

## WAIVER ELIGIBILITY RULES FOR JOINT-DEGREE STUDENTS

### TREATMENT OF BA/MA STUDENTS FROM JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY:

Please see the link “Outright Waivers” appearing elsewhere on this site.

### TREATMENT OF SAIS-HNC CERTIFICATE M.A. STUDENTS AND OTHER HNC STUDENTS

Students at SAIS-Hopkins/Nanjing Center take economics courses with similar titles to those offered to the M.A. students at SAIS-DC and SAIS-Europe. But these are not consistently taught at the intermediate or equivalent level to the corresponding SAIS DC/Europe courses. Presently, there remains considerable variance, with most courses being taught at an introductory level, but some taught at or about the intermediate level of graduate economic analysis. This notwithstanding, the international economics program *will now accept identically-titled economics courses taken at the Hopkins-Nanjing center as a sufficient basis to qualify for a waiver exam attempt* of the corresponding subject. This will be the case regardless of whether the course was taught in English or in Chinese. So, for instance, students who take the microeconomics course at HNC for credit and pass will be allowed to attempt the SAIS microeconomics waiver exam.

In addition, should an HNC student matriculate into the SAIS M.A. program in DC or Europe, *we will now allow them to count one “level-2” elective taken at SAIS-HNC towards the minimum four economics course requirement of the SAIS M.A. degree*, as long as this elective is not one of the courses for which a waiver exam is offered. So, for instance, we will allow the student to credit an HNC course in corporate finance (for which we currently have no waiver exam) towards the economics requirement of the M.A. degree. Only one such course will be allowed to count, however. Such students must ensure that they have taken and passed a sufficient number of additional for-credit economics courses at SAIS to fulfill the economics degree requirement, including of course, all core economics courses.

### TREATMENT OF SAIS-VIENNA DIPLOMATIC ACADEMY CERTIFICATE STUDENTS

Certificate students at SAIS- Center take economics courses with similar titles to those offered to the M.A. students at SAIS-DC and SAIS-Europe. But these are not consistently taught at the intermediate or equivalent level to the corresponding SAIS DC/Europe courses. Presently, there remains considerable variance, with some courses being taught at an introductory level, and others at or about the intermediate level of graduate economic analysis. More problematically, however, the coursework done at Vienna Academy is less than semester-length in terms of the total number of hours spent on formal class lectures. As a consequence many topics are omitted or covered in less depth than is normally done at SAIS-DC/Europe.

For this reason we will continue to ask Vienna Diplomatic Academy certificate students to demonstrate their facility with the subject matter by taking and passing the corresponding waiver exam. *We will, for the moment, accept equivalently-titled courses taken under the certificate program as sufficient qualification for a waiver exam attempt.* However this allowance is subject to ongoing review by the International Economics Program, and it may be rescinded should examination of the evolving content of Diplomatic Academy courses and student performance on waiver exams indicate that the preparation level of Certificate students at the Academy is not sufficiently equivalent to other waiver examinees.

#### TREATMENT OF OTHER SAIS JOINT-DEGREE PROGRAM STUDENTS

SAIS students completing their M.A. degree as part of a joint-degree program with another university, like all other students, will have to apply to take the waiver exam based on equivalent courses on transcript. The waiver exam administrators will determine whether their prior coursework qualifies them for a waiver exam attempt, in line with the guidelines regarding equivalency of courses stated above. *Note this general rule now encompasses the SAIS-Wharton joint-degree students, who were previously granted outright waivers based on Wharton School coursework.*