

Old Dominion University

Graduate Program in International Studies (GPIS)

Program Handbook

**Master of Arts (M.A.)
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
Certificate Programs**

GPIS Mission Statement

*Educate and train students for internationally oriented
leadership positions in academia, government, and the private sector.
GPIS faculty and curriculum emphasize transnational and global perspectives
as critical prerequisites for successful engagement with an inter-connected world.*

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Technical Standards

Students admitted to the international studies programs are expected to complete course requirements which necessitate the physical and mental abilities listed below. Any student who thinks they are unable to fulfill course requirements or does not possess one or more of the following skills is encouraged to consult with their instructor(s), academic advisor, and the office of Educational Accessibility concerning any flexibility in program requirements and possible accommodation through technical aids and/or personal assistance.

- 1) Comprehend and assimilate large amounts of material communicated via lectures, discussions, and readings.
- 2) Understand abstract concepts and be able to apply them to concrete situations.
- 3) Organize conceptual and information and be able to communicate it effectively, orally and in writing.
- 4) Be able to design and carry out an original research project.
- 5) Be able to acquire or maintain foreign language proficiency.
- 6) Be able to understand and analyze topical and substantive matters from an international perspective.
- 7) Be able to learn and utilize critical thinking skills effectively.

Milestones and Responsibilities

Academic Integrity

Academic Integrity refers to honesty and respect in intellectual life. All students are expected to uphold the ODU Honor Code in every regard. According to the ODU Catalog, “Academic dishonesty, including but not limited to plagiarism and all forms of academic cheating...” constitutes violations of the Honor System. Suspected violations of the Honor Code will be reported to the Honor Council.

The following activities constitute lying and/or cheating: turning in material prepared by or purchased from another person or company, deliberately falsifying data, distorting supporting documentation, inappropriately collaborating with another person without acknowledging that person’s help, copying from another paper, giving unauthorized assistance, obtaining unauthorized advance information about an examination.

Active-Duty Military

Students whose graduate study is interrupted by military service will be granted an extension of time for program completion for the period of their military service, not to exceed five years. In such cases, graded coursework older than eight years at the time of graduation will still be revalidated.

Advising

All degree-seeking students will be assigned an advisor at the beginning of their first semester. Students should be advised prior to registering each semester. GPIS has designed an *Academic Advising Record* for students to record courses already taken and to help plan future courses. Always have available the advising record when meeting with your advisor. Academic advising record is in the forms section.

Continuous Enrollment Policy

M.A. students who have completed all course work but are working during a given semester to complete other degree requirements or wish to use university facilities and/or consult with faculty must be registered for at least one credit during that semester. In addition, graduate students must be registered for at least one credit hour in the semester in which they graduate. Registration for the required course is subject to the normal fees and regulations of the university.

After advancement to candidacy, PhD students are required to register for at least one dissertation credit hour (IS 899) each term (fall, spring, & summer) until the degree is completed, including the semester in which they graduate. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in charges to the student's account for one graduate credit hour plus required fees for each semester after advancement to candidacy. Students are ineligible for graduation until all charges are paid.

Course Registration

Students must register for classes using the appropriate CRN (Course Registration Number) and faculty name. Failure to register for the correct course will reflect in degree works inaccurately and cause a delay in verifying completed coursework prior to graduation.

Degree Works

The Degree Works evaluation tool is designed to assist advisors and students with course planning, measuring progress towards program completion, and curriculum advising. The degree evaluation is based on catalog term and indicates degree requirement conditions that are "met" and "not met" by analyzing a student's grades, GPA, credit hours, and completed course work against university, and departmental requirements. More information about degree works can be found on the [Degree Evaluation](#) website. Please contact your advisor and the program coordinator for assistance with discrepancies.

Enrollment

Full-Time Status

A maximum of nine credit hours is a full-time course load for graduate students per fall and spring semesters. In unusual circumstances and with the permission of the GPD twelve credit hours may be carried. In summer semesters, six credit hours constitute a full-time load.

Part-Time Status

Graduate students who are registered for fewer than nine credit hours during the fall or spring semesters or fewer than six credit hours in the summer semester are classified as part-time status.

Summer Enrollment

Norfolk main campus students going out of state or out of country for the summer and taking online classes, may be eligible for a tuition rate change. Submit the [Summer Campus Change Request](#) form for consideration.

Good Standing

Students are graded on the traditional A, B, C, F scale (with pluses and minuses) in all courses. Pass/Fail will be utilized for internships, directed research, thesis, or dissertation research. Grade point averages that fall below 3.00 (B) will be placed on a probationary status. After two consecutive semesters below this average or the accumulation of two grades of "C" or below, the GPD will take under consideration, in consultation with faculty, termination of the student's program.

Foreign Language Requirement (FLR)

Students must demonstrate reading competence in one foreign language other than English. Discuss a plan of how this requirement will be met with your academic advisor. International students who have English as a second language fulfill this requirement. Send an email to the GPD listing your primary language.

Foreign language competence can be demonstrated in one of the following ways (courses are not required to be completed at ODU):

- a) French, German, Spanish
 - Option A: Take course at ODU: FR/GER/SPAN 311, FR/GER/SPAN 312 [min. grade of B-]
 - Option B: 311/312 courses transferred from another institution
 - Option C: Translation Exam through the Office of Prior Learning Assessment [75% passing score]
- b) Chinese, Japanese
 - Option A: CHIN/JAPN 311, CHIN/JAPN 312 [minimum grade of B-]
 - Option B: 311/312 courses transferred from another institution
 - Option C: Translation Exam through the Office of Prior Learning Assessment [75% passing score]
- c) Arabic, Farsi, Hebrew, Italian, Russian [languages not taught at the 300-level]
 - Option B: 311/312 courses transferred from another institution
 - Option C: Translation Exam through the Office of Prior Learning Assessment [75% passing score]

Master's candidates may complete the language requirement either before or after the comprehensive exams or thesis defense but must pass before graduation. Extension of graduate tenure will only be considered for exceptional circumstances; documentation will be required. It is highly recommended that the FLR be completed before taking the comprehensive exams. Ph.D. candidates must fulfil the FLR before scheduling the comprehensive examination.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the failure to properly acknowledge the use of another's words or ideas and presenting these as your own. According to the ODU Catalog:

"A student will have committed plagiarism if he or she reproduces someone else's work without acknowledging its source; or if a source is cited which the student has not cited or used. Examples of plagiarism include submitting a research paper obtained from a commercial research service, the Internet, or from another student as if it were original work; making simple changes to borrow materials while leaving the organization, content, or phraseology intact; or copying material from a source, supplying proper document, but leaving out quotation marks. Plagiarism also occurs in a group project if one or more of the members of the group does none of the group's work and participates in none of the group's activities but attempts to take credit for the work of the group."

Plagiarism includes copying phrases, sentences, or paragraphs from a source (including information found on the Internet) without placing quotation marks around the author's words and citing the source including the page number; simply rearranging the words in a sentence or paragraph also constitutes plagiarism. You must use quotation marks when using another's words in direct quotes, and document ideas which originate with another author.

Procedures for dealing with violations of the ODU Honor Code are outlined in brief in the ODU Graduate Catalog and in full in Student Disciplinary Policies and Procedures. Penalties for violations of the Honor Code at ODU are severe. At minimum, the student will be placed on disciplinary probation for one calendar year. All official disciplinary sanctions, including grade sanctions, which are assigned to a student because of an act of academic dishonesty, will be recorded on the student's official University transcript. ALL students are required to complete the [Plagiarism Module](#) on the ODU Libraries Information Literacy tutorials.

Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR)

Old Dominion University has a policy of training all graduate students in the fundamentals of Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR). This policy was adopted with the understanding that the knowledge and philosophy presented in the RCR training can enhance the professional development of all students, regardless of discipline. To access the training use the following link [Responsible Conduct of Research Instructions](#). GPIS students must complete the **Social Science** section of the RCR by the end of the first semester. A hold is placed on the account until this requirement is met.

Time limits

All requirements for a graduate degree or graduate certificate must ordinarily be completed within an eight-year period for PhD candidates or six-year period for M.A candidates. Time limit exceptions must be approved by the Graduate Program Director and the college dean or designee. Graded coursework older than eight years at the time of graduation must be re-validated by an examination before the work can be applied to a graduate degree. Courses identified as research, thesis or dissertation that were graded pass/fail do not require re-validation. See the “Policy on Re-validation of Out-of-Date Graduate Credit” in the graduate catalog.

Graduate Assistantship

Graduate assistantships are available to full-time graduate students who meet the requirements listed under the [Graduate Assistantship Guidelines](#) located in the graduate catalog. Stipends vary by program and college. To find out about available assistantships, contact the GPD. Other assistantships may be advertised through [Handshake](#). It is the University's intention to make the assistantship an integral and valuable part of the student's graduate education. It should be viewed as an apprenticeship in teaching, research, or administrative service.



Master of Art (M.A.) Requirements

The M.A. requires 33 credits, of which at least 27 must be at the **600 or 700 level**. The required course work for all M.A. students includes the basic methodology course but does not include any courses needed for demonstrating foreign language competency. M.A. candidates writing theses will incorporate into their 33-credit program six credits of thesis research (IS 699). Students pursuing a non-thesis track will take a 4 ½ hour comprehensive examination after the completion of course work.

Required Courses

Code	Title	Hours
Core Courses		18
IS 600	Research Methods in International Studies	
IS 601	Seminar in International Relations Theory	
IS 655	International History	
IS 708	Asian Politics	
IS 726	American Foreign Policy and World Order	
ECON 650	International Economics	
Field of Concentration		9
Electives*		6
IS 699	Thesis Research	
	Additional coursework at the 500, 600 or 700 level	

*If thesis option, 6 of these credits will be thesis research. Non-thesis option, up to six credits of elective coursework may be taken at the 500 level.

Select one field of concentration: Comparative Cultural and Political Studies, Conflict and Cooperation, International Political Economy and Development, Modeling and Simulation, Strategic Leadership, or US Foreign Policy. Students must choose courses from the below lists as specified.

Courses may be selected outside of the lists below ONLY in coordination with the concentration coordinator.

