

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES AREA OF CONCENTRATION, ARTS AND SCIENCES AA

Total Credits: 60

Catalog Edition: 2025-2026

Program Description

The international studies area of concentration is designed for students who envision a career in the international arena and plan to transfer into the upper division of another college or university with the intention of continuing their studies in such areas as international relations and area studies.

This area of concentration is for students who, subsequently, wish to work in this field, be it in government, international organizations, trade, finance, business, or related areas. All students in this area of concentration must see an advisor from the Department of History and Political Science and identify as early as possible their transfer institution, as well as the particular field or area of concentration. The international studies area of concentration includes the general education requirements as well as a number of alternate course choices (listed in the footnotes), which prepare the student for particular transfer options in international studies, such as international relations and area studies.

Students may study abroad for a semester or travel in a foreign country during the summer as part of the international studies track. The international studies advisor will aid students in integrating their studies abroad into the degree program.

A suggested course sequence for full-time students follows; part-time students should consult an advisor. **This program can be completed either on campus or online.**

Program Outcomes

Upon completion of this program, a student will be able to:

- Articulate the political, cultural, ideological, historical, religious, and/or philosophical contexts of current global actors, systems, and controversies.
- Explain the historic and contemporary consequences of geographic and linguistic boundaries for cross-cultural dialog and diplomacy.

- Compare the costs and benefits of varying social, economic, and political structures in the context of globalization.

Program Advisors

Germantown

- Dr. Samuel Moki, 240-567-7766,
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- Dr. Nathan Zook, 240-567-7286,
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- Prof. Karl Smith, 240-567-1353,
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For more information, please visit <https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/academics/programs/international-studies/international-studies-aa-degree.html>

2025-2026

Program Advising Guide

An Academic Reference Tool for Students

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Suggested Course Sequence

A suggested course sequence for full-time students follows. All students should review this advising guide and consult an advisor.

First Semester

ENGL 101 - Introduction to College Writing *3 semester hours* *

Mathematics Foundation *3 semester hours (MATF)*

Any General Education HIST Course *3 semester hours (HUMD)* ††

POLI 203 - International Relations *3 semester hours (BSSD)*

World Language Elective *3 semester hours* %

Third Semester

Natural Sciences Distribution *3 semester hours (NSD)*

Any General Education HIST Course *3 semester hours (GEIR)* &

ECON 201 - Principles of Economics I *3 semester hours* ‡‡

POLI 270 - Politics in Action *3 semester hours*

OR

HONR 275 - Honors Internship *3 semester hours*

200-Level ENGL Course *3 semester hours*

OR

200-Level World Language Course *3 semester hours* %

OR

PHIL 222 - Asian Thought *3 semester hours*

Second Semester

English Foundation *3 semester hours (ENGF)*

Arts Distribution *3 semester hours (ARTD)* †

ECON 202 - Principles of Economics II *3 semester hours (BSSD)*

OR

GEOG 130 - Global Geography *3 semester hours (BSSD)*

POLI 211 - Comparative Politics and Governments *3 semester hours*

World Language Elective *3 semester hours* %

Fourth Semester

Natural Sciences Distribution with Lab *4 semester hours (NSLD)*

COMM 108 - Foundations of Human Communication *3 semester hours (GEIR)*

OR

COMM 112 - Business and Professional Speech Communication *3 semester hours (GEIR)*

POLI 205 - Introduction to Human Rights *3 semester hours*

OR

POLI 206 - Political Ideologies *3 semester hours*

OR

POLI 230 - Introduction to International Conflict Resolution *3 semester hours*

OR

POLI 256 - Politics of the Developing World *3 semester hours*

Electives *5 semester hours* **

Total Credit Hours: 60

* ENGL 101/ENGL 011, if needed, for ENGL 102/ENGL 103 or elective. Please consult an advisor and/or transfer institution for assistance with course selection.

† Recommended Arts Distribution courses are:

ARTT 270 recommended for the African Pathway

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ARTT 272 recommended for the Asian Pathway
ARTT 274 recommended for the Latin American Pathway

†† Recommended General Education HIST courses are:

HIST 265 recommended for African Pathway
HIST 247 recommended for Asian Pathway
HIST 148 recommended for European Pathway
HIST 114 recommended for Latin American and Middle-east Pathways

& Recommended courses are:

HIST 266 recommended for African Pathway
HIST 250 recommended for Asian Pathway
HIST 147 or HIST 263 recommended for European Pathway
HIST 245 recommended for Latin American Pathway

‡ Requirements vary by transfer institution.

Recommended ENGL courses are: ENGL 201, ENGL 202, ENGL 205, ENGL 208, ENGL 213, ENGL 214

Recommended World Language courses are:

FREN recommended for African Pathway
CHIN, JAPN, or KORA recommended for Asian Pathway
FREN, GERM, or SPAN recommended for European Pathway
SPAN recommended for Latin American Pathway.

‡‡ Courses recommended as alternates are: ANTH 201 (pre-requisite for SOCY 250), ANTH 256, ECON 202 (if not taken as BSSD), GEOG 101, GEOG 105, GEOG 113, GEOG 130 (if not taken as BSSD), LING 200, PSYC 100/PSYC 102, SOCY 105, SOCY 250.

% Some World Language courses may carry 4 or 5 credits. Recommended World Languages are:

FREN or ARAB recommended for African Pathway
CHIN, JAPN, or KORA recommended for Asian Pathway
FREN, GERM, ITAL, LATN, RUSS, or SPAN recommended for European Pathway
SPAN required for Latin American Pathway
ARAB required for Middle East Pathway

** Additional POLI course if needed to complete 60 credits.

AA and AS programs require one global and cultural perspectives (GCP) General Education course.

This program can be completed either on campus or online.

Transfer Opportunities

Montgomery College has partnerships with multiple four-year institutions and the tools to help you transfer. To learn more, please visit <https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/transfer> or <http://artsys.usmd.edu>.

Get Involved at MC!

Employers and Transfer Institutions are looking for experience outside the classroom.

MC Student Clubs and Organizations: <https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/life-at-mc/student-life/>

Related Careers

Some require a Bachelor's degree.

Political analyst, Researcher, Foreign service officer, Diplomat, Consultant, Curator, NGO director.

Career Services

Montgomery College offers a range of services to students and alumni to support the career planning process. To learn more, please visit <https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/career>

Career Coach

A valuable online search tool that will give you the opportunity to explore hundreds of potential careers or job possibilities in Maryland and the Washington D.C. metropolitan area. Get started today on your road to a new future and give it a try. For more information, please visit <https://montgomerycollege.emsicc.com>

Notes: