American Foreign Policy | MA Requirements

American Foreign Policy Program Learning Goals and Objectives

Entering Class 2017-2018

MA students must take the equivalent of 16 non-language courses (64 credits) in order to graduate. Those students who are approved for dual degree or advanced standing may only need to take 12 courses (48 credits) or 14 courses (56 credits) as approved by Academic Affairs.

AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY

MA students concentrating in American Foreign Policy (AFP) must take at least 5 courses within this program. One of the five can include the core course SA.100.720 American Foreign Policy Since World War II, if taken for credit. Students may also count the spring two-credit course SA.200.767 International Crisis Diplomacy as one of the 5 courses.

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS

Students must complete 16 credits. The four required courses are:
- Microeconomics
- Macroeconomics (prerequisite or concurrent: Microeconomics)
- International Trade Theory (prerequisite: Microeconomics)
- International Monetary Theory (prerequisite: Macroeconomics)

If a student passes a waiver exam in one of these areas, the student must take a replacement International Economics program course(s) to fulfill the concentration requirement.

Starting with the entering class of Fall 2017, students who pass Microeconomics in Pre-Term will have the concentration reduced to 12 credits, but still must complete Macroeconomics, International Trade Theory, and International Monetary Theory (or a replacement course(s) if waiver exam(s) passed). The Pre-Term Microeconomics course is not for credit and is not factored into the GPA.

Beyond the requirements, many students choose to pursue an International Economics Specialization in one of four areas of economics. Students may also choose to specialize in Emerging Markets.

Concentration GPA Requirement
Students must achieve a combined GPA of at least 2.67 in four (or three if Microeconomics is passed in Pre-Term) required International Economics program courses or they must retake the course(s) until a 2.67 concentration GPA is achieved. In the standard case, the concentration GPA will be the average of the grades of Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, International Trade Theory, and International Monetary Theory.

If one or more of the four standard courses is waived, the school will use the highest grade(s) from any eligible replacement International Economics program course(s) to compute the International Economics concentration GPA.

**QUANTITATIVE REASONING**

Students must complete one course from the list below.

- Statistical Methods for Business & Economics
- Econometrics (prerequisite Statistical Methods for Business & Economics)
- Applied Econometrics (prerequisite Econometrics)
- Macro Econometrics (prerequisite Econometrics)
- Risk Analysis and Modeling
- Quantitative Global Economics (prerequisite International Monetary Theory)
- Credit Markets & Credit Risk (prerequisite Corporate Finance)

Students may not double-count the same course toward the Quantitative Reasoning requirement and as an International Economics concentration course and vice-versa.

If a student passes the statistics waiver exam, the student must take an alternate course from the list above to fulfill the Quantitative Reasoning requirement.

Starting with the entering class of Fall 2017, students who pass Statistical Methods for Business
& Economics in Pre-Term [33] will have fulfilled the Quantitative Reasoning requirement. The Pre-Term course is not for credit and is not factored into the GPA.

CORE COURSES/EXAMS

All students must pass 2 core courses and/or exams from the subjects below. American Foreign Policy concentrators must pass American Foreign Policy Since World War II as one of their core requirements prior to the start of their third semester. If the core courses/exams are not completed by the start of the final semester, the student no longer has the option of completing the exam and must enroll in the core course(s) for credit.

- American Foreign Policy Since World War II
- Comparative Politics
- Evolution of the International Systems
- Theories of International Relations

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

MA candidates must pass exams to demonstrate proficiency in a second language. This language must be offered at the school. Students whose native language is not English may use English as their proficiency language. All non-native English speakers are required to pass an English placement exam upon entering the school, even if not using English for proficiency.

CAPSTONE

American Foreign Policy concentrators must produce a major research paper on an AFP subject. This must be approved by the director or acting associate director of the American Foreign Policy Program. This requirement is fulfilled by ONE of the following:

- Successful completion of the course SA.200.762 Case Studies in US Foreign Policy [offered in Bologna]
- A paper produced through significant research in a regular course or through supervised independent research. Students who successfully complete either SA.200.700 Congress & Foreign Policy OR SA.200.701 Conduct of Foreign Policy and who choose the paper option, will meet this requirement. All papers must be at minimum 20-25 pages (5,000-6000 words) exclusive of notes, bibliography, illustrations, summary or abstract. Papers written for other courses may need to be revised in order to meet the capstone requirement.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS BY ACADEMIC YEAR

Entering Class 2016-2017 [36]
Entering Class 2015-2016 [37]