AFRICAN STUDIES | MA Requirements

African Studies Program Learning Goals and Objectives [31]

Entering Class 2016-2017

MA students must take the equivalent of 16 non-language courses (64 credits) in order to graduate. Those students who are approved for dual degree or advanced standing may only need to take 12 courses (48 credits) or 14 courses (56 credits) as approved by Academic Affairs.

AFRICAN STUDIES

Students concentrating in African Studies take at least 6 courses within this program, which may include one course outside African Studies on an African topic. Courses in the curriculum cross-listed with African Studies may be counted toward the concentration requirement. African Studies MA students must take a minimum of one of the following courses below and are highly encouraged to take two additional courses with the prefix of SA.780.XXX:

- SA.780.648 Political Economy of African Development
- SA.780.724 Contemporary African Politics
- SA.780.727 Politics of Foreign Aid in Africa
INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS

Students complete four courses within this program.
· Microeconomics
· Macroeconomics (prerequisite or concurrent Microeconomics)
· International Trade Theory (prerequisite Microeconomics)
· International Monetary Theory (prerequisite Macroeconomics)

Eligible students who pass the waiver exams in these subjects or who pass Microeconomics in Pre-Term must replace those courses with alternate economics courses. Many students choose to pursue an International Economics Specialization in one of four areas of economics and therefore use electives to meet these requirements. Students may also choose to specialize in Emerging Markets.

Students must receive a 2.67 average in the 4 required economics courses or they must retake a course(s) until a 2.67 average is obtained. If any of the 4 courses are achieved by passing a waiver exam or during Pre-Term, the student must substitute an economics elective course(s) in place of the waived course(s) in order to fulfill the economics requirement above. In this case, the school will use the highest economics program elective course grade(s) to compute this average if a student is replacing one or more of the 4 required courses of Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, International Trade Theory or International Monetary Theory.

QUANTITATIVE REASONING

Students complete one course from the list below.
· Statistical Methods for Business & Economics
· Econometrics (prerequisite Statistical Methods for Business & Economics)
· Applied Econometrics (prerequisite Econometrics)
· Macro Econometrics (prerequisite Econometrics)
· Risk Analysis and Modeling
· Quantitative Global Economics (prerequisite International Monetary Theory)

Students may not double-count a Quantitative Reasoning requirement as one of the four required International Economics courses and vice-versa. Eligible students who pass the statistics waiver exam or pass the statistics course in Pre-Term are still required to take an alternate Quantitative Reasoning course from the list above.

CORE COURSES/EXAMS

All SAIS students must pass 2 core exams and/or courses in addition to their concentration requirements. African Studies concentrators must pass Comparative Politics as one of their core requirements prior to the start of their third semester. If the second core is not completed by the start of the final semester, a student must enroll in second core course.
· American Foreign Policy Since World War II
· Comparative National Systems
· Evolution of the International Systems
· Theories of International Relations
LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

African Studies MA candidates are required to demonstrate proficiency in French, Portuguese or Arabic, through a course sequence and/or proficiency exam. Please consult the program for permission to use Swahili (not taught at SAIS). All non-native English speakers are required to pass an English placement exam upon entering the school. Native speakers of French, Portuguese or Arabic must pass proficiency in a second language which can include English.

CAPSTONE

African Studies concentrators in the second year produce a program paper of publishable quality, which may be the product of a regular course or supervised independent research. The paper is due by April 15th of a student’s second year. For those whose final semester is fall, consult the Program Director for a due date.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS BY ACADEMIC YEAR

- Entering Class 2015-2016
- Entering Class 2014-2015
- Entering Class 2013-2014
- Entering Class 2012-2013
- Entering Class 2011-2010
- Entering Class 2010-2011
- Entering Class 2009-2010

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