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The Bachelor of Contemporary International Studies (BCIS) is a fully NZQA-accredited three-year degree. The programme provides students with opportunities to explore key areas and within them to specialise in a number of fields: International Business, International Relations, Japanese Studies, and TESOL & Language Studies. Graduates from the degree will have the tools to succeed as global citizens in the modern world. Graduates will become able to think critically and solve problems in creative ways, and will be able to use more than one language, and communicate cross-culturally and inter-culturally. Apply International Students Programme Content

The Bachelor of Contemporary International Studies is an accredited interdisciplinary degree programme taken over three years of full-time study. Students may elect to obtain a major in a specialist area of study (International Business, International Relations, Japanese Studies, and TESOL & Language Studies). The course also includes eight compulsory interdisciplinary papers, and six language and culture papers. In their final year, students will undertake an original, independent research project on an interdisciplinary topic. Practical Work Experience

You can choose to do an internship as part of the course of study. You will be placed in a study-related internship with a local, national or international provider. Your internship gives you 100 hours of practical on-the-job experience in 'real world' professional settings, and will provide you with informed, regular supervision which will help you integrate theory with practice. Study Majors

Click the major to learn more. New Zealand Certificate in English Language (Level 4) or Graduation from high school in home country IELTS (Academic) 6.0 with no band lower than 5.5 or equivalent score on an acceptable international English proficiency test

Graduates of the Bachelor of Contemporary International Studies programme may be able to work in a wide variety of fields in administrative and management capacities. They will have the language skills and intercultural communication understanding required to function at a high level in today's global arena of commerce and international relations. Graduates who complete their Bachelor of Contemporary International Studies to a high level may apply to enter a postgraduate programme of study such as the Master of Contemporary International Studies. 360 credits, three years, full-time 24 papers, internship options available

Eight compulsory interdisciplinary and research papers

Six language and culture papers

Students can choose a major or take a general course. 30.501 Principles of Economics (15 credits) 40.501 Introduction to Environmental Sustainability (15 credits) 50.501 Introduction to International Relations (15 credits) 90.602 Internationalism (15 credits) 90.501/601 Research/Study Skills 1 and 2 (30 credits) 90.701A/B Interdisciplinary Project 1 and 2 (30 credits)

"I'm currently studying the Diploma of Tourism and Travel at IPU New Zealand. My experience at IPU has been amazing, in class, it's just a great environment and I love learning about all the different concepts of tourism, and I hope when I have completed my qualification to become an international flight attendant."

"I chose graduate diploma because it is an interdisciplinary course, meaning we can take different papers from different subjects, and it allows us to understand how business works in New Zealand. This is good because I would like to grow my career in international business relating to importation and exportation, and New Zealand is a great place for that, because they are trading with the world, which is a good opportunity for myself."

"What I like about this course is the fact that it's not limited to just one area. I can learn about environmental studies, international relations, and many other things. It's amazing the support the staff and teachers give to you, so you can learn about all those things in a nice and friendly way. Come join us!"

"I wanted to take this course to improve my business knowledge and I want to work for a multinational company and interact with people from all over the world. This course is helping me to refine my cultural competence and cultural awareness skills, together with improving my business knowledge, and learning some useful techniques for my field."

"I'm taking the BCIS Business degree, and my speciality is in accounting. My favourite subject is auditing, because you can learn how to evaluate the financial report of a company, and I found it really useful because you can get an idea of how to improve the company's business, in a more efficient way. So if you're really interested in learning about business, why not choose IPU New Zealand."

"Business studies is really interesting because it gives me an understanding of basic economic principles, how markets are affected by world events, how to assess a firm's financial health. Thanks to that I can expand to various career options in the future, for example, I can go into international commerce or start my own business. I'm delighted I have chosen IPU New Zealand for my degree programme."

"The reason I have chosen to study international relations is that I want to take my previous experiences working overseas and working with people from other countries. I'm hoping to be able to take my work experience, my educational experience here at IPU, and cultural experiences I've had here and abroad, and moving forward aim for a position within a New Zealand embassy where I can make a difference."

