American Foreign Policy Program

Join us for "US Foreign Policy in the Middle East" with Steven A. Cook and Robert M. Danin
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Curriculum

American Foreign Policy | M.A. Requirements

American Foreign Policy Program Learning Goals and Objectives

Entering Class 2013-2014

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 or 14 courses as approved by Academic Affairs.

The following represent the overall goals and objectives for student learning in the American Foreign Policy concentration at SAIS. Attainment will be ascertained by student performance in courses and by formal and informal consultation with students, both during and after their years at SAIS.

1. Students should gain an understanding of the history of American foreign policy, starting with the founding of the country but with special emphasis on the decades since World War II.
2. Students should become familiar with American foreign policy toward at least one other area of the world, and preferably two or three.
3. Students should gain an understanding of how the American government -- including the Executive Branch and the
5. Most importantly, through the department-wide writing requirement as well as the writing requirements of particular courses, students should be able to express themselves in writing clearly, concisely, and persuasively.

AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY

Students concentrating in American Foreign Policy (AFP) must take at least 5 courses within the field.

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

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. American Foreign Policy concentrators must pass American Foreign Policy Since World War II 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
CAPSTONE

American Foreign Policy concentrators must produce a major research paper on a subject approved by a full-time faculty member in the American Foreign Policy Program. This requirement is fulfilled by one of the following:

1. Successful completion of the course, American Foreign Policy Thesis Seminar (SA.200.758)
2. A paper produced through significant research in a regular course or through supervised independent research

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS BY ACADEMIC YEAR

Entering Class 2012-2013
Entering Class 2011-2012
Entering Class 2010-2011
Entering Class 2009-2010

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