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Curriculum

Conflict Management | MA Academic Requirements

Conflict Management Program Goals and Objectives ^[25]

Entering Class 2017-2018

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.

CONFLICT MANAGEMENT

MA students concentrating in Conflict Management (CM) must take at least 4 courses within this program. Only one of the four required CM courses may be cross-listed, starting with a prefix other than SA.640.XXX. The course SA.640.718 Principles and Practices of Conflict Management is strongly encouraged for all students in their first year of study who have not taken a similar course.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Students must also fulfill the requirements for International Relations (IR), which include 2 additional courses from 2 different IR Areas or Policy Areas other than CM. These areas include:

IR Areas:

- Global Theory and History
- International Law and Organizations
- International Political Economy

Policy Areas:

- Energy, Resources and Environment
- Strategic Studies

IR students studying at SAIS Europe must take at least 3 IR courses in Washington with the exception of dual-degree or advanced-standing students, who must take at least 2 IR courses in Washington.

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS

Students must complete 16 credits. The four required courses are:

- Microeconomics
- Macroeconomics (prerequisite or concurrent: Microeconomics)
- International Trade Theory (prerequisite: Microeconomics)
- International Monetary Theory (prerequisite: Macroeconomics)

If a student passes a waiver exam ^[26] in one of these areas, the student must take a replacement International Economics program course(s) to fulfill the concentration requirement.

Starting with the entering class of Fall 2017, students who pass Microeconomics in Pre-Term ^[27] will have the concentration reduced to 12 credits, but still must complete Macroeconomics, International Trade Theory, and International Monetary Theory (or a replacement course(s) if waiver exam(s) passed). The Pre-Term Microeconomics course is not for credit and is not factored into the GPA.

Beyond the requirements, many students choose to pursue an International Economics Specialization ^[28] in one of four areas of economics. Students may also choose to specialize in Emerging Markets ^[29].

Concentration GPA Requirement

Students must achieve a combined GPA of at least 2.67 in four (or three if Microeconomics is passed in Pre-Term) required International Economics program courses or they must retake the course(s) until a 2.67 concentration GPA is achieved. In the standard case, the concentration GPA will be the average of the grades of Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, International Trade Theory, and International Monetary Theory.

If one or more of the four standard courses is waived, the school will use the highest grade(s) from any eligible replacement International Economics program course(s) to compute the International Economics concentration GPA.

QUANTITATIVE REASONING

Students must 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)
- Credit Markets & Credit Risk (prerequisite Corporate Finance)

Students may not double-count the same course toward the Quantitative Reasoning requirement and as an International Economics concentration course and vice-versa.

If a student passes the statistics waiver exam, the student must take an alternate course from the list above to fulfill the Quantitative Reasoning requirement.

Starting with the entering class of Fall 2017, students who pass Statistical Methods for Business & Economics in Pre-Term ^[27] will have fulfilled the Quantitative Reasoning requirement. The Pre-Term course is not for credit and is not factored into the GPA

CORE COURSES/EXAMS

All students must pass 2 core courses and/or exams from the subjects below. CM concentrators must pass Theories of International Relations as one of their core requirements prior to the start of their third semester. If the core courses/exams are not completed by the start of the final semester, the student no longer has the option of completing the exam and must enroll in the core course(s) for credit.

- American Foreign Policy Since World War II
- Comparative Politics
- Evolution of the International Systems
- Theories of International Relations

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

MA candidates must pass exams to demonstrate proficiency in a second language. This language must be offered at the school. Students whose native language is not English may use

English as their proficiency language. All non-native English speakers are required to pass an English placement exam upon entering, even if not using English for proficiency.

CAPSTONE

Conflict Management concentrators must produce a research paper of publishable quality completed during their final semester from previous work of one of the four Conflict Management courses required above. It must be approved in final form in order to take the MA Oral Exam to compete for honors (if eligible) and to graduate. A prize for the best program paper is awarded at graduation. This requirement is fulfilled by ONE of the following:

- Successful completion of the course SA.640.800 Capstone Research Seminar
- Successful completion of the course SA.640.749 Negotiation Practicum—when offered
- Successful completion of the course SA.640.762 Patterns of Protest & Revolt; second-year students only;
- Successful completion of an approved Conflict Management Practicum course—when offered; or
- Producing a research paper of publishable quality not associated with a class, during a student's final semester.* This requires approval from the Program Director and is not eligible to receive the "best paper" award. A draft is due by April 1, and final paper by May 1.

**For those whose final semester is fall, consult the Program Director for due date.*

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS BY ACADEMIC YEAR

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[Entering Class 2015-2016](#) ^[31]

[Entering Class 2014-2015](#) ^[32]

[Entering Class 2013-2014](#) ^[33]

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