International Political Economy | M.A. Requirements

International Political Economy Learning Goals and Objectives [9]

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.

INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY (IPE)

Students concentrating in International Political Economy (IPE) must take a minimum of 4 courses within this program. Out of the four courses, two must be from the following:

- SA.610.717 Politics of International Economy
- SA.610.752 Major Ideas in Political Economy
- SA.610.770 Comparative Political Economy
- SA.610.700 International Political Economy of Emerging Markets
• SA.610.736 Advanced Topics in International Political Economy
• SA.610.732 International Political Economy

The remaining two can be from any of the IPE SA.610.XXX courses or IPE cross-listed courses.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (IR)

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 IPE. These areas include:

IR Areas:
· Conflict Management
· Global Theory and History
· International Law and Organizations

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 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 [10] in one of four areas of economics and therefore use electives to meet these requirements. Students may also choose to specialize in Emerging Markets [11].

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

Student 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. IPE 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. Core courses do not count toward concentration requirements
- 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

International Political Economy concentrators must complete ONE of the following capstones:
1. A twenty-page research paper, approved by the director, whose focus and subject matter is on international political economy
2. A twenty-page written report that draws conclusions about international political economy based on an internship undertaken while at SAIS
3. MA Oral Exam (to compete for honors- if eligible)

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS BY ACADEMIC YEAR

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