

GLOBAL AFFAIRS, MA

Banner Code: LA-MA-GLOA

Academic Advising

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The Global Affairs, MA is an interdisciplinary program offering students the opportunity to engage in advanced study of a broad range of global issues. Students complete a core curriculum that provides the knowledge and skills to think and act globally. Students also pursue specializations that include relevant courses from academic departments across the university. All students in the program take part in a residency abroad, typically two weeks in duration, and complete a capstone seminar. Graduates enter the workforce or move forward in their already-established international and domestic careers in the public sector, non-governmental organizations, and business.

This is a Green Leaf program.

Admissions & Policies

Admissions

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in Graduate Admissions. For specific information, see Application Requirements and Deadlines (<http://globalaffairs.gmu.edu/programs/application/LA-MA-GLOA>) on the departmental website.

Policies

For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP .6 Graduate Policies.

Students who wish to pursue study abroad in addition to the required core course GLOA 710 Seminar Abroad must receive prior approval and may not use more than 3 credits earned while abroad towards their specialization. Students must maintain a 3.00 cumulative grade point average with no more than two grades below B.

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Total credits: 30

Students should be aware of the specific policies associated with this program, located on the Admissions & Policies tab.

Core Courses

GLOA 600	Global Competencies	3
GLOA 605	Interdisciplinary Research Methods	3
GLOA 610	Economic Globalization and Development	3
GLOA 620	Human Systems	3

GLOA 710	Seminar Abroad	3
Total Credits		15

Specialization

Students choose to specialize in one of eight fields by completing 12 credits in that field selected from the courses listed. The specialization is developed in consultation with an advisor. Students who wish to design their own specialization must submit a one-page proposal and receive written approval from the director. Specialization courses must come from at least two academic disciplines.

Global Conflict and Security

Select 12 credits from the following: 12

BIOD 610	Advanced Topics in Global Health Security (minimum of 3 credits)	
BIOD 621	Ethics and International Security	
BIOD 705	Intelligence: Theory and Practice	
BIOD 706	Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Weapons Policy and Security	
BIOD 709	Nonproliferation and Arms Control	
BIOD 722	Examining Terrorist Groups	
BIOD 725	Terrorism and Weapons of Mass Destruction	
CONF 501	Introduction to Conflict Analysis and Resolution	
CONF 652	Conflict Analysis and Resolution for Prevention, Reconstruction, and Stabilization Contexts	
CONF 653	World Religions, Diplomacy, and Conflict Resolution	
CONF 658	Diversity and Difference in Conflict Analysis and Resolution	
CONF 659	Leadership in Conflict Analysis and Resolution	
CONF 720	Ethnic and Cultural Factors in Conflict Resolution	
CONF 736	Globalization and International Conflict	
CONF 746	Peace Building	
GOVT 541	Introduction to Critical Analysis and Strategic Response to Terrorism	
GOVT 640	Strategic Responses to Terrorism: Coordinated Decision Making	
GOVT 742	International Negotiation	
GOVT 745	International Security	
PUAD 634	Management of International Security	
PUBP 650	International Conflict and Crisis Response	
PUBP 651	Peace and Stabilization Operations	
or other course approved by the program director		
Total Credits		12

Global Culture and Society

Select 12 credits from the following: 12

ANTH 580	Environmental Anthropology
ANTH 635	Regional Ethnography

ANTH 655	Nationalism, Transnationalism, and States: Local and Global Perspectives
ANTH 721	Culture, Power, and Conflict
CONF 707	Gender and Violence
CONF 720	Ethnic and Cultural Factors in Conflict Resolution
CONF 753	Post-Conflict Contexts: Between Global and Local
ENGH 665	Seminar in Global Culture
GOVT 530	Comparative Politics
GOVT 641	Global Governance
GOVT 725	Democratic Theory
GOVT 739	Issues in Comparative and International Politics
HIST 510	Approaches to Modern World History
HIST 535	Problems in Comparative World History
HIST 615	Problems in American History
MUSI 640	Topics in World Musics
RELI 632	World Religions in Conflict and Dialogue
RELI 633	Ethical Perspectives of World Religions
RELI 642	Sacred Language, Scripture, and Culture
SOAN 510	Culture and Globalization
SOCI 623	Racial and Ethnic Relations: American and Selected Global Perspectives
SPMT 551	Sport in the Global Marketplace
WMST 640	Women and Global Issues
or other course approved by the program director	
Total Credits	12

Global Economics and Development

This specialization is best suited for students with an academic background in economics or for students who have taken microeconomics, macroeconomics, and calculus with a minimum grade of 3.00 in all three.

