

# International and Area Studies

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**Graduate Division** (<http://grad.berkeley.edu>)  
**Program Office: 101 Stephens Hall, (510) 642-4466**

**Chair: Nezar AlSayyad, PhD (Department of Architecture)**

**Departmental Web Sites: International and Area Studies** (<http://iastp.berkeley.edu>)

## Overview

The MA degree in International and Area Studies (IAS) is a two-year concurrent Masters program. It is an interdisciplinary program designed to complement the graduate degree work by providing the fundamentals of contemporary international issues and/or detailed knowledge on particular world regions or countries. The MA degree in International and Area Studies provides wide flexibility in crafting an individual interdisciplinary program complementing or enhancing the primary area of graduate study. Students tailor the content of their programs within a defined framework to suit their interests. Specific course work is chosen in consultation with a faculty adviser.

**Note:** This program is available **only** to students who are currently registered in an UC Berkeley graduate program.

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## IAS MA Degree Requirements

Students must organize their course work around either a topical or a geographic-area concentration.

- A topic-oriented program concentrates on selected aspects of current international affairs. Course work might combine studies in economics, political science, and history, and could focus on international, transnational, or global issues.
- An area-oriented program focuses either on a major country or region of the world and should have a strong historical or cultural dimension.

All students must demonstrate a strong grounding in economics and social science. Students who have not completed equivalent course work prior to entering the program must take:

- At least one intermediate-level Economics course
- At least two Social Science courses
- At least two Area Studies courses

## 24 Units of Course Work

A minimum of 24 units of course work, independent of courses taken for the primary degree (MA/MS or Ph.D.), is required. At least twelve of the 24 units must be graduate-level course work (course numbered 200-299). No more than a third of the units (8 maximum) may be taken on an S/U or P/NP grading basis. No courses used toward the student's primary program may be used for the IAS M.A. Lower-division undergraduate coursework may not be used toward this degree.

## Foreign Language

Demonstrated proficiency in a modern foreign language relevant to the focus of study, and equivalent to the completion of four college-

level semesters (two years) of language study, is required. None of the courses taken to fulfill this requirement may be used toward the 24-unit requirement for the degree. Language courses may be taken on a pass/not pass basis. However, a maximum of four units of "advanced" level language courses (upper division), if relevant to the focus of the student's program, may count toward the degree.

## Capstone - Thesis or Oral Exam

Either a written thesis or a comprehensive oral exam based on the focus of study is required to complete the IAS MA degree. This is in addition to any thesis or exam taken for the student's primary degree. However, students are encouraged to relate the IAS thesis topic to the work done for their primary degree program. Students enrolled in IAS 292 Direct Advanced Research and/or IAS 299 Directed Reading courses to complete their thesis should note that no more than 4 units can be applied toward the 24 minimum units required for the degree.

## Advancement to Candidacy

Approval of all course work, completion of the foreign language requirement, and approval of the faculty committee must be granted by the IAS MA Faculty Adviser prior to advancement to candidacy. The candidacy petition must be submitted no later than the fifth week of the semester in which the student intends to complete the degree. If thesis research involves human subjects, a Course Completion Record from the Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects must also be submitted. Final approval of candidacy petitions is granted by the Dean of the Graduate Division.

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## Admission

The application to this program is made available on this page ([http://iastp.berkeley.edu/grad\\_detail/138](http://iastp.berkeley.edu/grad_detail/138)) each August. The application is due in mid-December, and applicants are notified of the admissions committee's decisions by late March.

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## For More Information

Saba Sohail  
 Graduate Student Affairs Officer  
 International and Area Studies  
 101 Stephens Hall  
[saba\\_sohail@berkeley.edu](mailto:saba_sohail@berkeley.edu)  
 Advising Hours:  
 Monday-Thursday 9:30-11:30 am and 1:00-2:00 pm

### **IAS 45 Survey of World History 4 Units**

**Department:** International and Area Studies

**Course level:** Undergraduate

**Terms course may be offered:** Fall, spring and summer

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**Hours and format:** 3 hours of Lecture and 1 hour of Discussion per week for 15 weeks. 7.5 hours of Lecture per week for 8 weeks. 10 hours of Lecture per week for 6 weeks.

This course focuses on benchmarks of the history of various nations and civilizations. It begins with the ancient Greeks, Romans, and Chinese, but emphasizes world developments since the 15th century. The purpose of the course is to gain a better understanding of the rise and decline of states, empires, and international trading systems. Therefore, political and economic structures and developments as well as military factors will be presented along with the more traditional historical perspectives.

### **IAS 98 Issues in Political Economy and Development 2 Units**

**Department:** International and Area Studies

**Course level:** Undergraduate

**Term course may be offered:** Spring

**Grading:** Offered for pass/not pass grade only.

**Hours and format:** 2.5 hours of Directed group study per week for 15 weeks.

**Prerequisites:** Freshman or sophomore standing.

This course is geared towards intended Political Economy and Development Studies majors. It consists of a series of guest lectures presenting different issues and perspectives of political economy and development. Topics will be divided into three general sections: 1) theories on political economy and development; 2) historical background on the causes and effects of politics and markets; and 3) case studies on both the international and domestic levels. Peer discussion groups are led by honors students.

### **IAS 102 Scope and Methods of Research in International and Area Studies 4 Units**

**Department:** International and Area Studies

**Course level:** Undergraduate

**Terms course may be offered:** Fall, spring and summer

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**Hours and format:** 3 hours of Lecture and 1 hour of Discussion per week for 15 weeks. 7.5 hours of Lecture and 2 hours of Discussion per week for 8 weeks. 10 hours of Lecture and 2.5 hours of Discussion per week for 6 weeks.

Required prerequisite for all students intending to enroll in Development Studies H195 and Political Economy of Industrial Societies H195.

Introduction to interdisciplinary research strategies for the collection, interpretation, and analysis of data. Course integrates the study of the fundamental theories of social science with the practical techniques of social science research methods.

Formerly known as Political Economy of Industrial Societies 102.

### **IAS H102 Scope and Methods of Research in International and Area Studies 4 Units**

**Department:** International and Area Studies

**Course level:** Undergraduate

**Term course may be offered:** Fall

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**Hours and format:** 3 hours of Lecture per week for 15 weeks. 7.5 hours of Lecture and 2 hours of Discussion per week for 8 weeks. 10 hours of Lecture and 2.5 hours of Discussion per week for 6 weeks.

**Prerequisites:** Open only to students meeting the requirements for participation and who intend to enroll in the honors seminar during the spring term. Consent of instructor.

Required prerequisite for all students intending to enroll in Development Studies H195, Latin American Studies H195, Political Economy of Industrial Societies H195, and Peace and Conflict Studies H195. Course