"My experience studying Japanese language is really interesting, because you get to learn more about the culture and language, by communicating and interacting with your Japanese friends. The challenging thing is that I know it is hard to learn a different language, but it's a good opportunity to get to know the culture and what you want to do in the future. I want to be a translator, and this is the best and easiest way to do that."

"I've always been interested in what is happening in the world, but have only seen those things from a Japanese point of view, so decided to major in international relations to try and see those things from a global perspective. Last August I joined an event called HOPE - an event that commemorated and reflected on the atomic bombing of Hiroshima. I gave a presentation at the time and it was a good opportunity tell the people of New Zealand about the bombing from my perspective."

"I knew I wanted to take a programme that will enable me to become an open minded learner in a world of diversity. With virtual classes, it can be a bit difficult because of the barriers of proper communication. But my lecturers had been very helpful and approachable - always there to guide and provide support when needed. As I'm still currently in the Philippines, I hope to continue my studies on campus in the near future."

"I chose the Languages and TESOL major because I love learning languages, and coming to IPU New Zealand meant that I could study in an interdisciplinary degree and learn among people from a variety of different nationalities, with a variety of different experiences. I really enjoy that environment, because you can learn so much from each other in a small class, discussing and learning together."

"I am interested in teaching English as a second language, my classes at IPU New Zealand have helped me to design my syllabus and also my lesson plan. Also these classes have helped me to manage my class well. During summer we gain our Certificate in TESOL, and from there we can teach English anywhere in the world. If you're hoping to be an English teacher, maybe you can consider IPU New Zealand on your list."

"I have been running my own business in my home town for the last ten years. I decided to study further to update and upgrade my knowledge and skill. I find the contents of this programme very useful, it directly supports my current business and also contributes to the long-term development of my future career."

"I really enjoy this course because it's interdisciplinary, meaning you will be able to study different fields while on the same paper. What I also like about this programme is that it helps you to connect with the New Zealand way of doing business. The lecturers are really flexible and approachable which is really important in a learner centred environment."

"IPU is a real awesome place to study, the campus is really beautiful so you can focus on your study here. The Graduate Diploma is a great opportunity for those who have already graduated and want to expand their skills and knowledge. The best part is it is really flexible, so you can choose from difference papers, topics and subjects."

"I chose IPU New Zealand because of its strong connection to Japan. I knew this would give me opportunities other universities might not be able to provide. Thanks to the support of my teachers here over this last year I have grown in my Japanese abilities and as a person."

"It was really encouraged to study and pursue a career in TESOL when I went to Japan and taught in front of a class. It was a really cool opportunity for me to be in Japan teaching and I want to take that further."

"I find studying international relations really interesting because you are able to learn a lot about the international community and the world. I particularly enjoy studying the humanitarian aspects, such as human rights. In the future there are many different options open to me, such as working for embassies or diplomacy, it's very exciting and I'm looking forward to my future."

"I came to IPU New Zealand specifically to get away from Auckland and to challenge myself. IPU has a lot to offer in terms of the Japanese studies and the business studies. The accounting classes here are way more interesting than I thought they would be and the teachers always give you a helping hand. In the future, I want to work as a bank accountant to help you save or earn money."

"If you are interested in tourism, I think this is a really great course because it covers a lot of things. You get to look at tourism in other countries and cultures, how it affects the environment and the economy, you will gain a lot of general knowledge of tourism." (Not all papers will be offered every year)