M.A. Fields of Concentrations and Coordinators

Comparative Cultural and Political Studies

Coordinator: Dr. Angélica J. Huizar (ahuizar@odu.edu)

Comparative Cultural and Political Studies offers an interdisciplinary approach from the fields of Comparative Politics and Cultural Studies. The focus of Comparative Politics is on the study of political institutions, processes, and behaviours. It is devoted to understanding and analyzing similarities and differences in the practice of politics and in the characteristics of political institutions, economic structures and processes, and values across temporal and geographical space. It strikes a balance between developing the most general statements possible about political life and applying them to the understanding of political phenomena in specific places and times. Similarly, key to a Cultural Studies approach is the assumption that the study of culture in all its complexity requires cross-disciplinary work and an understanding that language, gender, race, sexuality, nationality, ethnicity, and class organize identity, complex social relations, and cultural objects. Cultural Studies pays special attention to those forms that permeate everyday experience: subcultures, popular media (television, film, the internet), and a range of performance practices—dance, music, sports, and fashion. The goal of this concentration is to prepare students to understand cultural and political practices in diverse environments and fields. Students learn the key words, critical tools, and basic methods used in the practice of cultural and comparative critique.

- Students selecting this field must take *IS 716 Theories of Comparative Social political Studies* and *IS 760 International Cultural Studies: History, Theory and Application* as the required field courses.
- M.A. students must select ONE more course within the field.
- Students may take courses other than those listed below after consulting the field coordinator.
- Students are advised they can enrich their classroom experience through Independent Study/Directed Research projects with the agreement and under the supervision of the field coordinator.

Required

IS 716	Theories of Comparative Social Political Studies
IS 760	International Cultural Studies: History, Theory and Application

Electives

IS 703	Ethics and International Relations
IS 704	Latin American Politics
IS 722	Democracy and International Relations
IS 725	Politics of the Middle East
IS 728	Ghosts of French Colonization
IS 731	Media & Migration
IS 738	European Politics
IS 740	Political Economy of Development
IS 748	Gender and Globalization
IS 770	Transnational Media Practices
IS 795	TPCS: Topics in International Studies
HLSC 776	Global Health

Conflict & Cooperation

Coordinator: Dr. Regina Karp (rkarp@odu.edu)

During the past decade, international security studies have undergone rapid transformation. No longer beholden to the study of East-West competition, the security field has become increasingly diverse regarding the themes and issues it embraces as well as the community of scholars it involves. As a result, many intellectual foundations have been questioned, and the field has been opened to a variety of innovations.

This field aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the various discourses in security studies enabling students to undertake independent and original work of their own. Students learn to critically examine different epistemologies and theories as well as to apply and test competing explanations of security choices. Students will engage traditional realist and liberal theories as well as ideationalist propositions.

Students are also advised that they can enrich their classroom experience through Independent Study/Directed Research projects with the agreement and under the supervision of the field coordinator.

- Students selecting this field must take *IS 702 Approaches to Collective Security* as their required field course.
- M.A. students must select TWO more courses within the field.
- Students may take courses other than those listed below after consulting the field coordinator.
- Students are advised they can enrich their classroom experience through Independent Study/Directed Research projects with the agreement and under the supervision of the field coordinator.

Required

IS 702 Approaches to Collective Security

Electives

IS 707	Interdependence, Power, and Transnationalism
IS 720	Research Seminar in Global Security
IS 721	New World Order: Chaos and Coherence
IS 734	U.S. Grand Strategy
IS 735	International Relations of the Middle East
IS 790	Advanced Seminar Conflict & Cooperation
IS 795	TPC: Topics in International Studies

International Political Economy & Development

Coordinators: Dr. Matthew DiLorenzo (mdiloren@odu.edu)
and Dr. Georg Menz (gmenz@odu.edu)

Political decisions influence economic outcomes and vice versa. Governments determine the nature and distribution of property rights and the rules governing the production and distribution of wealth; markets shape the distribution of power, policy choices and the institutions of governance. The International Political Economy and Development curriculum examines the intersection of politics and economics globally, focusing on political and economic behavior which cuts across national boundaries. This includes foreign trade, investment, monetary relations, migration, globalization, and foreign aid.

The track also studies the differential production of power and wealth in the world. The focus here is on problems of underdevelopment, debt, and dependence, along with a consideration of alternative strategies for reducing poverty and inequalities within and between nations. The field draws upon an eclectic range of theoretical models and conceptual frameworks to critically interpret state-market relations in the contemporary global order. In helping students understand the global economy and issues in poverty and development, the courses in this track direct attention toward the role of both international institutions (e.g., World Bank, International Monetary Fund, World Trade Organization, and United Nations) and domestic political institutions (e.g., democracy) in shaping economic decisions and outcomes.

- Students selecting this field must complete *IS 724 International and Comparative Political Economy* and *IS 740 Political Economy of Development* as their required field courses.
- M.A. students must select ONE more seminar within the field.
- Students may take courses other than those listed below after consulting the field coordinator.
- Students are advised they can enrich their classroom experience through Independent Study/Directed Research projects with the agreement and under the supervision of the field coordinator.

Required

IS 724	International and Comparative Political Economy
IS 740	Political Economy of Development

Electives

IS 707	Interdependence, Power, and Transnationalism
IS 711	International Migration and refugee Movement
IS 713	Global Political Economy
IS 716	Theories of Comparative Sociopolitical Studies
IS 717	World Population and Development
IS 722	Democracy and International Relations
IS 741	Globalization and Social Change in the World System
IS 795	TPCS: Topics in International Studies

Modeling & Simulation

Coordinator: Dr. Jesse Richman (jrichman@odu.edu)

The modeling and simulation (or "M&S") concentration provides students access to some of the most innovative research in international studies. M&S arose as a field of study in response to three complementary trends over the last thirty years. First, the various economic, demographic, cultural and technological processes of globalization have given rise to a range of transnational phenomena that increasingly occur outside the territorial confines of nation-states. The growth of such transnational phenomena has given rise to an important second trend: the growing recognition among scholars of international studies of the inadequacy of traditional levels and methods of analysis predicated upon the territorial logic of sovereign states. Scholars today increasingly seek to develop new methods of analysis. The third trend--the explosive growth of affordable and powerful microcomputing--has equipped researchers with a range of new technologies and methods to understand contemporary international and global phenomena. Together, these three trends have synthesized the field of M&S in international studies.

The M&S in international studies concentration provides students with an education in the most innovative methods in the field. Students can choose to specialize in methods as diverse as statistics, game theory, agent-based modeling, geographic information sciences, and network analysis. These fields reflect the Hampton Roads area's emergence as a global leader in the modeling and simulation industry. Local M&S firms, government and military employers in the region, and the proximity of Washington, DC all provide internship and job opportunities for students who specialize in M&S.

- Students selecting this field must take ***MSIM 601 Introduction to Modeling and Simulation*** OR ***MSIM 602 Introduction to Fundamentals*** and ***IS 723 Advanced Statistical Techniques in International Studies*** as their required field courses.
- M.A. students must select ONE more course within the field.
- Students may take courses other than those listed below after consulting the field coordinator.
- Students can enrich their classroom experience through Independent Study/Directed Research projects with the agreement of the field coordinator.

Required

MSIM 601 IS 723	Introduction to Modeling and Simulation OR MSIM 602 Simulation Fundamentals Advanced Statistical Techniques in International Studies
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Electives

BNAL 722 ECON 707 ECON 708 ENMA 712 ENMA 724 ENMA 754 GEOG 600 GEOG 601 IDT 755 IDT 756 IS 762 IS 765 IS 772 MSIM 673 MSIM 725 PSYC 736 STAT 625 STAT 640	Agent Based Simulation and Modeling Econometrics II Econometrics III Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis and Decision Support Systems Risk Analysis Big Data Fundamentals Geospatial Data Analysis Spatial Statistics and Modeling Theory & Design of Instructional Simulation Instructional Gaming: Theories and Practice Game Theory Agent-Based Modeling and Simulation for International Studies Modeling Global Events Threat Modeling and Risk Analysis Principles of Combat Modeling & Simulation Multilevel Models: HLM Mathematical Statistics I Survival Analysis
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Strategic Leadership

Coordinator: Dr. Regina Karp (rkarp@odu.edu)

Strategic leadership is a critical quality in government and private sectors. This Concentration seeks to enhance student ability to think and act strategically. The Concentration in Strategic Leadership equips students with the knowledge and skills to assume leadership positions in government and private sectors. It educates students about issues of global relevance and the means to communicate and affect global concerns effectively.

Students are also advised that they can enrich their classroom experience through Independent Study/Directed Research projects with the agreement and under the supervision of the field coordinator.

- Students selecting this field must take ***IS 721 New World Order*** as their required field course.
- M.A. students must select TWO more courses within the field.
- Students may take courses other than those listed below after consulting the field coordinator.
- Students are advised that they can enrich their classroom experience through Independent Study/Directed Research projects with the agreement and under the supervision of the field coordinator.

Required

IS 721 New World Order: Chaos and Coherence

Electives

IS 701	Global Change and American Foreign Policy
IS 702	Approaches to Collective Security
IS 708	Asian Politics
IS 713	Global Political Economy
IS 720	Research Seminar in Global Security
IS 734	U.S. Grand Strategy
IS 741	Globalization and Social Change in the World System
IS 795	TPCS: Topics in International Studies
COMM 600	Intercultural Communication: History, Theory and Application

U.S. Foreign Policy

Coordinator: Dr. Richard Maass (rmaass@odu.edu)

Among the virtues of U.S. Foreign Policy as a field of concentration is its multi-faceted approach. By its very nature, the study of this field requires that students develop a thorough understanding of all the concepts and conditions that serve as key components in the making of foreign policy. These factors include --but need not be limited to-- economic, cultural, and political considerations. Emphasis is placed on the fundamentals of foreign policy: the construction, the execution, the evolution, and the implications. The seminars in this field allow our students to examine the transformation of the U.S. role in the world in the global context of the 20th Century and help them to identify the distinguishing characteristics of the unfolding global order of the 21st Century.

