**Learning Outcomes for Graduate Students in International Studies – A Masters Only Program**

Our graduates will:

1. Demonstrate mastery of subject content knowledge in the field of International and Global Studies.
2. Demonstrate effective oral and written communication skills.
3. Conduct independent research and analysis in their disciple and contribute substantive work in their field.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of a professional concentration and/or a geographic focus, dependent on coursework and degree.
5. Demonstrate a third-year level of proficiency in a second language relevant to their professional or geographic focus.
6. Understand ethical issues and responsibilities especially in matters related to professionalism, data collection and in writing and publishing theses and scientific papers.

**Guidelines for Graduate Program Assessment**

Graduate students are required to fulfill the following requirements, and assessment is based on successful completion of these requirements:

**Requirements for International Studies M.A. (53-65 credits)**

1. Required proseminar courses (7 credits)

INTL 655 International Studies Graduate Core Seminar (4 credits)

INTL 656 Research and Writing in International Studies (1 credit)

INTL 657 Proposal Writing (2 credits)

1. Professional Concentration coursework (24-36 credits)

Students meet with their M.A. advisor to determine appropriate courses. Students select from coursework relevant to their academic and professional goals. These courses should be relevant to their research focus. International students and JDMA students have the option to complete 36 credits in this section, and not declare a geographic focus.

1. Geographic Focus coursework (12 credits)

The geographic focus usually aligns with the language the student is studying or has studied. International students are encouraged to develop a geographic focus in an area distinct from their country of birth/familial homeland. JD/MA students need not include a geographic focus.

1. Field Experience (1-12 credits)

Credits are based on a formula whereby an internship or field research experience of 40 hours per week over a 10-week period equals 12 credits. International Studies requires a significant field learning experience (minimum 10 weeks) to fulfill the major requirements.

The experiential learning requirement is most often fulfilled by study abroad or an internship abroad, chosen from the extensive opportunities available through the Global Education Oregon (GEO) program.

Students may alternately fulfill this requirement through well-formulated domestic (U.S., Oregon, and/or Eugene) experiences, upon consultation with their faculty advisor.

1. Language Competence

U.S. students must demonstrate a third-year level of proficiency in a second language relevant to their professional or geographic focus before completing the program. At the start of their first term, students must confirm with their advisor how they plan to meet the requirement.

Competence may be shown by one of three methods:

i. passing three 300-level language courses, or one 4th year language course

ii. passing 2 years of commonly taught language (Fr. Sp. Ger, Ital) AND 2 years of less common language.

Language may be taken Pass/No Pass. If a student is a) making a concerted effort to learn the language, b) clearly making an effort to achieve 3rd year competency, and c) receives approval from i) advisor, ii) graduate director and iii) department head, 2nd year proficiency may be deemed sufficient.

International students whose high school or university instruction was not in English demonstrate proficiency in English as a second language through completion of the master’s degree requirements.

It is recommended that international students study a language from their geographic focus.

1. Thesis/Terminal Project (9 credits)

The thesis/terminal project must be based on original research, presented within a scholarly framework, and make a substantive contribution to current knowledge in the field. The thesis/terminal project requires **a minimum of nine INTL (503 or 601) credit hours.**

**Every M.A. project requires a committee of three faculty members: the student’s M.A. advisor, and two other UO (permanent) faculty members. Other people can serve in one of the latter two positions with the approval of the student’s M.A. advisor, and either the International Studies Graduate Studies director or the International Studies Department Head.**

**To complete this requirement, students have two options: a) a 9-credit thesis (approved by the Graduate School) or b) a 9-credit project or capstone project. A project or capstone project is not reviewed by the Graduate School.**

**Every M.A. project must have 1) a proposal defense and 2) a thesis or capstone project defense.**

**Students must register for and complete one thesis credit to write their proposal, and have the proposal approved, before they may register for the remainder of their required 9 (total) thesis credits.**

**Graduate Student Assessment**

During each term of the school year, the Graduate Coordinator requests of students information about any awards or conference presentations students received during the previous term.

Throughout the year, the Graduate coordinator contacts International Studies alumni for updates associated with their employment and professional status. These updates are posted on the International Studies website.

Faculty advisors meet regularly with their students to provide mentorship and guidance. At the close of each academic year advisors assess student progress and develop plans for continued progress.

**Research Services**

Graduate students on the International Studies Thesis Track (in comparison to the Capstone Project, which does not undergo the rigorous analysis by the Graduate School) are required to register with Research Compliance Services on campus, to determine: 1. Whether their project requires IRB review or 2. Will receive an exemption determination. This process gives students a taste of the work necessary to conduct serious academic research.