10.612 Asia-Pacific Cultures Through Literary Texts 10.614 English as an International Language 10.615 Creative Writing 10.616 Introduction to Language Teaching 10.617 Introduction to Language Learning 10.711 English as an International Language 10.712 Literature and the Land 10.713A/B Introduction to TESOL\* - double paper 10.714 Teaching Young Learners 20.612 Japanese Business 2 20.613 Political Economy of Japan 20.711 Social Conflict in Modern Japan 20.713 Japanese Foreign Policy 30.602 Fundamentals of Corporate Finance 30.603 Management Accounting 30.611 Asia Pacific Business Environment 30.616 The Business of the Environment 30.623 Auditing 30.624 Product Management 30.625 Organisational Behaviour 30.716 Small Business and Entrepreneurship 50.610 Internationalism 50.611 Human Rights: The Politics of Democracy and Authoritarianism 50.612 Politics of the Free Market 50.613 Politics of the Environment 50.614 New Zealand - East Asian Relations 50.615 Southeast Asia 50.711 War and Peace: Security and Stability 50.712 Foreign Policy in the Information Age 50.713 North East Asia \*Papers 10.713A and B are equivalent to the Trinity College London TESOL Certificate, and must be taken in the Summer Term.

topln this article:An international studies degree focuses on global issues, different cultures, and how countries interact with each other. Students learn about politics, economics, history, and languages to understand the world and how nations work together. This degree helps people develop a broad perspective on international relations, global business, and cultural differences. Students in this program study topics like diplomacy, international trade, human rights, and global conflicts. They may also learn foreign languages and explore different world regions to better understand international communication. Many programs encourage studying abroad or internships with international organizations to gain real-world experience. Program options for an international studies degree typically include the following: Associate Degree in International Studies: This two-year program introduces students to the basics of global issues, international relations, and foreign cultures. It provides foundational knowledge and may serve as a stepping stone to further education or entry-level positions in fields like international business or government. Bachelor's Degree in International Studies: A four-year program that offers a comprehensive study of global politics, economics, history, and culture. Students often choose concentrations such as international relations, global development, or regional studies. Study-abroad opportunities and internships are common at this level, preparing students for a wide range of careers in international affairs. Master's Degree in International Studies: This advanced degree allows students to specialize further in specific areas like diplomacy, global security, or international business. It typically takes one to two years and often requires completing a thesis or capstone project. Graduates often pursue higher-level roles in international organizations, government, or global consulting. Read more

Doctoral Degree (PhD) in International Studies: A research-intensive program that can take several years to complete. It focuses on producing original research in areas such as international law, global politics, or cultural studies. PhD graduates often go into academia, research, or high-level advisory positions in international organizations. In an international studies degree program, students acquire a range of skills, including: Analytical Skills: Competence in conducting research using various methods, such as qualitative and quantitative analysis. Students learn to gather and evaluate information from diverse sources to support their studies and projects. Cultural Awareness: Understanding and appreciating cultural differences and similarities across various regions. This includes knowledge of global customs, traditions, and social norms, which is crucial for working effectively in international settings. Communication Skills: Proficiency in both written and verbal communication, including the ability to present ideas clearly and persuasively. Students often develop skills in drafting reports, delivering presentations, and negotiating across cultural barriers. Read more

Foreign Language Proficiency: Learning new languages or improving existing language skills, which enhances the ability to communicate with people from different countries and understand their perspectives. Problem-Solving Skills: Ability to address and propose solutions to global challenges, such as conflict resolution, economic development, and human rights issues. Understanding of International Systems: Knowledge of international organizations, treaties, and regulations that govern global relations. This includes familiarity with entities like the United Nations, the World Trade Organization, and regional organizations. Global Perspective: Awareness of how different regions and countries interact and influence each other. Students learn to consider issues from multiple viewpoints and understand their global context. With an international studies degree, you can pursue a variety of careers that involve global issues, cross-cultural interactions, and international relations. Here are some potential career paths: Diplomat: Represent your country in international affairs, negotiate treaties, and work to resolve conflicts between nations. This role often requires strong communication skills and a deep understanding of global politics. Ambassador: Represent and advocate for your country in a foreign nation, managing diplomatic relations, and promoting national interests abroad. This prestigious role requires extensive experience in diplomacy and international relations. Foreign Service Officer: Serve in embassies or consulates, working on issues related to trade, immigration, or consular services. This role often involves assisting citizens abroad and fostering bilateral relations between countries. Humanitarian: Work with organizations that provide aid and support to people in crisis or underserved communities around the world. This role involves coordinating relief efforts, advocating for vulnerable populations, and working on development projects to improve living conditions. International Relations Analyst: Research and analyze global political and economic trends, providing insights and recommendations to governments, think tanks, or policy institutes. This position requires strong analytical and research skills. Cultural Affairs Officer: Promote cultural exchange programs and manage initiatives that foster mutual understanding between countries. This role often involves organizing events, managing partnerships, and facilitating intercultural communication. See which schools are the most and least expensive. Read about Tuition Share — copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. Adapt — remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms. Attribution — You must give appropriate credit , provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made . You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. ShareAlike — If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you must distribute your contributions under the same license as the original. No additional restrictions — You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits. You do not have to comply with the license for elements of the material in the public domain or where your use is permitted by an applicable exception or limitation . No warranties are given. The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. Have you ever found yourself fascinated by the intricate dance of global politics, the rich tapestries of different cultures, or the complexities of international relations? If so, the international studies major might just be your ticket to an engaging and impactful career. In today's interconnected world, understanding global issues is more crucial than ever. Whether it's grappling with pressing global health issues, deciphering the nuances of Middle Eastern politics, or exploring the rich cultural landscapes of Latin America, this major offers a window into the vast and varied aspects of our global community. But why should you care? The skills you'll gain from an international studies program can make you both a well-informed global citizen and a highly sought-after professional in a range of fields, from foreign service to international business. This article will explain what's involved in an international studies major, the benefits of choosing this type of degree, and what you can expect as an international studies professional. What is an international studies major? A Bachelor of Arts in International Studies focuses on the study of global affairs. This major is interdisciplinary, meaning it combines different fields of study to give you a broad and diverse understanding of the world. You'll explore political science and gain insights into government systems, political behavior, and the inner workings of political entities. This includes understanding how policies are created and their impact on global scales. International relations are another key part of this major. You'll study the history of diplomacy, conflict, and cooperation between countries on international issues like human rights, global health, and economic development. This component helps you understand how nations interact and how these interactions shape global dynamics. Economics is also integral to this major. You'll study international economies, trade, and development, learning how economic policies in one country can have ripple effects worldwide. This knowledge is crucial for understanding the interconnected nature of the global economy. Additionally, a focus on liberal arts enriches your understanding of global issues, providing cultural, historical, and ethical contexts. This includes studying different European, Asian, African, and Latin American countries and exploring how cultural and social factors influence international affairs. International studies coursework International studies curriculum is designed to help you understand different disciplines, each contributing to a comprehensive understanding of global affairs. Here are some of the major requirements: Global politics and international relations. These are at the heart of the program. You'll explore the dynamics of international diplomacy, including how countries negotiate, collaborate, and conflict on the global stage. These courses provide a deep dive into the workings of international bodies like the United Nations and the role they play in shaping global issues. Economic development. Here, you'll examine how economic policies and trends affect various regions around the world, from the bustling markets of Asia to the emerging economies of Latin America. You'll learn about the impact of international trade, economic aid, and development strategies on global and local scales. Human rights. This part of the curriculum focuses on the principles and challenges of human rights worldwide. You'll study how human rights are defined, protected, violated, and the role international organizations play in