulations. Students doing this have recently studied at universities in Egypt, Jordan, Poland, and Senegal. Students who spend a semester abroad at a foreign university may count up to three courses as International Relations major electives as long as these courses have been pre-approved by the director of the International Relations Program. Students who spend a year studying at a foreign university may be able to count more than three courses as International Relations major electives, but this will require special permission from the director of the International Relations Program. As a general rule, students must complete the International Relations Core of

nine courses at Canisius College. Exceptions to this rule may be approved by the International Relations Program Advisory Council.

Under some circumstances a short-term study abroad experience may be desirable. Recent examples of opportunities available include programs in Argentina, Canada (Québec), Costa Rica, Cuba, France, Puerto Rico, and Spain, among others. Majors interested in these experiences should inquire with the Department of Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (or other sponsoring programs) for more information. Students also may inquire with the Study Abroad Office for summer programs at The Catholic University of Lille, France; IÉSEG, Paris, France; the Berlin School of Economics and Law, the Catholic University of Eichstaett, and the Technical University of Dortmund in Germany; the National University of Ireland, Galway; Lorenzo de' Medici in Florence and Rome, Italy; the Universidad de Oviedo and the Universidad Pontificia Comillas in Spain; and the Sacred Heart University in Puerto Rico.

All International Relations majors and minors planning international educational experiences, whether short-term or traditional Study Abroad, must consult in advance with the Study Abroad office, the Director of the International Relations Program, the Chair or Director of all relevant academic programs, and the student's Associate/Assistant Dean to discuss whether courses completed abroad may satisfy academic requirements at Canisius College. Language credit may be awarded but this requires prior approval from the Department of Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures.

### Additional Course Considerations

Within the International Relations major a student may pursue one of four distinct tracks in International Business, International History, International Politics, and Language and World Culture. A student may also opt to pursue none of these tracks but fulfill the program major requirements listed above without concentrating in any particular area of the program. If a student chooses to pursue one of these four tracks, this will affect his or her choice of major electives. A student pursuing one of these tracks would still be required to take a modern foreign language through the Intermediate High level (including at least one 300-level course in that language) and to satisfy the international experience requirement. For further information, contact the director of the International Relations Program. For further information on each of these tracks, please go to the International Relations website (<https://www.canisius.edu/academics/programs/international-relations>).

## Roadmap

### Recommended Semester Schedule for Major Course Requirements

Freshman	
Fall	Spring
PSC 140	PSC 150
Select one of the following:	Select one of the following:
HIS 107	HIS 108
HIS 109	HIS 110
HIS 131	HIS 132
Modern Language at appropriate level	Modern Language at appropriate level
ECO 101	
Sophomore	
Fall	Spring
PHI 101	IR Major Elective
Modern Language 300-level	IR Major Elective

PSC 245

IR Major Elective

**Junior****Fall**

HIS 300

**Spring**

Study abroad in location where language of study is commonly spoken

IR Major Elective

IR Major Elective or 300-400 level

Business

**Senior****Fall****Spring**

IR Major Elective

PSC 442

## Learning Goals & Objectives

### Student Learning Goal 1

International Relations Majors will demonstrate a basic knowledge of the components and dynamics of the international system.

Students will:

- Objective A: Demonstrate an understanding of the issues, functions, and theories of the international system;
- Objective B: Demonstrate an understanding of the role of history in international affairs;
- Objective C: Demonstrate an understanding of the role of geography in international affairs;
- Objective D: Demonstrate an understanding of the similarities and differences in political systems and economies;
- Objective E: Demonstrate an understanding of the role of the United States in the international system.

### Student Learning Goal 2

International Relations majors will develop competence in the skills that are appropriate to the discipline and that are necessary for success.

Students will:

- Objective A: Demonstrate competence in the techniques of scholarly research in the field of International Relations;
- Objective B: Demonstrate competence in the techniques of scholarly writing in the field of International Relations;
- Objective C: Demonstrate competence at the ACTFL intermediate-high level in the use of a modern foreign language;
- Objective D: Be able to analyze an international problem or issue in a manner that demonstrates global or regional understanding and sensitivity to cultural difference.

## Minor

A minor in International Relations consists of nine courses, of which two may be used to satisfy requirements in Fields 4 and 5 of the Canisius College core curriculum. A student pursuing a minor in International Relations must also demonstrate intermediate competence in a modern foreign language. Generally this proficiency is demonstrated by successful completion of a modern language through the 215 level.

## International Relations Minor Curriculum

Code	Title	Credits
Select one of the following three regional history course groupings:		6
HIS 107 & HIS 108	History of Modern Europe to 1815 and History of Modern Europe since 1815 <sup>1</sup>	
HIS 109 & HIS 110	History of Asia to 1800 and History of Asia Since 1800	
HIS 131 & HIS 132	Latin American History to 1830 and Latin American History since 1830	
PSC 140	International Relations	3
PSC 150	Comparative Government and Politics	3
HIS 300	Historical Geography	3
International Business course (300- or 400-level approved by the International Relations Director)		3
Foreign Language requirement (see text above)		
3 International Relations electives <sup>2</sup>		9
Total Credits		27

<sup>1</sup> Students may substitute HIS 213 or HIS 230 for HIS 108. If students use one of these courses to fulfill the general requirements for the minor, the same course may not be used as an elective course.

<sup>2</sup> International Relations minors must choose three courses from the list of Approved Major Elective Courses in the curriculum section of the major (p. 1).