In our intimate seminar setting, debate focuses, for instance, on Cold War and post-Cold War U.S. relations with former communist states and the security issues related to their democratic transformation and economic reform, as well as reemerging ethnic cleavages. Efforts on the part of the U.S. government, as well as activities of non-governmental and private voluntary organizations are examined and principal security issues, such as NATO enlargement, the possession of chemical and biological weapons, adherence to nuclear non-proliferation agreements, and ethnic conflict are discussed. Doctoral candidates are urged, but not required, to take at least one history course dealing with the pre-1945 years.

- Students selecting this field must complete *IS 734 U.S. Grand Strategy*.
- M.A. students must select TWO more courses within the field.
- Students may take courses other than those listed below after consulting the field coordinator.
- Students are advised they can enrich their classroom experience through Independent Study/Directed Research projects with the agreement and under the supervision of the field coordinator.

Required

IS 734 U.S. Grand Strategy

Electives

IS 701	Global Change and American Foreign Policy
IS 702	Approaches to Collective Security
IS 703	Ethics and International Relations
IS 714	Law in the International System
IS 720	Research Seminar in Global Security
IS 721	New World Order: Chaos and Coherence
IS 740	Political Economy of Development
IS 741	Globalization and Social Change
IS 795	Russia and the World
IS 795	TPCS: Topics in International Studies

M.A. Comprehensive Examination

The M.A. comprehensive examination may not be scheduled before students have completed all core and methodology requirements, nor may the M.A. comp exam be scheduled prior to the last semester in which regular course work is taken. M.A. exams are scheduled twice a year November and April. If students fail the exam on the first attempt, they may retake the exam only once, no earlier than one semester later.

Mandatory Orientation

Prior to the scheduled M.A. comp exam students are required to attend a brief orientation with the GPD. The director will go over the expectations, requirements and give tips on what to study to prepare for the exam. Students who meet the requirements to move on to take the exam will be invited to the orientation.

Examination Committee

The exam committee consists of the chairperson and members from the student's field of concentration. Students must complete the [M5 - Appointment or Change of Master's Comprehensive Examination Committee](#) form. If changes need to be made to the committee, a new form must be completed, and appropriate signatures gathered. Students will be notified via email of the exam results.



Thesis

Students choosing the thesis option must submit a thesis prospectus to the committee chair for approval after the completion of 18 credits or at the beginning of the third semester in the program. The thesis should be submitted to the committee for approval at least two weeks before a defense is scheduled. GPIS requires a minimum of 100 pages including bibliography, references, and appendices. Students should use the University's [Thesis & Dissertation Preparation & Submission](#) website for additional guidance.

Committee

Complete the [M1 - Appointment or Change of Master's Thesis Committee](#) form. The student along with the program director will appoint a committee chairperson who will serve as the academic advisor for the remainder of the program. The student in consultation with the chairperson, appoints a committee. Two of the committee members must be full-time ODU faculty. The third member may be one of the following: a full-time University faculty; an adjunct, part-time, or emeritus University faculty; or a non-ODU academic or professional with special knowledge of the thesis subject area. No more than one-third of the committee's membership can be individuals external to the University. The GPD approves the constitution of the committee and ensures that all committee members are graduate certified.

Proposal

The student and committee ensure quality of content and correctness of the thesis. The student may be given ongoing evaluations by the committee, but final approval will only be given on the completed document. Apply for graduation must occur prior to the end of semester.

Defense

Candidates are required to defend the thesis in an oral examination in front of the exam committee. The pass or fail decision rests with the committee, but it shall consider the opinions of other participating faculty members. A unanimous decision is not necessary. The finalized document must be submitted to the chair a minimum of two weeks prior to the oral defense.

Thesis Checklist

CONGRATULATIONS! In addition to research and writing, you are responsible for the following:

- ☐ Committee chairperson will now serve as the academic advisor for the remainder of the program.
- ☐ Assemble the committee in coordination with the chairperson.
- ☐ External member [Certification of External Thesis Committee Members Form](#).
- ☐ External member is approved [M1 - Appointment of Master's Thesis Committee \(odu.edu\)](#)
- ☐ Attend the Editors Workshop [College of Arts & Letters Graduate Resources](#).

Reminders

- All forms are initiated by the chairperson unless directed otherwise.
- Send all forms with committee and/or student signatures to the GPD & program coordinator.
- Register for IS 699 THESIS course at least one credit under the advisor's name until graduation.
- If a course is not listed with the correct advisor in the course offerings, email the program coordinator for further assistance.

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Requirements

The PhD requires 48 credits at the **800 level**. These 48 hours include a minimum of 12 dissertation credits. The 48 credits do not include any courses needed for demonstrating foreign language competency.

Upon completion of coursework, PhD students must pass a written and oral candidacy examination, submit a dissertation prospectus, write a dissertation, and undergo an oral defense of the dissertation.

Curriculum

Code	Title	Hours
Required Prerequisites		
IS 600	Research Methods in International Studies	3
IS 601	Seminar in International Relations Theory	3
IS 655	International History	3
ECON 650	International Economics	3
Core Courses		
IS 814	Law in the International System	3
IS 820	Research Seminar in Global Security	3
IS 823	Advanced Statistical Techniques in International Studies	3
IS 824	International and Comparative Political Economy	3

Each required course must be completed with a grade of B (3.00) or above. PhD students must complete core courses totaling **12** credit hours, **15** credit hours in the primary concentration, **9** credit hours in the secondary concentration, and **12** credit hours of dissertation preparation.

Select two of the following six fields of concentration: Comparative Cultural and Political Studies, Conflict and Cooperation, International Political Economy and Development, Modeling and Simulation, Strategic Leadership, or US Foreign Policy. Students must choose courses from the below lists as specified.

Courses may be selected outside of lists below ONLY in coordination with the concentration coordinator.

PhD Fields of Concentrations and Coordinators

Comparative Cultural and Political Studies

Coordinator: Dr. Angélica J. Huizar (ahuizar@odu.edu)

Comparative Cultural and Political Studies offers an interdisciplinary approach from the fields of Comparative Politics and Cultural Studies. The focus of Comparative Politics is on the study of political institutions, processes, and behaviors. It is devoted to understanding and analyzing similarities and differences in the practice of politics and in the characteristics of political institutions, economic structures and processes, and values across temporal and geographical space. It strikes a balance between developing the most general statements possible about political life and applying them to the understanding of political phenomena in specific places and times. Similarly, key to a Cultural Studies approach is the assumption that the study of culture in all its complexity requires cross-disciplinary work and an understanding that language, gender, race, sexuality, nationality, ethnicity, and class organize identity, complex social relations, and cultural objects. Cultural Studies pays special attention to those forms that permeate everyday experience: subcultures, popular media (television, film, the internet), and a range of performance practices—dance, music, sports, and fashion. The goal of this concentration is to prepare students to understand cultural and political practices in diverse environments and fields. Students learn the key words, critical tools, and basic methods used in the practice of cultural and comparative critique.

- Students selecting this field must take ***IS 816 Theories of Comparative Social political Studies*** and ***IS 860 International Cultural Studies*** as the required field courses.
- PhD students must select THREE more courses if primary or ONE more course if secondary concentration.
- Students may take courses other than those listed below after consulting the field coordinator.
- Students are advised that they can enrich their classroom experience through Independent Study/Directed Research projects with the agreement and under the supervision of the field coordinator.

Required

IS 816	Theories of Comparative Social Political Studies
IS 860	International Cultural Studies

Electives

IS 803	Ethics and Foreign Policy
IS 804	Latin American Politics
IS 808	Asian Politics
IS 822	Democracy and International Relations
IS 825	Politics of the Middle East
IS 828	Ghosts of French Colonization
IS 831	Media & Migration
IS 838	European Politics
IS 840	Political Economy of Development
IS 841	Globalization and Social Change in the World Economy
IS 848	Gender and Globalization
IS 870	Transnational Media Practices
IS 895	TPCS: Topics in International Studies
IS 897	Independent Research in International Studies
IS 898	Directed Research
HLSC 876	Global Health

Conflict & Cooperation

Coordinator: Dr. Regina Karp (rkarp@odu.edu)

During the past decade, international security studies have undergone rapid transformation. No longer beholden to the study of East-West competition, the security field has become increasingly diverse regarding the themes and issues it embraces as well as the community of scholars it involves. As a result, many intellectual foundations have been questioned, and the field has been opened to a variety of innovations.

This field aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the various discourses in security studies enabling students to undertake independent and original work of their own. Students learn to critically examine different epistemologies and theories as well as to apply and test competing explanations of security choices. Students will engage traditional realist and liberal theories as well as ideate oralist propositions.

Students are also advised that they can enrich their classroom experience through Independent Study/Directed Research projects with the agreement and under the supervision of the field coordinator.

- Students selecting this field must take *IS 802 Approaches to Collective Security* as their required field course.
- PhD students must choose FOUR more courses if primary and TWO more courses if secondary concentration.
- Students may take courses other than those listed below after consulting the field coordinator.
- Students are advised that they can enrich their classroom experience through Independent Study/Directed Research projects with the agreement and under the supervision of the field coordinator.

Required

IS 802 Approaches to Collective Security

Electives

IS 807	Interdependence, Power, and Transnationalism
IS 808	Asian Politics
IS 821	New World Order: Chaos and Coherence
IS 834	U.S. Grand Strategy
IS 835	International Relations of the Middle East
IS 890	Advanced Seminar Conflict & Cooperation
IS 897	Independent Research in International Studies
IS 895	TPCS: Topics in International Studies
IS 898	Directed Research

International Political Economy & Development

Coordinators: Dr. Matthew DiLorenzo (mdiloren@odu.edu)
and Dr. Georg Menz (gmenz@odu.edu)

Political decisions influence economic outcomes and vice versa. Governments determine the nature and distribution of property rights and the rules governing the production and distribution of wealth; markets shape the distribution of power, policy choices and the institutions of governance. The International Political Economy and Development curriculum examines the intersection of politics and economics globally, focusing on political and economic behavior which cuts across national boundaries. This includes foreign trade, investment, monetary relations, migration, globalization, and foreign aid.

