

# POLITICAL SCIENCE: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, BALAS

*for the degree of Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts & Sciences Major in Political Science, International Relations Concentration*

International relations (IR) is the study of interactions across borders of nation-states. Students explore how global, regional, and domestic factors influence relations among states as well as non-state actors across the interstate system.

Students take advanced courses in two or more of the following topics: international law and organization, international cooperation, international political economy, globalization, foreign policy, diplomacy, political strategy in IR, conflict, interstate war, civil war, terrorism, global environmental politics, and international human rights.

See the Political Science BALAS page (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/political-science-balas/>) for departmental distinction information.

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See the Political Science Distinction page (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/political-science-balas/>) for departmental distinction information.

Students may count a maximum of six (6) hours of credit of any combination of hours from PS 494 toward the advanced hours requirement. Not more than 6 hours of individual study courses in political science (PS 490) or 6 hours of internships (PS 491) or 6 hours of supervised research (PS 492) may be included in the major; a student with any mix of independent study hours and internship hours and supervised research hours may include a maximum of 9 hours of such credit in the major. (PS 496) is reserved for those seniors doing honors theses for distinction in political science and may not be counted in the 45-hour minimum required for the major.

**General education: Students must complete the Campus General Education** (<https://courses.illinois.edu/gened/DEFAULT/DEFAULT/>) **requirements including the campus general education language requirement.**

**Minimum required major and supporting course work: Normally equates to 70 hours. Twelve hours of 300- and 400-level in the major must be taken on this campus.**

**Minimum hours required for graduation: 120 hours. International Relations Concentration Requirements**

Code	Title	Hours
PS 100	Intro to Political Science	3
Select at least one course from the following:		3
PS 280	Intro to Intl Relations	
PS 281	Intro to Intl Relations-ACP	
PS 282	Governing Globalization	
Select any additional 100- or 200-level Political Science courses		6

Select 300- or 400-level Political Science courses, at least nine hours of which come from the International Relations Concentration list (below). The other six hours may be any 300- or 400-level Political Science course. 15

Select any additional Political Science courses at any level. 6

Students will select a second major, or a minor, or a set of courses of at least 12 hours of thematically-related coursework outside political science, developed in conjunction with an academic advisor. 12

**Total Hours 45**

Code	Title	Hours
<b>International Relations Course List</b>		
PS 180	IntroPolitics of Globalization	3
PS 230	Intro to Pol Research	3
PS 231	Strategic Models	3
PS 280	Intro to Intl Relations	3
PS 281	Intro to Intl Relations-ACP	3
PS 282	Governing Globalization	3
PS 283	Intro to Intl Security	3
PS 300	Special Topics (as appropriate)	3
PS 313	Congress and Foreign Policy	3
PS 340	Politics in Intl Development	3
PS 379	Intl Rel & Domestic Politics	3
PS 380	International Cooperation	3
PS 382	Intl Political Economy	3
PS 384	Politics of Globalization	3
PS 386	International Law	3
PS 387	National Security Policy	3
PS 390	American Foreign Policy	3
PS 391	Soviet & Post-Sov Foreign Pol	3
PS 392	Intl Organizations&Regionalism	3
PS 393	Diplomatic Studies Practicum	4
PS 394	Crisis Diplomacy	3
PS 395	International Organization	3
PS 396	International Conflict	3
PS 398	Strategic Interntl Relations	3
PS 399	Politics of International Treaties	3
PS 457	Dem Gov in a Global Setting	3 or 4
PS 480	Energy and Security	3
PS 494	Junior Honors Seminar (as appropriate)	3

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### Sample Sequence

*This sample sequence is intended to be used only as a guide for degree completion. All students should work individually with their academic advisors to decide the actual course selection and sequence that works best for them based on their academic preparation and goals. Enrichment programming such as study abroad, minors, internships, and so on may impact the structure of this four-year plan. Course availability is not guaranteed during the semester indicated in the sample sequence.*

Students must fulfill their Language Other Than English requirement by successfully completing a fourth level of a language other than English. See the corresponding section on the Degree General and Education Requirements page (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/general-information/degree-general-education-requirements/>).

**First Year**

First Semester	Hours	Second Semester	Hours
Free elective course		1 PS 280 (or PS 281 or PS 282)	3
PS 100		3 PS 100- or 200-level course	3
General Education course		3 Language Other than English (4th level)	4
Language Other than English (3rd level)		4 General Education course or Composition I	3
Composition I or General Education course		4 Free elective course	2
		<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>

**Second Year**

First Semester	Hours	Second Semester	Hours
PS 100- or 200-level course		3 PS 100-400 level course	3
Thematic related coursework		3 PS 100-400 level course	3
General Education course		3 General Education course	3
General Education course		3 General Education course	3
Free elective course		3 Free elective course	3
		<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>

**Third Year**

First Semester	Hours	Second Semester	Hours
PS International Relations 300- or 400 level course		3 PS International Relations 300- or 400- level course	3
PS 300- or 400-level course		3 Thematic related coursework	3
General Education course		3 General Education course	3
Free elective course		3 General Education course	3
Free elective course		3 Free elective course	3
		<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>

**Fourth Year**

First Semester	Hours	Second Semester	Hours
PS 300- or 400-level course		3 PS International Relations 300- or 400- level course	3
Thematic related coursework		3 Thematic related coursework	3

General Education course	3 Free elective course	3
Free elective course	3 Free elective course	3
Free elective course	3 Free elective course	3
<b>15</b>		<b>15</b>

**Total Hours 120**

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**department website:** <https://www.pol.illinois.edu>  
**department faculty:** Political Science Faculty (<https://pol.illinois.edu/directory/faculty/>)  
**advising:** Political Science advising (<https://pol.illinois.edu/academics/undergraduate-program/academic-advising/>)  
**overview of college admissions & requirements:** Liberal Arts & Sciences (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/schools/las/academic-units/>)  
**college website:** <https://las.illinois.edu/>