Select 12 credits from the following:		12
CONF 732	Conflict in Development	
ECON 611	Microeconomic Theory	
ECON 612	Microeconomic Theory II	
ECON 615	Macroeconomic Theory	
ECON 676	Comparative Economic Systems	
EVPP 642	Environmental Policy	
GOVT 743	International Political Economy	
ITRN 500	Global Political Economy	
ITRN 503	Macroeconomic Policy in the Global Economy	
ITRN 602	Global Financial Crises and Institutions	
ITRN 603	Global Trade Relations	
ITRN 701	Special Topics in International Commerce and Policy	
ITRN 718	Global Economic and Human Development	
ITRN 757	Business and Politics in Emerging Markets	

ITRN 767	Political Economy and Integration in Latin America	
PUAD 504	Managing in the International Arena: Theory and Practice	
Total Credits		12

Global Education

Select 12 credits from the following:		12
EDUC 537	Introduction to Culturally Linguistically Diverse Learners	
EDUC 606	Education and Culture	
EDUC 671	Schools and Culture in the Future	
EDEP 550	Theories of Learning and Cognition	
EDEP 650	High-Stakes Assessment and Accountability Systems	
EDEP 653	Culture and Intelligence	
ENGH 665	Seminar in Global Culture	
SOCI 845	Society and Education	
Or other course approved by the program director		
Total Credits		12

Global Governance and Public Management

Select 12 credits from the following:		12
BIOD 709	Nonproliferation and Arms Control	
GOVT 540	International Relations	
GOVT 631	Seminar in Comparative Politics and Institutions	
GOVT 641	Global Governance	
GOVT 741	Advanced Seminar in International Politics	
GOVT 742	International Negotiation	
ITRN 701	Special Topics in International Commerce and Policy	
ITRN 761	European Political and Economic Union	
PUAD 636	The NGO: Policy and Management	
PUAD 701	Cross-Cultural and Ethical Dimensions of International Management	
PUBP 502	Governance and Policy Processes	
PUBP 700	Theory and Practice in Public Policy	
PUBP 783	Global Governance	
Or other course approved by the program director		
Total Credits		12

Global Health

Select 12 credits from the following:		12
COMM 705	Intercultural Health and Risk Communication	
GCH 543	Global Health	
GCH 560	Environmental Health	
GCH 571	HIV/AIDS: Concepts, Principles, and Interventions	
GCH 602	Global Health Issues Related to Violence	
GCH 611	Health Program Planning and Evaluation	
GCH 622	Mental Health: A Global Perspective	
GCH 628	Refugee Health	

GCH 640	Global Infectious Diseases
GCH 645	U.S. and Global Public Health Systems
GGG 540	Health Geography
GGG 581	World Food and Population
HAP 609	Comparative International Health Systems
NUTR 630	Global Nutrition
PUBP 757	Public Policy in Global Health and Medical Practice
PUBP 758	Global Threats and Medical Policies
Or other course approved by the program director	

Total Credits 12

Global Media and Information Technology

Select 12 credits from the following: 12

COMM 506	Communication in International Organizations
COMM 630	Theories of Public Relations
ITRN 604	International Trade and Technology
ITRN 701	Special Topics in International Commerce and Policy
ITRN 742	Technology Policy and International Strategies
PUBP 503	Culture, Organization, and Technology
PUBP 726	Telecommunications Policy
PUBP 736	International Migration and Public Policy
Or other course approved by the program director	

Total Credits 12

Global Population and Geography

Select 12 credits from the following: 12

ANTH 580	Environmental Anthropology
GGG 505	Transportation Geography
GGG 533	Issues in Regional Geography
GGG 540	Health Geography
GGG 550	Geospatial Science Fundamentals
GGG 581	World Food and Population
GGG 590	Selected Topics in Geography
GGG 631	Spatial Agent-Based Models of Human-Environment Interactions
PUBP 754	Geographic Information Systems and Spatial Analysis for Public Policy
SOCW 653	Immigration Policy
Or other course approved by the program director	

Total Credits 12

Capstone Seminar

GLOA 720	Capstone Research Seminar	3
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Total Credits 3

Accelerated Master's

Bachelor's Degree (any)/Global Affairs, Accelerated MA

Overview

Highly qualified undergraduates in any major may apply to the accelerated master's degree in global affairs. If accepted, and depending on their undergraduate major, students will be able to earn a bachelor's degree in their chosen major and a master's degree in global affairs after satisfactory completion of 144 credits, sometimes within five years.

For more detailed information, see AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees. For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP.6 Graduate Policies.

Application Requirements

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Accelerated Option Requirements

While undergraduate students, accelerated master's students complete GLOA 600 Global Competencies and either GLOA 605 Interdisciplinary Research Methods or GLOA 610 Economic Globalization and Development with a minimum grade of 3.00 in each course. Once admitted to the accelerated master's pathway, students must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25 in all course work. Upon completion and conferral of the undergraduate degree in the semester indicated in the application, they submit the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form and are admitted to graduate status.

As graduate students, accelerated master's students have an advanced standing. They must meet all master's degree requirements except for the two courses (6 credits) they completed as undergraduates. Students must begin their master's program the semester immediately following conferral of the undergraduate degree.

Reserve Graduate Credit

Students may take up to 6 additional graduate credits (GLOA 605 Interdisciplinary Research Methods or GLOA 610 Economic Globalization and Development and GLOA 620 Human Systems) as reserve graduate credit. These credits do not apply to the undergraduate degree. To apply these credits to the master's degree, students should use the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form. The ability to take courses, including ones not listed above, for reserve graduate credit is available to all high achieving undergraduates with the permission of the department. Permission is normally granted only to qualified Mason seniors within 15 hours of graduation. See AP.1.4.4 Graduate Course Enrollment by Undergraduates.