This track also studies the differential production of power and wealth in the world. The focus here is on problems of underdevelopment, debt, and dependence, along with a consideration of alternative strategies for reducing poverty and inequalities within and between nations. The field draws upon an eclectic range of theoretical models and conceptual frameworks to critically interpret state-market relations in the contemporary global order. In helping students understand the global economy and issues in poverty and development, the courses in this track direct attention toward the role of both international institutions (e.g., World Bank, International Monetary Fund, World Trade Organization, and United Nations) and domestic political institutions (e.g., democracy) in shaping economic decisions and outcomes.

- Students selecting this field must complete *IS 840 Political Economy of Development* as their required field course.
- PhD students must select THREE more courses if primary or ONE more course if secondary concentration.
- Students may take courses other than those listed below after consulting the field coordinator.
- Students are advised that they can enrich their classroom experience through Independent Study/Directed Research projects with the agreement and under the supervision of the field coordinator.

Required

IS 840 Political Economy of Development

Electives

IS 807	Interdependence, Power, and Transnationalism
IS 811	International Migration and refugee Movement
IS 816	Theories of Comparative Sociopolitical Studies
IS 817	World Population and Development
IS 822	Democracy and International Relations
IS 841	Globalization and Social Change in the World System
IS 895	TPCS: Topics in International Studies
IS 897	Independent Research in International Studies
IS 898	Directed Research

Modeling & Simulation

Coordinator: Dr. Jesse Richman (jrichman@odu.edu)

The modeling and simulation (or "M&S") concentration provides students access to some of the most innovative research in international studies. M&S arose as a field of study in response to three complementary trends over the last thirty years. First, the various economic, demographic, cultural and technological processes of globalization have given rise to a range of transnational phenomena that increasingly occur outside the territorial confines of nation-states. The growth of such transnational phenomena has given rise to an important second trend: the growing recognition among scholars of international studies of the inadequacy of traditional levels and methods of analysis predicated upon the territorial logic of sovereign states. Scholars today increasingly seek to develop new methods of analysis. The third trend--the explosive growth of affordable and powerful microcomputing--has equipped researchers with a range of new technologies and methods to understand contemporary international and global phenomena. Together, these three trends have synthesized the field of M&S in international studies.

The M&S in international studies concentration provides GPIS students with an education in the most innovative methods in the field. Students can choose to specialize in methods as diverse as statistics, game theory, agent-based modeling, geographic information sciences, and network analysis. These fields reflect the Hampton Roads area's emergence as a global leader in the modeling and simulation industry. Local M&S firms, government and military employers in the region, and the proximity of Washington, DC all provide internship and job opportunities for students who specialize in M&S.

- Students selecting this field must take ***MSIM 601 Introduction to Modeling and Simulation*** OR ***MSIM 602 Simulation Fundamentals*** as their required field courses.
- PhD students must select THREE more courses if primary or TWO more course if secondary concentration.
- Students may take courses other than those listed below after consulting the field coordinator.
- Students are advised that they can enrich their classroom experience through Independent Study/Directed Research projects with the agreement of the field coordinator.

Required

MSIM 601	Introduction to Modeling and Simulation <i>OR</i>
MSIM 602	Simulation Fundamentals (<i>MSIM 601 & MSIM 602 counts at the 800 level for PhD students</i>)

Electives

BNAL 822	Agent Based Simulation and Modeling
ECON 807	Econometrics II
ECON 808	Econometrics III
ENMA 812	Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis and Decision Support Systems
ENMA 824	Risk Analysis
ENMA 854	Big Data Fundamentals
IDT 855	Theory & Design of Instructional Simulation
IDT 856	Instructional Gaming: Theories and Practice
IS 862	Game Theory
IS 865	Agent-Based Modeling and Simulation for International Studies
IS 872	Modeling Global Events
IS 895	TPCS: Topics in International Studies
IS 897	Independent Research in International Studies
IS 898	Directed Research
MSIM 825	Principles of Combat Modeling & Simulation
PSYC 836	Multilevel Models: HLM

Strategic Leadership

Coordinator: Dr. Regina Karp (rkarp@odu.edu)

Strategic leadership is a critical quality in government and private sectors. This concentration seeks to enhance student ability to think and act strategically. The concentration in Strategic Leadership equips students with the knowledge and skills to assume leadership positions in government and private sectors. It educates students about issues of global relevance and the means to communicate and affect global concerns effectively.

Students are also advised that they can enrich their classroom experience through Independent Study/Directed Research projects with the agreement and under the supervision of the field coordinator.

- Students selecting this field must take *IS 821 New World Order: Chaos and Coherence* as their required field course.
- PhD students must select FOUR more courses if primary or TWO more course if secondary concentration.
- Students may take courses other than those listed below after consulting the field coordinator.
- Students are advised that they can enrich their classroom experience through Independent Study/Directed Research projects with the agreement and under the supervision of the field coordinator.

Required

IS 821	New World Order: Chaos and Coherence
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Electives

IS 801	Global Change and American Foreign Policy
IS 802	Approaches to Collective Security
IS 808	Asian Politics
IS 813	Global Political Economy
IS 834	U.S. Grand Strategy
IS 841	Globalization and Social Change in the World System
IS 895	TPCS: Topics in International Studies
IS 897	Independent Research in International Studies
IS 898	Directed Research

U.S. Foreign Policy

Coordinator: Dr. Richard Maass (rmaass@odu.edu)

Among the virtues of U.S. Foreign Policy as a field of concentration is its multi-faceted approach. By its very nature, the study of this field requires that students develop a thorough understanding of all the concepts and conditions that serve as key components in the making of foreign policy. These factors include --but need not be limited to-- economic, cultural, and political considerations. Emphasis is placed on the fundamentals of foreign policy: the construction, the execution, the evolution, and the implications. The seminars in this field allow our students to examine the transformation of the U.S. role in the world in the global context of the 20th Century and help them to identify the distinguishing characteristics of the unfolding global order of the 21st Century.

In our intimate seminar setting, debate focuses, for instance, on Cold War and post-Cold War U.S. relations with former communist states and the security issues related to their democratic transformation and economic reform, as well as reemerging ethnic cleavages. Efforts on the part of the U.S. government, as well as activities of non-governmental and private voluntary organizations are examined and principal security issues, such as NATO enlargement, the possession of chemical and biological weapons, adherence to nuclear non-proliferation agreements, and ethnic conflict are discussed. Doctoral candidates are urged, but not required, to take at least one history course dealing with the pre-1945 years.

- Students selecting this field must complete *IS 834 U.S. Grand Strategy* and *IS 826 American Foreign Policy and World Order*.
- PhD students must choose THREE more courses if primary and ONE more course if secondary concentration.
- Students may take courses other than those listed below after consulting the field coordinator.
- Students are advised that they can enrich their classroom experience through Independent Study/Directed Research projects with the agreement and under the supervision of the field coordinator.

Required

IS 826	American Foreign Policy & World Order
IS 834	U.S. Grand Strategy

Electives

IS 801	Global Change and American Foreign Policy
IS 802	Approaches to Collective Security
IS 803	Ethics and International Relations
IS 821	New World Order: Chaos and Coherence
IS 840	Political Economy of Development
IS 841	Globalization and Social Change in the World System
IS 895	Russia and the World
IS 895	TPCS: Topics in International Studies
IS 897	Independent Research in International Studies
IS 898	Directed Research

PhD Comprehensive Examination

The PhD comprehensive examination may not be scheduled before students have completed all core and methodology requirements, nor may exam be scheduled prior to the last semester in which regular course work is taken. Students are required to fulfill the foreign language requirement before taking the exam. Examinations are scheduled twice a year. Doctoral candidates are expected to be able to communicate effectively and knowledgeably both in writing and orally. Thus, the PhD comprehensive examinations have both a written and an oral component.

Mandatory Orientation

The process of preparing for the exam includes a mandatory orientation with the GPD. The brief meeting is scheduled prior to the scheduled exam date. Students that meet all requirements to take the exam will attend the orientation. The GPD will outline the requirements and expectations of the exam therefore the orientation is MANDATORY.

Examination Committee

The exam will be graded by the doctoral candidacy examination committee. The committee will usually, but not always, include the chair and concentration coordinator(s) of the relevant tracks.

Written Examination Process

The written exam is usually scheduled the week before the start of the new semester. Day one will consist of questions related to the primary concentration and day two the secondary. The exam is conducted on campus, and eight hours are allotted each day to complete the exam. It is closed book; no notes or other aids of any kind are allowed. For each concentration the student must answer two out of five questions.

➤ **Written Exam Grading**

The exam will be graded by the exam committee and usually take about two weeks.

➤ **Passing the Written Comprehensive Exam**

It is the student's responsibility to write answers that are generally accessible and appealing across the variety of GPIS faculty. Most readers will be looking for a clear and direct answer to the question, evidence of familiarity and facility with the important literature, and an ability to integrate theory and empirical cases. To pass the exam, students must not receive more than one failing evaluation from a committee member.

➤ **Failing the Written Comprehensive Exam**

The exam is meant to be a straightforward assessment of the student's command of their declared fields and their preparation to move on to the challenges of writing the dissertation. Because the exam is conceptualized as an assessment of this preparedness to move on, it plays a very important role in your doctoral education. Students who do not demonstrate an effective grasp of the relevant literature and empirics or who do not effectively and explicitly answer the questions as asked will not pass. Students who do not pass the written exam on the first attempt may retake the exam in a subsequent semester. Failure on the second attempt will prevent the student from going on to the oral portion of the exam. At the discretion of the committee, the failing student may be offered the opportunity to complete the M.A. comp exam and be awarded the M.A. if they do not already have a GPIS M.A.

Oral Comprehensive Examination Process

The oral portion of the exam takes place about three weeks after the written exam. The examiners will usually, but not necessarily, include the GPD, the track coordinator(s) and the chairperson. The exam will last about one hour. Each examiner will have a chance to ask questions, but the format will often shift

between structured questioning and a free-flowing discussion. The discussion will center on the student's answers from the written exam (students may use their exam). The scope of the exam is not, limited to that material. The examiners will be looking to fill in any perceived gaps in the written work, and to assess the student's facility more generally with the literature and empirical material.