upholding these rights. Foreign policy. In these courses, you'll learn to critically analyze and understand the foreign policies of different countries. You'll explore how nations formulate their foreign policies, the factors that influence these decisions, and their consequences on international relations. Language courses. Given the global nature of this field, language proficiency is essential. You'll have the opportunity to study languages like Arabic, Chinese, Spanish, or others. These courses go beyond language skills, often including cultural specialization, and can be compensated with life-enriching experiences. Type of organization. Working for government agencies as a foreign service officer or in international relations typically provides stable income and benefits. In contrast, NGOs and nonprofits might offer lower salaries but can be rewarding in terms of social impact. The private sector, especially in international business or consulting, often offers higher salaries, reflecting the demand and profit-oriented nature of these industries. To give you a rough idea, the average salary for a foreign service officer in the United States is around \$69,000, with a range of \$51,000 to \$122,000??. For an international relations specialist, the median salary is approximately \$70,033 annually, with the range typically between \$61,962 and \$78,263??. Find the best school for international studies Choosing the right school for your international studies major is a crucial step toward your career goals. College Rover is here to assist you in this important decision. We make it easy to research and compare schools, programs, and more to find the right fit for your academic and career aspirations. Start exploring the best educational opportunities in international studies and take the first step toward a rewarding future in global affairs. International terrorism; cyber (in)security; the rise of Facebook and Google; the climate emergency; the legacy of colonialism; global inequality; international health pandemics; Brexit; the international politics of #MeToo, migration... The world in the 21st century is a complex place, and one that is impossible to understand through a local, or even national, frame. A degree in International Relations, with its examination of the global relations of states, power and organisations, is uniquely positioned to help us understand and develop solutions to this complicated mix of global challenges and opportunities. What is International Relations? International Relations - sometimes referred to as International Studies - is a branch of Political Science that, through its examination of states, international alliances, transnational organisations and the global economy, seeks to make sense of an increasingly globalised world. A degree in International Relations will deal with issues such as sovereignty, human rights, development, and environmentalism, and introduce you to a diverse range of concepts and theories that offer a number of ways to approach the global issues of the 21st century. Understanding and confronting the complexities, challenges and opportunities of the contemporary global order requires drawing on multiple disciplines and the ideas of numerous theorists, thinkers, activists and political leaders. An International Relations degree will include insights from various intersecting disciplines, including Political Science, Economics, History and Sociology, as well as introducing you to the ideas of thinkers as diverse as Machiavelli, Karl Marx, Edward Said, Hannah Arendt and Audre Lorde. These conceptual and theoretical insights will be complemented by a close study of the 'real world' of international affairs, including: examining past and present violent conflicts; the workings of international bodies such as the UN, World Bank and World Trade Organisation; alliances between states and regions; and the behaviour of great powers such as the US and China. A degree in International Relations also provides a number of highly sought after transferable skills, including: fluency in verbal and written communication and argumentation; an ability to gather, organise and deploy analytical evidence, data and information from a variety of secondary and primary sources; collaboration with others through group work and class discussion; critical appraisal of concepts and information; use of information and communication technology for the retrieval and presentation of information; cross-cultural awareness. Which careers can International Relations lead to? The global focus and transferable skills of an International Relations degree means you'll be well-placed to take advantage of many exciting employment opportunities after finishing your course. You'll have expertise in global affairs that can lead to jobs in: government; the civil service; non-governmental organisations; development; diplomacy. In an increasingly globalised job market and economy employers across the business, service and non-profit sectors will also be looking for employees who have a deep understanding of international affairs. This, combined with the critical analytical and research skills acquired during your degree, mean you'll be well qualified to pursue careers in journalism, law, social policy, international finance, business and technology. Choosing where to study The UK is home to a number of world-leading university departments of Politics and International Relations/Studies. Both The Guardian and The Times publish annual university league guides, which provide information on issues such as student-staff ratios and employment rates for graduates. University league tables, however, should not be your only guide in choosing where to apply. Spend some time thinking about what you are interested in learning about and what you want your experience at university to include. For example, does the opportunity to spend a year abroad appeal to you? Do you want to just study International Relations/Studies, or would you like to combine it with Politics or another discipline such as History, Sociology or a foreign language? All universities and departments offer open days for prospective students, which give you the opportunity to find out more about the course and meet the lecturers responsible for delivering it. Attend as many open days as possible and ask any questions you have - the lecturers will be more than happy to answer them. Julia Welland is an Assistant Professor of War Studies and Leverhulme Early Career Fellow at the University of Warwick. Her current research uses feminist insights to explore the emotional landscape of war and militarism. She has been a BISA trustee since January 2017 and previously co-convened the Gendering International Relations Working Group. Your support today, through donations or a gift in your Will, can nurture new talent, grow knowledge, and drive the research that shapes a brighter future for all.