

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS FIELD CURRICULUM

The International Relations (IR) field seeks to understand and explain phenomena that transcend national borders by analyzing international, global, transnational and/or regional problems and processes. Topics addressed in IR include war and peace; the relationship between global political and economic processes and their regional and local manifestations; the development and workings of international institutions, organization and law; international human rights; psychological approaches to decision-making, leadership, cooperation, conflict and beyond; international cooperation on the environment, security, migration, health, and other issue-areas; the gendered nature of global relations; and religion, race, ethnicity and other forms of identity that transcend borders.

IR in Political Science at UCI is methodologically pluralist, using approaches including formal models, statistical analysis, interpretivism, case studies, survey methods, interviews, experiments and beyond.

The UC Irvine Political Science Department's IR five-course curriculum is designed to provide graduate students with a strong foundation in the subfields and range of methodologies in the discipline, train students broadly and deeply in the theories and concepts appropriate to specific subfields and issue-areas that cut across them, and allow students to develop and complete innovative dissertations in a timely fashion.

To add IR as a field, students should meet the following two requirements:

1. Take the following **TWO** foundational courses:

Field Seminar in IR

Research Design

2. Take at least **THREE** elective courses from the IR subfield.

Ethics of War

Gender in Conflict

Global Governance

Governing Global Finance

Interpretive/Qualitative Methods

International Political Economy

IR Theory

Just War Revisited

Managing Conflict and Building Peace

Migration Politics

Morality During War

Political Order

Religion and Secularism in IR

Sovereignty

State Formation

War and Humanism

Weak States

Note: This elective course list is neither exhaustive nor exclusive. Courses that have substantial IR content can potentially satisfy this requirement. However, the ultimate decision will reside with the IR Field Coordinator. When possible, in consultation with the IR faculty group, the coordinator will answer questions and resolve any issues regarding additional or substitute courses.

Finally, the IR faculty strongly encourages students to develop competence in at least one foreign language to fulfill the Advanced Skills requirement and to train broadly in methods and research design.