➤ **Passing the Oral Comprehensive Exam**

Passing the oral exam is a matter of convincing the committee that you have an appropriate mastery of the central material of the field and are prepared to go on to focused and independent work on a dissertation. No more than one negative vote from the committee can be received to pass.

➤ **Failing the Oral Comprehensive Exam**

Students who do not pass the oral exam will be asked to return in one month for a second oral exam. Students who do not pass on the second attempt will not be allowed to continue for the PhD.



Dissertation

Committee

After successful completion of the candidacy exam, the dissertation committee is formed to supervise the research. Faculty who agrees to serve on a committee understand that they are committed to serve until the dissertation is completed. The student selects a chair and may consult with the GPD for assistance. The chair, in consultation with the student, appoints a committee of at least three members who are graduate certified at the appropriate level and who have the academic backgrounds and research interests necessary to counsel, direct, and evaluate the student's proposed research and progress. At least two committee members must be full-time current ODU faculty members. At least one member must be from outside the student's department/school at ODU or a non-ODU academic or professional with special knowledge of the dissertation subject area. Specific guidelines on selecting a committee can be found in the graduate school catalog under "Dissertation Committee". Once the committee is established, student must submit the [D2 - Appointment or Change of Doctoral Dissertation Committee](#) form. Decisions to determine whether the dissertation prospectus, final dissertation written document, or oral defense of the dissertation passes must have the majority approval of the committee.

1. Traditional dissertation which must be defended in front of designated examining committee.

Proposal

The student and committee ensure quality of content and correctness of form of the thesis. The student may be given ongoing evaluations by the committee, but final approval may be given only on the completed document. The student must apply for graduation prior to the semester of graduation and be enrolled in the University.

Defense

The format of a defense is determined by the dissertation committee with the approval of the graduate program director. The defense is chaired by the chair of the dissertation committee. The chair will act as moderator, ruling on questions of procedure and protocol that may arise during the defense. The chair of the defense represents the college dean, to whom he or she makes a complete and prompt report on the defense. The chair should also promptly notify the graduate program director of the results of the defense.

The oral dissertation defense is scheduled for the time and place approved in the request for the dissertation defense. A two-week lead time is required for scheduling. This information is published in the appropriate University news media. The oral dissertation defense is open to the University community; all interested members are encouraged to attend the examination.

The aim of the defense is to explore with the candidate the methodological and substantive contributions of the already approved dissertation. Majority approval by the examiners constitutes successful completion of the defense of the dissertation. In case of failure, the dissertation committee may recommend that the candidate be dropped or be allowed re-examination no earlier than three months after the first examination.

Satisfactory performance on this examination and adherence to the regulations and the requirements for the degree. The Dissertation Acceptance and Processing Form must be submitted to the Office of the Registrar with the completed dissertation upon completion of requirements for the degree.

2. With approval from the dissertation committee, students may choose to write a dissertation whose core is three papers of publishable quality.

Three-Paper Dissertation Policy

As with the standard dissertation, the three-paper option requires clear committee communication and feedback along the way. Students are advised to develop a publication plan as soon as practicable. In many respects, this alternative approach may be deemed to have a higher bar with respect to the quality of the work required.

For a three-paper dissertation GPIS requires that the candidate have published or submitted for publication three academic papers on which the candidate is the sole author. All three papers should represent substantially new work rather than a “duplicate” publication. For example, work done for the M.A. thesis will typically not count unless major changes have been made such as additional data collection or significant additional analyses.

Whereas a traditional dissertation should have a single research question and puzzle, a three-papers dissertation should feature three related yet distinct research questions. For example, merely including additional variables to probe the robustness of the model in Paper 1 is insufficient to generate Paper 2. Rather, the three papers should each address separate research questions linked by a shared overarching theme, and hence each should make an independent intellectual contribution.

The three papers must be on a related theme and be approved by the student’s committee. In addition to the three papers, the completed dissertation should include an overall introduction and conclusion, as described in the table below. The submitted dissertation will thus include a title, abstract, introduction and a conclusion that connect and contextualize the three papers.

	Conventional Dissertation	Three-Papers Dissertation
Introduction	Introducing the project’s significance and outlining its central puzzle and research question.	Introducing the overall topic and connecting the logical links among the three papers.
Conceptual or Theoretical Framework	+	Included in each of the three papers, although students can choose to retain an additional stand-alone conceptual and/or literature review chapter if they wish.
Literature Review	+	
Methodology	+	
Results (Research Findings)	+	
Conclusion	Summarizing and interpreting overall findings and offering recommendations for policy and/or further research	Integrating the findings of the three papers, interpreting their collective contributions, and offering recommendations for policy and/or further research
References/Resources	+	Included in each of the three papers
Appendices	Optional	Optional

Three paper dissertation - frequently asked questions

Do the three papers have to be published before I submit my dissertation?

At the time of the defense, at least one of the three papers must have been accepted for publication or be published in a major international studies journal, including the cross-subfield, or prominent subfield journals. The other papers must be evaluated by the committee to be of publishable quality. Students must consult with their committees and receive approval on proposed publication venues for publications that will constitute the dissertation. The article

titles and potential journals for submission must be agreed upon by the student and the committee. The GPIS general criteria for approved publication outlets are the following: the publication must be clearly peer-reviewed and may not be a student journal, no more than one of the publications may be a book chapter, and the book itself must be subject to external peer review. A book chapter cannot be the sole paper accepted for publication.

What about coauthored papers?

All three papers must be authored only by the student. While students are encouraged to engage in collaborative research endeavors, the only author on each of the three papers included in the dissertation should be the student.

What is the length of the three papers?

The papers must be complete, full-length articles: typically, this means a word count of between 8,000 and 15,000 words. Abstracts, monographs, or short summaries do not fulfill the requirement. One of the three required papers may have a theoretical focus.

What if I change my mind?

Students who wish to switch from the conventional dissertation format to the three-papers dissertation, or vice-versa should consult with their chair first, and then with the entire committee for approval of the planned switch. With committee approval, students can switch from one format to the other.

Do I have to copyright my papers?

Yes. Copyright gives authors and creators the power to allow or prohibit certain uses of their work. Here are some copyright basics for authors:

- Copyright protection is granted automatically once a work is fixed in a format (eg, on paper or computer). It covers both published and unpublished works.
- Copyright does not protect ideas or facts.
- Registration, while beneficial in some cases, is not necessary.
- Works no longer require a copyright notice.
- For the most part, ODU authors retain the copyright to their works. ODU Policy on Intellectual Property
- Joint authors hold equal and full copyright in the work.

Dissertation Checklist

CONGRATULATIONS! In addition, to research and writing you are responsible for the following:

- ☐ Committee chairperson will now serve as the academic advisor for the remainder of the program.
- ☐ Assemble the dissertation committee in coordination with the chairperson.
- ☐ External member complete the [Certification of External Dissertation Committee Members Form](#).
- ☐ External member is approved, sign the [D2 - Appointment or Change of Doctoral Dissertation Committee form](#) along with the committee.
- ☐ Attend the Editors Works offered by the college. [College of Arts & Letters Graduate Resources](#).
- ☐ International students complete [D4 - Doctoral Candidates 1-Hour Full-Time Notification \(odu.edu\)](#) each semester.

Reminders

- All forms are initiated by the chairperson unless directed otherwise.
- Send all forms with signatures electronically to the GPD and program coordinator.
- Register for IS 899 DISSERTATION course, at least one credit, under the advisor's name until graduation including the graduation semester. If a course is not listed with the correct advisor, email the program coordinator for further assistance.

Prospectus Defense Rubric

The rubric below is designed to assist faculty in evaluating the Thesis/Dissertation prospectus. The rubric includes four broad evaluation criteria. It is intended to:

- Provide students a clear understanding of the most important aspects of their prospectus prior to submitting it
- Provide clear and concise feedback to students on how well their prospectus does in meeting those program objectives, at a time when the feedback can be used to improve the final product

Instructions:

- Committee chairs and students will **review** and become familiar with the criteria in the rubric, as a guide, prior to the preparation of a dissertation prospectus.
- Chairs should **complete** the rubric immediately after the prospectus defense while discussing the defense with the committee and before discussing the decision with the student.
- The completed rubric is used as a foundation to **discuss** the prospectus defense with the student. Students will **acknowledge** the results by signing the acknowledgement form (sample below) provided by the chairperson. Keep a copy for your records and return the signed copy either in person or via email to the program coordinator.
- If the prospectus defense received scores of 0/ “does not meet expectations” in any areas, the student should present the dissertation committee chair with a **revised** version of the prospectus that fixes those problems within **one month** after the defense.

SAMPLE

Information

Student Name: _____
Degree Project: Ph.D. dissertation

Student ID: _____
Date of Prospectus Defense: _____

Prospectus Defense Scores by Criterion

Criteria Scores (0-2):

1: _____ 2: _____ 3: _____ 4: _____ Overall: _____

Theory and Argument Command of Literature Written and Oral Skills Originality and Potential for and Research Methods Contribution to Discipline

Student Signature: _____

Student Name: _____ Prospectus Defense Date: _____

Thesis/Dissertation Prospectus Rubric

Instructions: Use the check boxes for detailed feedback, then assign overall scores (0-2) for each criterion and overall.

