

International Affairs

Bachelor of Arts Degree

Contact

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Admission Requirements

(In years as established by the college)

A high school diploma with the following specific courses:

- 4 English
- 2 Algebra I & II
- 1 Geometry
- 2 Lab Science (including biology)
- 2 History/Social Studies
- 2 Foreign Language (same language or two years of American Sign Language)
- Academic electives (to equal at least 17 credits)

To ensure current mathematical skills, students should take a mathematics course during their senior year of high school.

Did You Know?

The field of international affairs is becoming increasingly important as new technologies are emerging. No longer is it sufficient to study only what is occurring internally within the U.S., because relations and influences of the outside world are becoming the substance of today's politics, economics, and tomorrow's history. Furthermore, to compete in the new global job market, it is necessary to have bilingual capabilities. This major is designed to prepare you for the future.

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Program Description

International Affairs is an undergraduate cross-disciplinary program that prepares students for their place in an increasingly globalized society. Our six diverse concentrations afford varied exposures to the changing characteristics of our world. We are unique in that we offer the only International Affairs program with concentrations in Anthropology, Canadian Studies, History, Modern Languages, Political Science, and Women's Studies. Each of our majors chooses one of these disciplines as a concentration while taking courses in all six concentrations. Our status as a Title VI National Resource Center on Canada offers our majors better opportunities to study Canada than other universities in the Northeast. We also strongly urge our majors to experience Study Abroad and Canada Year.

Specialized Information

International affairs majors often secure internships in Washington, D.C., and elsewhere, some of them in embassies and international organizations.

Associated Honor Societies and Student Organizations

We strongly encourage all international affairs majors to participate in Study Abroad for one or two semesters. We have the International Affairs Association, the student-run organization for IA students. The International Affairs Lounge is in North Stevens Hall. Each year, about 20 IA students take part in the McGill Model United Nations in Montreal, Canada. International Affairs majors are eligible for membership in honor societies associated with their fields of concentration.

Career and Graduate Opportunities

Our international affairs program is designed to equip students with perspectives and skills to meet the challenges of many careers with success. Some of the careers available to international affairs majors include education, diplomacy, international business, international law, the United Nations, the civil service, the U.S. State Department and journalism. Careers in nongovernmental organizations include positions with Amnesty International and the International Committee of the Red Cross. An IA degree is attractive to prospective employers, in part because it requires facility in a second language beyond the intermediate level. UMaine's School of Policy and International Affairs (SPIA) offers graduate study appropriate for many of our IA graduates.

Representative Courses

International Affairs accommodates six disciplines and concentrations. Each one has a separate set of requirements. All IA majors select one concentration as their major field. They also take at least two courses in each concentration and at least two courses in a foreign language beyond the intermediate level.

About UMaine

The University of Maine, founded in Orono in 1865, is the state's premier public university. It is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from across the U.S. and more than 60 countries. It currently enrolls 12,000 total undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars. Students are offered 88 bachelor's degree programs, 64 master's degree programs, 25 doctoral programs and one of the oldest and most prestigious honors programs in the U.S. The university promotes environmental stewardship on its campus, with substantial efforts aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction. For more information about UMaine, go online (umaine.edu). Equal opportunity information also is available online (umaine.edu/eo).

How do I apply?

Visit go.umaine.edu for an application, as well as information about academics and life at UMaine.



Academic Programs 2011–12

The latest versions of the UMaine fact sheets are online (factsheets.umaine.edu). This fact sheet is intended for informational purposes only and is subject to change.

