

International Relations

The International Relations program is an interdisciplinary program designed for students preparing for graduate work or careers with an international focus, whether in government, business, the professions, such as law, teaching, journalism, or in other areas, such as private foundations or international organizations.

All majors take a group of courses in government and economics in common. In addition to these courses, students in the international relations major take elective courses with a particular thematic or geographic focus. Study abroad and advanced language study are requirements for all majors. The chair of the International Relations Committee will advise students on substitute and transfer courses.

Major Requirements

The major in international relations requires at least ten courses distributed as follows:

1. **Core Requirement of five required courses:**
 - **Government 60. Introduction to Comparative Government** – to be taken in the freshman or sophomore year;
 - **Government 70. Introduction to International Politics** – to be taken in the freshman or sophomore year;
 - **Government 149. Foreign Relations of the United States Politics** – to be taken in the freshman or sophomore year;
 - **Economics 101. Intermediate Microeconomics, or Economics 102. Intermediate Macroeconomics**
 - **Economics 140. The World Economy, or Economics 141. International Economics**
2. **Thematic Electives:** four additional international relations courses with a particular *thematic* (strategic studies

or international economics) or *regional* (e.g., Latin America) *focus*. These courses should be beyond the introductory level and may be selected from any relevant discipline in consultation with a faculty advisor and approved by the chair of the International Relations committee.

3. **Other Elective:** one elective course outside the regional focus of courses listed above. This course is to be selected in consultation with the chair of the International Relations committee.
4. **Foreign Language Competency:** all students must show proficiency in a (one) modern foreign language by completing a minimum of *four semester* courses at the college level, or the equivalent. Language courses may be used to fulfill general education requirements in foreign language (3rd semester) and in foreign literature (4th semester of an European language); *they may not be counted as electives for the international relations major*.
5. **Study Abroad:** all majors, including dual majors, must spend at least one semester in study abroad in a program *including foreign language study*. Other foreign experiences may be substituted with the approval of the chair of the International Relations Committee. No more than *two courses per semester* taken in study abroad (not more than four altogether) may be counted to meet requirements for the international relations major.

Senior Thesis in International Relations

The senior thesis is a general education requirement and the capstone experience of a student's undergraduate education. Students must complete a senior thesis in at least one of their majors under supervision of a faculty reader who teaches within that major, unless granted a special exception.

Prior to the senior year, the Government department faculty invites a limited number of students to write an honors

thesis in international relations. Students who participate in the honors program are required to complete a two-semester project. Candidates for honors register for a thesis research course in government in the first semester and for the senior thesis in the second semester. In addition, honors candidates must participate in the mandatory two-semester, non-credit Honors Seminar conducted by the department of Government. The senior thesis and the thesis research course may not be counted as courses in the major. For further information on honors, see “Honors in International Relations” below.

Note: -Students normally take at least six courses, including the required core courses, at CMC

Special Options for Majors

Dual Majors

Students majoring in international relations often wish to combine their major with another discipline such as economics or history. The international relations requirements for a dual major consist of a minimum of eight courses:

1. Core Requirement of five required courses:

- **Government 60. Introduction to Comparative Government** – to be taken in the freshman or sophomore year;
- **Government 70. Introduction to International Politics** – to be taken in the freshman or sophomore year;
- **Government 149. Foreign Relations of the United States Politics** – to be taken in the freshman or sophomore year;
- **Economics 101. Intermediate Microeconomics**, or **Economics 102. Intermediate Macroeconomics**
- **Economics 140. The World Economy**, or **Economics 141. International Economics**

2. Electives Requirement: at least *three* elective courses chosen in consultation

with a faculty advisor and approved by the chair of the International Relations Committee.

3. Other Requirements: dual majors also must meet the *study abroad* and *language* requirements that apply to full majors

Students with a dual major including international relations are required to write their *senior thesis* about an international topic - from whatever disciplinary point of view is appropriate. For further information, see “Senior Thesis in International Relations” above.

Please note the restrictions on honors in the major for students with a dual major under “Honors in International Relations” below. For further information on dual majors and the requirements for the other discipline of the dual major, please check the appropriate sections of this catalog.

Note: Dual majors in economics and international relations may not count Economics 101 or 102 for both the economics and the international relations major. They will be required to complete additional electives as substitutes for these requirements.

Honors in International Relations

Each year the Government department conducts a Government – International Relations senior honors program. Prior to the senior year, the department invites a limited number of students to participate in the program based on the high quality of their work in international relations. Students selected for the program are eligible for honors if they:

- Complete a two-semester thesis in international relations with a grade of “B+” (10.00) or better;
- Satisfactorily participate in the mandatory two-semester, non-credit Honors Seminar conducted by the Department of Government; and
- Attain a grade point average of 10.50 or better in the major at time of graduation.

The department faculty may also consider inviting students with a *dual major*

in international relations to participate in the honors program. Dual majors selected for the program are eligible for honors in international relations if they:

- have completed all requirements for a *full major* in international relations and are granted honors, or
- qualify and receive honors in *both disciplines* of their dual major. See “Honors in the Major” for details.

For further information on the honors program, see Professor Miller or Professor Bessette, Chair of the Government department.

General Education Requirements for International Relations Majors

Students with interdisciplinary majors requiring courses in the *humanities* and/or *social sciences* are required to take designated courses in six different fields of the humanities and social sciences for the general education requirements. International Relations majors must take courses in all four fields of the social sciences (economics, government, history, and psychology) and in two of the four fields of the humanities (literature, philosophy, religious studies, and literature in a foreign language). International relations majors with a dual or double major in the humanities will be required to take an additional course in the humanities. For further information, see “Academic Policies and Procedures.”

International relations majors may use the third semester of a foreign language for

the foreign language requirement; students who have completed the fourth semester of a European language for the major may use this course for the foreign literature requirement.

Courses at the Other Claremont Colleges and Other Institutions

Normally, students take the core courses for the major at CMC; courses at other institutions may be taken as electives, subject to the approval of the International Relations Committee.

The Faculty

The major is administered by the International Relations Committee, in cooperation with the Government Department. In 2007-2008 members of the committee are:

CMC Faculty: Appel (on leave, first semester), Arndt, Ascher (on leave, first semester), Blomberg, Camp, Haley (chair), Khazeni, C.J. Lee, Velazco, and Taw.

Courses

For information on courses and offerings, please see the *Fall 2007* and *Spring 2008 Undergraduate Schedule of Courses*. Further information and course descriptions may be found in the appropriate departmental listings in this catalog for course descriptions.