Criterion	Does not meet expectations = 0	Meets expectations = 1	Exceeds expectations = 2	Overall Score
1. Theory and Argument	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Arguments</i> are sometimes incorrect, incoherent, or flawed <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Objectives</i> are poorly defined <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Critical thinking skills</i> are inadequately demonstrated <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Research design</i> is inappropriate to research questions <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Hypotheses</i> are inadequately stated	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Arguments</i> are coherent and reasonably clear <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Objectives</i> are clear <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Critical thinking skills</i> are acceptably demonstrated <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Research design</i> is reasonable for research questions <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Hypotheses</i> are adequately stated	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Arguments</i> are superior <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Objectives</i> are well defined <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Critical thinking skills</i> are demonstrably mature and refined <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Research design</i> is well-suited to research questions <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Hypotheses</i> are well-reasoned and well-supported	
2. Command of Literature and Research Methods	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Theoretical concepts</i> demonstrate limited understanding <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Subject matter and literature</i> reflect limited understanding <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Documentation</i> is weak <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Plan</i> for analysis is confused or ineffective <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Regulatory compliance</i> is lacking anticipation of requirements	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Theoretical concepts</i> are demonstrably understood <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Subject matter and literature</i> is demonstrably understood <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Documentation</i> is adequate <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Plan</i> for analysis reasonable, acknowledges some limitations <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Regulatory compliance</i> is considered (if needed)	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Theoretical concepts</i> show mastery <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Subject matter and literature</i> show mastery <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Documentation</i> is excellent <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Plan</i> for analysis goes beyond the obvious, acknowledges limitations and critically considers alternatives <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Regulatory compliance</i> is demonstrated or planned (if needed)	
3. Written and Oral Skills	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Writing</i> is weak <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Grammar and spelling errors</i> are numerous and apparent <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Organization</i> is poor <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Style</i> is not appropriate to discipline <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Oral discussion</i> shows inability to cogently talk about the project	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Writing</i> is adequate <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Grammar and spelling errors</i> are occasional <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Organization</i> is logical <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Style</i> is appropriate to discipline <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Oral discussion</i> shows ability to cogently support the project	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Writing</i> is publication quality <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Grammar or spelling errors</i> are absent <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Organization</i> is excellent <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Style</i> is exemplary <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Oral discussion</i> shows ability to persuasively support the project	
4. Originality and Potential for Contribution to Discipline	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Potential for discovery</i> is limited <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Previous work</i> in the field is minimally extended <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Significance</i> (theoretical or applied) is limited <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Publication potential</i> is limited	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Potential for discovery</i> exists <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Previous work</i> in the field is built upon meaningfully <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Significance</i> (theoretical or applied) is reasonable <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Publication potential</i> is reasonable	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Potential for discovery</i> is exceptional <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Previous work</i> is greatly extended <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Significance</i> (theoretical or applied) is exceptional <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Publication potential</i> is exceptional	
Overall	<input type="checkbox"/> Does not meet expectations	<input type="checkbox"/> Meets expectations	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceeds expectations	

Additional Comments: |

Deadlines for Submission of Theses or Dissertation

Fall Deadlines

November 1 Dissertations and theses must be submitted electronically for review by the Arts and Letters style editors. Submit the dissertation/thesis and D5/M3 form by completing the form at <http://bit.ly/submitoduthesis>.

December 1 All formatting corrections required by the style editor must be completed by this date.

Spring Deadlines:

April 1 Dissertations and theses must be submitted electronically for review by the Arts and Letters style editors. Submit the dissertation/thesis and D5/M3 form by completing the form at <http://bit.ly/submitoduthesis>.

April 25 All formatting corrections required by the style editor must be completed by this date.

Summer deadlines:

July 15 Dissertations and theses must be submitted electronically for review by the Arts and Letters style editors. Submit the dissertation/thesis and D5/M3 form by completing the form at <http://bit.ly/submitoduthesis>.

August 15 All formatting corrections required by the style editor must be completed by this date.

Course Descriptions

IS 600

Research Methods in International Studies

Interdisciplinary quantitative techniques applicable to the study of international phenomena.

IS 601

Seminar in International Relations Theory

Surveys major theoretical approaches to international relations and foreign policy. A systematic introduction designed to lay a foundation for advanced graduate study.

IS 655

International History

Course explores how different societies in the 20th century were shaped by similar practices, ideas, and pressures. Course themes may include colonialism, the global history of World War II, the cold war ethnic distortion and the consumer revolution among others.

IS 698

Directed Research

Methodological and theoretical preparation designed to assist students in writing a thesis.

IS 699

Thesis Research

Writing of the thesis.

IS 701/801

Global Change and American Foreign

This research seminar examines the transformation of the U.S. role in the world in the global context of the 20th Century and since September 2001.

IS 702/802

Approaches to Collective Security

This seminar explores the origins of the idea of collective security, examines the attempts to organize international security collectively and assesses possibilities and opportunities for collective security arrangements after the Cold War.

IS 703/803

Ethics and Foreign Policy

The focus of this research seminar will be on the role of normative ideas in international relations. Students will be introduced to the growing literature on normative approaches to international relations and the traditional literature on the practical and philosophical problems of ethical action in the relations of states. Although several policy applications will be considered, the primary focus will be on the theoretical incorporation of normative ideas into our understanding of state action in the anarchic international environment.

IS 704/804

Latin American Politics

This course examines Latin American politics from comparative and historical perspectives. Focus is placed on various manifestations of political authority in the region and the major societal challenges to state power. The course reviews and critiques alternative theoretical approaches to the study of state-societal relations in Latin America.

IS 707/807

Interdependence, Power, and Transnationalism

This course covers the fundamental concepts, ideas, and approaches to the study of interdependence and transnationalism. It seeks to expose students to the nature, role, and impact of economic, technological, strategic, and cultural interdependence. Cases of interdependence and transnationalism are explored in the post-Cold War era. Some focus is placed on how interdependence and transnationalism are impacting the power of the state.

IS 708/808

Asian Politics

This course is a graduate seminar on the domestic politics and international relations of (East) Asia focusing on both Northeast and Southeast Asia. The first half of the course examines the domestic politics of Asian countries, with a focus on mainland China, Taiwan, Japan, and South Korea. The topics include political development, state-society

relations, and political economy. The second half of the course turns to foreign relations in the region, exploring various topics and different levels of analysis to understanding the regional dynamics.

IS 711/811 International Migration and Refugee Movement

A review of current literature and empirical issues concerning transnational migration and refugees.

IS 713/813 Global Political Economy

Analysis of the forces shaping national and transnational economic institutions and their policies on a range of contemporary issues, including North-South relations.

IS 714/814 Law in the International System

An introduction to the principles of international law and to the political and institutional role of law in the relations of states.

IS 716/816 Theories of Comparative Sociopolitical Studies

The fundamental goal of the course is to provide the theoretical basis for subsequent coursework and research in the comparative and regional studies concentration. To achieve this goal, this seminar examines major theories and debates in comparative political studies based on extensive and intensive literature review.

IS 717/817 World Population and Development

This seminar discusses population processes and their connections to socioeconomic development. A nontechnical course, the goal is to introduce students to the major concerns and issues in population and current debates over the role of population in sustainable development. It will provide students with a systematic but critical review of research findings and issues in various areas of population and development.

IS 720/820 Research in Global Security

The research seminar investigates the profound changes in international security brought about by the end of the Cold War with a specific focus on the role of nuclear weapons. The primary purpose of the seminar is to promote research into the global aspects of the nuclear issue and to enhance understanding of the relationship between nuclear control and the New World Order.

IS 721/821 New World Order: Chaos or Coherence

The end of the Cold War has ushered tremendous political changes and an equally broad intellectual debate on the meaning of these changes. What will be the basic rules of international politics? Will the future resemble the past or follow new rules of its own? What countries, what groups, and what issues will dominate the future of world politics?

IS 722/822 Democracy and International Relations

An examination of the relationship between democratic politics, democratic ideals, and international relations. Subjects covered will include trends and processes of democratization and their implications for international relations, the distinctiveness of democratic states in their international behavior, the impact of the international environment on the internal politics of democratic states, and the problems of democracy in global governance.

IS 723/823 Advanced Statistical Techniques in International Studies

Introduces the use of advanced statistical techniques for the analysis of social science data. The central objective is to give students a working understanding of multivariate analysis, with a particular focus on the techniques and problems associated with multiple regression, causal analysis, and limited dependent variable maximum likelihood models. Prerequisite: IS 600 or equivalent.

IS 724/824 International and Comparative Political Economy

This class focuses on core theories of international political economy, including international trade, international finance, foreign direct investment, the role of multinational corporations, and the subfield of comparative political economy. Students are introduced to the two main paradigms of contemporary economics, Keynesianism and Hayekian monetarism. Students study labor markets and industrial relations, welfare states, the domestic regulation of finance, the politics of debt, inequality, and the role of the state.

IS 725/825 Politics of the Middle East

Explores the international relations of the Middle East from World War I to the present. Examines the origins of the Arab Israeli and Persian Gulf Wars and their modern dimensions. Examines the role of oil, outside powers and religion.

IS 726/826 American Foreign Policy and World Order

This course deals with the adaptation of US foreign policies to the changing structure of the international system after WWII and in the Cold War, and since Reagan. It is designed to review, analyze, and discuss the global rise of the US role in the world. It will also assess the transformation of US interests since 1945, through the Cold War and since the events of September 11, 2001.

IS 728/828 Ghosts of French Colonization

An analysis of France ex-colonies as they moved from colonization, and decolonization to independence. An overview of political, historical, cinematic, and literary texts with a focus on France's relationship with its ex-colonies, and its ex-colonies' struggles in a post-decolonized world up until contemporary times.

IS 731/831 Media & Migration

This class explores the complex relationships between immigration, globalization, nationalism, and media at the turn of the 21st Century. Students distinguish between different forms of migration and experiences of travel. It explores how media has depicted immigration processes and shaped public attitudes toward different immigrant groups. It also investigates how first and second-generation immigrant populations consume and produce media that both shape and are shaped by transnational identity formations.

IS 734/834 U.S. Grand Strategy

This course offers a thorough exploration into the subject of U.S. grand strategy. It confronts debates over the definition and usefulness of grand strategy, examines variations across the history of U.S. grand strategy and among current vision for U.S grand strategy, and analyzes subjects of core concern to U.S. grand strategy.

IS 735/835 International Relations of the Middle East

The purpose of this course is the help students understand, evaluate, and analyze key features of the international relations of the Middle East. Major issues covered include the historical background of the Middle East, primarily from World War I; Islam and Islamism; Zionism and Israel; Arab nationalism and pan-Arabism; the Arab Israeli Conflict in its historical and contemporary context; the Persian Gulf wars; global oil dynamics; the foreign policy of key regional states; the role of outside powers in the region, especially the United States; and major issues including democratization, WMD, and the Arab Spring.

