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Curriculum

Conflict Management | M.A. Academic Requirements

Conflict Management Program Goals and Objectives ^[4]

Entering Class 2015-2016

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

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 Principles and Practices of Conflict Management (SA.640.718) 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 general requirements for International Relations (IR) which include 2 additional courses within IR from two different IR or selected 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 three IR courses in Washington with the exception of dual-degree or advanced-standing students, who need must take at least two IR courses in Washington.

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS

Students must complete 4 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 Micro and/or Macro in Pre-Term must replace those courses with alternate economics courses. Many students choose to pursue an International Economics Specialization ^[5] in one of four areas of economics and therefore use electives to meet these requirements. Students may also choose to specialize in Emerging Markets ^[6].

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, SAIS 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 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
- Corporate Finance (prerequisite or concurrent Microeconomics)
- Quantitative Methods in International Relations (prerequisite Statistical Methods for Business & Economics)

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. CM concentrators must pass Theories of International Relations 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

MA candidates must pass exams to demonstrate proficiency in a second language. This language must be offered at SAIS. 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 SAIS, 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 normally fulfilled by:

1. Taking and passing Capstone Research Seminar (SA.640.800); or
2. Taking and passing Negotiation Practicum (SA.640.749)—when offered
3. Taking and passing Patterns of Protest & Revolt (SA.640.762); second-year students only; or
4. 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

[Entering Class 2014-2015](#) ^[7]

[Entering Class 2013-2014](#) ^[8]

[Entering Class 2012-2013](#) ^[9]

[Entering Class 2011-2012](#) ^[10]

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