IS 738/838 European Politics

The course explores on the politics of Europe, focusing on four core themes: the political economy and the travails of the single currency, the question of immigration, legitimacy and democracy, and the changing political landscape. Students will familiarize themselves with the European Union and its institutions, as well as such themes as populism, the decline of centrist political parties and economic stagnation.

IS 740/840 Political Economy of Development

This seminar examines alternate theoretical perspectives on development. These perspectives are then employed to understand contemporary political and economic changes in the developing world, including the consolidation of democratic governance and the liberalization of domestic economics.

IS 741/841 Globalization and Social Change in the World System

This course is intended to first identify the distinguishing characteristics of globalization. It then attempts to examine its implications on several critical issues, including the future of democracy, income distribution and ethnic, class, and gender relations.

IS 748/848 Gender & Globalization

Studies systems of global restructuring as they impact women throughout the globe. Migration, international development, and transnational activism will be focal themes, explored across a variety of national contexts.

IS 760/860 International Cultural Studies History, Theory and Application

Course analyzes culture in the context of material conditions in which it is produced, disseminated, controlled, and practiced. Theoretical application of cultural studies will include developing familiarity with key foundational theories, terminologies, and critical thinking.

IS 762/862 Game Theory

Game theory uses mathematical models, empirical investigation, and simulations to explain simple and complex strategic interactions among individuals, states, groups, and species. This course teaches the tools of game theory, with a focus on applications in international relations and political science.

IS 765/865 Agent Based Modeling and Simulation for International Studies

An introduction to complex systems theory and to the application of agent-based modeling technologies to a variety of social systems.

IS 770/870 Transnational Media Practices

Course examines the key roles played by media technologies in implementing and promoting international development programs, as well as some of the concerns these initiatives have raised in terms of media literacy, cultural sovereignty, and information access.

IS 772/872 Modeling Global Events

This course introduces modeling and simulation as a tool for expanding one's understanding of events that have shaped the global environment of the 21st century. The course will first provide a broad look at international politics through a review of select international incidents, military interventions, and homeland security issues. Second, select topics from these categories will serve as case studies to facilitate representing those events with the application of modeling, simulation, and visualization. Understanding how modeling and simulation can provide another method of analysis allows students to delve deeper into their understanding of "what happened" and to explore their conception of "what if."

IS 790/890 Advanced Seminar Conflict & Cooperation

This course explores debates in the field of security studies, their relevance to creating knowledge, discourse, consensus and critiques, and the development of diverse research agenda.

IS 795/895 Topics in International Studies

The advanced study and discussion of selected (titled) topics not offered on a regular basis.

IS 897 Independent Research

Independent research directed by professors. May only be taken once. Prerequisites: approval of the director.

IS 898 Directed Research

Methodological and theoretical preparation designed to assist students in writing a dissertation. Students may only take this once. Prerequisites: approval of director or instructor.

IS 899 Dissertation

Writing of dissertation.

BNAL 722/822 Agent Based Simulation and Modeling

This course will explore both the conceptual and technical aspects of agent-based simulation, particularly as utilized for modeling of business systems. Students will explore the roots and literature of agent-based modeling and related fields. Students will also learn to develop agent-based simulation models using a major commercial simulation package.

COMM 600 Intercultural Communication

Students begin with an overview and then cover (1) past intercultural communication research, (2) the philosophical underpinning and ethics behind intercultural communication research, and (3) current developments in intercultural

communication theory. They then address the application of intercultural communication theory in specific intercultural communication contexts (e.g. business, education, health and international travel).

ECON 707/807 Econometrics II

Multi-equation econometric models; problems such as identification, single equation estimation, estimation of equation systems, and model evaluation techniques; time-series models such as autoregressive and moving average models; forecasting with time-series models. Prerequisites: ECON 706 or equivalent

ECON 708/808 Economics III

Issues in cross-section and panel data, focuses on problems such as selection bias, heterogeneity, unobserved heterogeneity, treatment effects, truncation and censoring. The course covers multivariate techniques such as principal component analysis and factor analysis, along with event studies and nonparametric and semiparametric estimators.

ECON 650 International Economics

An analysis of international trade theory, commercial policy, foreign exchange markets, open economy macroeconomics, and balance of payments. The course provides the theoretical basis to understand contemporary international economic issues. (Credit may not be applied toward the M.A. in economics.)

ECON 708/808 Econometrics III

Issues in cross-section and panel data, focuses on problems such as selection bias, heterogeneity, unobserved heterogeneity, treatment effects, truncation, and censoring. The course covers multivariate techniques such as principal component analysis and factor analysis, along with event studies and nonparametric and semiparametric estimators. Pre- or corequisite: ECON 706 or equivalent.

ENMA 712/812 Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis & Design Support Systems

Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis and Decision Support Systems. Currently, complex engineering-economic-societal decisions are made by involving numerous sometimes conflicting criteria and attributes, different decision rules and in the presence of various stakeholders with individual preferences who are willing to go into negotiation procedures. Several multi-criteria decision tools involving quantitative as well as qualitative methods, together with adequate decision support tools will be introduced. Case studies on a variety of engineering, environmental and security related aspects will also be considered.

ENMA 724/824 Risk Analysis

Approaches to the management of risk; probability assessment methods; risk modeling; use of software packages; extensions of decision analysis, including stochastic dominance and multiattribute methods; applications to project management, scheduling, and cost estimation.

ENMA 754/854 Big Data Fundamentals

The objectives of the course are to provide fundamental knowledge and skills of Big Data for the new generation of researchers, engineers, project managers and business managers in the emerging data-driven science and engineering paradigm. Topics to be covered include data analytics, cloud platforms and tools for Big Data, and innovative applications of Big Data.

GEOG 600 Geospatial Data Analysis

Course focuses on the fundamentals of geospatial data science. Students learn the key data models, structures, sources, and application of spatial analysis using GIS software, R, programming, and Earth observations.

GEOG 601 Spatial Statistics and Modeling

This course covers the foundations of spatial statistics and modeling. Emphasis is placed on point, linear and areal patterns, geostatistics, and model development for a variety of problems using multiple software packages.

HLSC 776/876 Global Health

This course will introduce the student to the political, social, cultural, and ethical issues involved in disease prevention and health promotion globally. Specific emphasis will be on incidence/prevalence, morbidity/mortality,

and identified health problems in specific regions and countries. This course will also identify international health prerogatives aimed at improving health status through education and intervention.

IDT 755/855 Theory and Design of Instructional Simulation

This course focuses on learning theory, design and evaluation of instructional simulations and simulators. Topics include history, instructional design, validation, and integration of instructional simulations.

IDT 756/856 Instructional Gaming: Theories and Practice

Provides both a conceptual framework and experience in the design and development of instructional games. The course introduces the student to the history, research, theory, and practice of instructional games. Topics include discussions of relevant learning theories associated with instructional gaming, analysis and design of games and current research in instructional gaming.

MSIM 601 Introduction to Modeling and Simulation

Modeling and simulation (M&S) discipline surveyed at an overview level of detail. Basic terminology, modeling methods, and simulation paradigms are introduced. **May substitute MSIM 602.**

MSIM 602 Simulation Fundamentals

An introduction to the modeling and simulation discipline. Introduction to discrete event simulation (DES) including simulation methodology, input data modeling, output data analysis, and an overview of DES tools. Introduction to continuous simulation (CS) including simulation methodology, differential equation models, numerical solution techniques, and an overview of CS tools. Prerequisites: graduate standing; undergraduate preparation in calculus and probability & statistics; and computer literacy.

MSIM 673 Threat Modeling and Risk Analysis

This course discusses how to develop cyber threat models using attack graphs/trees, STRIDE, Universal Modeling Language (UML), attack graphs/ trees and common of risk analysis tools. Course also discusses the need for quantitative security analysis and formal validation of security models and basic principles of formal model validation. (Cross-listed with ENMA 673.)

MSIM 725/825 Principles of Combat Modeling & Simulation

Principles of combat modeling and simulation. Introduction including history, basic definitions, and best practice. Algorithms for modeling movement, sensing effects and behavior. Overview of modern combat models. Interoperability and integration into operational environments. Prerequisites: MSIM 603.

MSIM 772/872 Modeling Global Events

Modeling Global Events introduces modeling and simulation as a tool for expanding our understanding of events that have shaped the global environment of the 21st century. Students will review real-world case studies and then analyze these case studies via system dynamics, agent-based, social network, and game theory modeling paradigms. This course is designed to develop empirical research skills, conceptual modeling expertise, and model construction. Students will understand how to analyze, verify, and validate a model.

PSYC 736/836 Multilevel Models HLM

Social science data frequently have a hierarchical or multilevel structure because of sampling designs or repeated measures. The purpose of the course is to introduce students to the basic principles and applications of hierarchical linear modeling in social science research. Topics covered include an introduction to multilevel analyses, random intercept models, random slope models, hypotheses testing, hierarchical models for limited dependent variables, model fitting, three-level models, and repeated-measures applications.

STAT 625 Mathematical Statistics I

An introduction to probability. Topics include axiomatic foundations of probability, conditional probability, Bayes formula, random variables, density and mass functions, stochastic independence, expectation, moment generating functions, transformations, common families of distributions, multiple random variables, covariance and correlation, multivariate distributions, convergence concepts, law of large numbers, limit theorems. Prerequisites: A grade of C+ or better in STAT 531.

STAT 640**Survival Analysis**

Basic concepts and methods for analyzing survival time data obtained from following individuals until the occurrence of an event or their loss to follow-up. It will cover nonparametric, semi-parametric, and parametric models and two-sample test techniques. It will demonstrate mathematical and graphical methods for evaluating the goodness of fit and introduce the concept of dependent censoring/competing risk

Certificate Programs

Contact the department offering the certificate for specific registration information and procedures.

Global Health Graduate Certificate

Global Health aims to show us the big picture. Mistakenly, people assume that the target of "Global Health" involves mainly tackling problems in the developing world. Diseases and health problems do not recognize borders. All countries can learn from the experiences of other countries. Neglecting to address health problems in a global scale may affect people's health, well-being and national security around the world including in developed countries such as the United States.

This competency-based graduate level certificate program aims to provide comprehensive training on Global Health. The Global Health Certificate is designed as an **online program** for professionals who are practicing or who plan to practice in a worldwide setting. [More Information](#)

Women's Studies Graduate Certificate

Students who want only the women's studies graduate certificate without a graduate degree may attain it, but must apply, nonetheless, for graduate standing in the Institute of Humanities. They must gain admission to the Humanities graduate program before the completion of nine graduate hours and must satisfy all the admission requirements for the program, including the GRE. Only students who hold a BA or BS with an overall GPA of 2.75 may apply for the women's studies graduate certificate. [More Information](#)

Graduate Certificate in Modeling & Simulation in International Studies

Over the past several years, GPIS has added faculty with expertise in this area, and has received significant external funding for modeling and simulation projects. A few connections have been built between GPIS and the Virginia Modeling, Analysis, and Simulation Center. The M&S in international studies concentration could be pursued by students in several ways, which are outlined below. In each case, courses would be selected in close consultation with the M&S track coordinator. Modeling and simulation in the social sciences generally, and in international studies particularly, takes several different forms. The most prominent of these are Statistical modeling, Formal modeling/game theory, Simulation/agent-based modeling, Geographic/spatial modeling, Network analysis, and Event simulation exercises. [More Information](#)

Graduate Certificate in International Development

Careers in International Development involve working for a variety of organizations, both locally in the United States and abroad, mandated to support development efforts in lesser developed nations on topical issues such as humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, public health, poverty alleviation, debt relief, good governance, and economic development.

Prospective employers include government agencies such as the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID); international and nongovernmental organizations such as the United Nations Development Program, United Nations Population Division, World Bank, Asian Development Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, Oxfam International and local affiliates, International Committee of the Red Cross, Physicians for Peace, and World Vision. The categories of employment often include skills such as program management, procurement, logistics, and monitoring and evaluation. [More Information.](#)

Professional Development (PDP)

The GPIS courses will help you become familiar with important theories, research agendas, policy debates, and historical facts. Yet your professional success upon leaving GPIS will also depend critically on skills that coursework does not cover. The Professional Development Program (PDP) aims to connect students with resources that will assist in the development of these professional skills. The PDP runs a series of workshops led by GPIS faculty and other professionals in academia and the policy world. Workshops are announced in the weekly Bulletin.

Graduation

Graduate Assessment

All graduating Seniors must complete the Senior Assessment. Completing the Senior Assessment (which also includes the Senior Student Satisfaction Survey) is a university requirement for graduation and must be completed during the Senior's last semester. Use the following [Request a Graduate Assessment](#) link to request the survey.

Registering for graduation

Before applying for graduation, review Degree Works degree evaluation and consult with the program coordinator to ensure all requirements have been met. Apply for graduation and commencement at the same time, through the link found in Degree Works. Completion of the graduate assessment is required. Attending commencement is not required. Visit the [Graduation and Commencement](#) website for more information.

College of Arts & Letters Commencement Ceremony Policy

PhD students must adhere to the following deadlines to participate in commencement ceremonies. The completed dissertation should be defended 10 weeks before the last day of class in the semester in which the student expects to graduate. The dissertation must be submitted to the dean's office for review no later than six weeks before the last day of class, and the final signed dissertation and all required copies and forms must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the last day of class. PhD students may not participate in commencement ceremonies until all the degree requirements are completed and the dissertation is delivered to the Registrar's Office.

Additional University Services

Computer Services (ITS)

An active ODU email account is required for all students. All university communication is sent directly to the ODU email. Students are responsible for maintaining their email accounts and deleting SPAM periodically. Students need to notify ITS@odu.edu of any suspicious activity or potential hacking. Visit the [Student Computing](#) website for additional benefits offered to ODU students.

Editor's Workshop

All workshops will be held on Zoom. Students who intend to complete a thesis or dissertation must attend a workshop at least one semester prior to graduation. [Register here](#).

The student is advised to begin the ProQuest ETD (Electronic Thesis & Dissertation) process but should not upload the pdf version of the dissertation. The student may create the ProQuest account and familiarize her/himself with ProQuest publishing options and complete contact information and graduate work details sections.

The Dean's Office shall review the dissertation for compliance with this guide and return it for correction if necessary. The manuscript must be corrected and resubmitted as a new document, and the Dean's Office review process begins anew. All original submission deadlines must be met during the re-submission process to graduate that semester. The student should not submit the dissertation to ProQuest until it has been approved by the Dean's Office.

The complete Graduate School [Thesis & Dissertation Preparation Guide](#) may be found on the Graduate School Website.

Educational Accessibility

The Office of Educational Accessibility is committed to creating access to higher education for students with disabilities. The University meets the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 and its Amendments of 2008 by providing accommodations and services, which are based upon documentation submitted by the student. Reasonable accommodations are made for students with learning, medical, psychological, visual, hearing, physical, temporary mobility, and other types of disabilities on an individual basis. Guidelines and procedures may be found on the [Educational Accessibility](#) website.

FeedODU

[FeedODU](#) is a Student Engagement & Enrollment Services initiative which addresses food insecurity on campus by connecting Monarchs to a network of food resources, education, and support. Food insecurity is defined as not having reliable access to enough affordable, nutritious food. Food insecurity can affect students' ability to be successful in college and focus on completing their degree program. FeedODU seeks to ensure that every Monarch can get the most of their education by connecting students who are experiencing food insecurity to food resources on campus.

Graduate School

The [Graduate Student Toolbox](#) is designed to support graduate students by providing centralized information about university services, academic support, professional development opportunities, and more.



Housing & Residence Life

The Office of Housing & Residence Life offers limited options for graduate student housing. For more information contact the Office of Housing & Residence Life at 757-683-4283 or email housing@odu.edu.

Library Services

The Perry Library offers an array of excellent services to support the research and educational activities of ODU students including online library forms, reserve materials, and interlibrary loans as well as workshops throughout the year. The library uses ODU email to notify users of holds, recalls, renewals, fines, fees, and to deliver materials required through interlibrary loan. For more information visit the [Library](#) website.

Parking & Transportation

All vehicles parked in university parking facilities must have a valid parking permit. Permits may be obtained at ODU parking services located at 43rd Street and Elkhorn Avenue, 757-683-4004. For more information visit [Parking Services](#) website.

Recreation and Wellness

The Student Recreation Center (SRC) is located at 4700 Powhatan Avenue and features a rock-climbing wall, fitness equipment, a multi-activity center gym, racquetball courts, a cycling studio, an outdoor adventure rental center, a swimming pool and much more. Students have free access to the SRC during the semesters they are enrolled in classes at ODU. In addition to the main SRC, there is a fitness center located in the University Village at 4208 Monarch Way. This facility features strength and cardio fitness equipment as well as private locker rooms.

Security

ODU Police Department provides a 24/7 safety escort service when walking across campus. The safety escorts are conducted by trained Patrol Aides (PA). To request a safety escort, call (757)683-5665. In addition,

SAFE RIDE is the University's on-demand evening van service. ODU Transportation & Parking Services operates the SAFE RIDE program. Visit [ODU SAFE RIDE](#) for more information.

Student Health Services

Student Health Services provides primary outpatient health care for Old Dominion University students. These services include medical care for acute illness and minor injury, routine health care, preventive health care, family planning and laboratory testing. Student Health Services also provides referrals to health care providers in the local community for services beyond the scope of the campus health center. [Student Health Services](#) is located at 4700 Powhatan Avenue, Suite 1402 (next to the SRC).

Student Outreach and Support (SOS)

Student Outreach and Support (SOS) is a service within the Dean of Students Office that provides support to students who experience administrative, academic, or personal roadblocks. These services include extended absence notifications, emergency grants, and administrative withdrawals from the University. SOS is available to help students achieve their personal and academic goals. Also, University Care Team is an extension of Student Outreach and Support. The Care Team was developed to provide a university-wide system of care and support for students who experience an unexpected crisis. For more information visit the [Student Outreach and Support \(SOS\)](#) website.

University Card Center

To obtain a University Identification, visit the [University Card Center](#) located at 1120 Monarch Hall. The ID card is your official University identification card and access credentials for the campus. Identification cards are equipped with your unique university identification number (UIN). It would be beneficial to memorize this number, it is used often.

University Policy Statement

Old Dominion University is committed to policies that assure that there is no discrimination based on age, sex, race, color, religion, national origin, veteran status, political affiliation, handicap, or sexual orientation. Old Dominion University complies with the Family Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 FERPA (as amended).



Forms

Contact your Advisor, GPIS Office, or GPIS Website to access these forms.

GPIS General Forms

[M.A Advising Record \(Catalog 2025-2026\)](#)

[PhD Advising Record \(Catalog 2025-2026\)](#)

[M.A. Advising Record \(Catalog 2024-2025\)](#)

[PhD Advising Record \(Catalog 2024-2025\)](#)

[Dissertation/Thesis Prospectus Rubric](#)

The following forms are located on the Graduate School website

[https://www.odu.edu/graduateschool/forms.](https://www.odu.edu/graduateschool/forms)

Master's Level Forms - M

[M1 - Appointment or Change of Master's Thesis Committee](#)

[M2 - Results of Master's Examination or Requirement](#)

[M3 - Master's Thesis and Acceptance Processing](#)

[M4 - Notification of a Master's Student Holding an Assistantship in the Final Semester of Study](#)

[M5 - Appointment or Change of Master's Comprehensive Examination Committee](#)

Doctoral Level Forms - D

[D1 - Appointment or Change of Doctoral Candidacy Examination Committee](#)

[D2 - Appointment or Change of Doctoral Dissertation Committee](#)

[D3 - Result of Doctoral Examination or Requirement](#)

[D4 - Doctoral Candidates 1-Hour Full-Time Notification](#)

[D5 - Doctoral Dissertation Acceptance and Processing](#)

[D7 - Leave of Absence from Doctoral Program](#)

[D9 - Advancement to Candidacy](#)