



University
of Windsor



INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES
EXPERIENCE MAP

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES



HIGHLIGHTS AND SKILLS

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

International Relations and Development Studies

The world is your oyster with this multidisciplinary program that lets you tailor your degree by pursuing concentrations that interest you. Learn a language. Study economics, philosophy or geography. Delve into gender issues or Middle Eastern and Islamic studies. Take part in an international exchange program. We also offer an EU study abroad course where you will travel to Europe for exclusive access to EU and NATO officials.

MIN. AVG.* 70% ONTARIO COURSE REQUIREMENTS
ENG4U required.

FUNCTIONAL KNOWLEDGE

- Describe and explain major issues and phenomena of political science, international relations, and global developments
- Research and investigate political issues, synthesize data and information from varying sources and present descriptive and empirical evidence to support a central thesis
- Confidently assert political ideas and arguments, and defend them with sound reason and logic
- Effectively communicate ideas, arguments and evidence through clear, concise and coherent written work
- Explain the rights and responsibilities associated with Canadian and global citizenship
- Propose and evaluate alternative policy solutions to contemporary societal problems

 Honours  Thesis available * Minimum grade point average for admission to program. A higher average may be required.

BUILD YOUR SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

Your UWindsor experience is more than attending classes. It is a combination of academics, co-curricular activities, and extracurricular involvement. By making the most of all three elements of your

university experience, you will maximize your opportunities to build your skills, broaden your personal network, and clarify your long term academic and career goals.

CAREER PLANNING CYCLE

Intentional career planning will help you prepare for your next step after graduation and beyond. It is a fluid, dynamic, and lifelong process. You can move on or return to an earlier stage in the cycle at any time.



CURRICULUM

Courses of study specific to each program



CO-CURRICULAR

Activities and experiences that complement coursework (Outstanding Scholars, peer mentoring, VIP)



EXTRACURRICULAR

Activities falling outside the scope of set curriculum (Part-time job, clubs, volunteering, athletics)

EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES USING THIS CHART

Explore a selection of opportunities recommended for students in your program. This chart shows some of your many options – you don't have to do everything on it or limit yourself to it. Engage in opportunities from each of the three categories to set yourself up for success.

HIGH-IMPACT PRACTICE (HIP)

A HIP is an enriching educational experience that can be life-changing and often includes learning outside of the classroom while encouraging meaningful interaction and collaboration, such as:

- Co-op, internship or field experiences
- Research with faculty
- Culminating senior experience
- Capstone courses
- Service-learning
- Learning communities
- Study abroad

ACADEMICS

Your coursework






- Take required courses including Introduction to Canadian Government and Politics with mentorship component and Introduction to International Relations and Effective Writing I and II
- Review degree course requirements
- Research available concentrations in Economics, History, Sociology/Anthropology, Gender, International Exchange, Middle East and Islamic Studies, Philosophy or a foreign language in order to complete two of them
- Meet with an academic advisor
- Receive peer mentorship from **Political Science Help Centre**

EXPERIENCE

Ways to get involved



- Explore available International Studies internships and field placements 
- Volunteer with local government or a non-profit organization
- Investigate research opportunities as part of the **Outstanding Scholars** program 
- Research student exchange opportunities for middle years in locations such as the UK, France or Australia 
- Join clubs such as the **Undergraduate Society for IR and Political Science**, **Model United Nations**, **UWSA**, **Mock Trial Association**, or **Pre-Law Society**
- Participate in the **Bystander Initiative** workshop to gain skills that will help you be an effective and supportive ally to prevent sexual assault on campus
- Apply for a co-curricular experience such as **VIP – Community Service Learning**

CAREER

Plan ahead for what's next



- Create a list of things that you enjoy, areas in which you excel, and your skills
- Meet with a career advisor in **Career Development** and **Experiential Learning (CDEL)** for help developing a plan for your future years
- Consider a career assessment workshop or appointment to help you identify possible career paths
- Get involved with a part-time job, volunteer opportunity, campus group, or research assistantship
- Attend **CDEL** workshops to learn how to find a summer or part-time job and write a university-level resumé
- Drop in to meet with one of **CDEL's** peer advisors to get answers to your career and job search questions



MIDDLE YEARS




- Take required courses and check in with academic advisor to make sure you are on the right path
- Explore research opportunities with professor 
- Take courses in your two concentrations
- Start taking courses required as pre-requisites for graduate/professional school
- Seek out courses that offer field experience 
- Continue taking courses with a strong emphasis on academic writing/research
- Consider declaring a minor and/or specialization
- Consider applying to go on exchange in your third year (apply in second year) to fulfill the International Exchange concentration option 

- Join the **Mock Trial Association**, or **Model United Nations** to compete in local and international competitions
- Participate in **UWill Discover** undergraduate research conference 
- Attend a **Political Science Speaker Luncheon Series** presentation
- Apply for student exchange program 
- Expand your skills by taking on a summer, part-time or volunteer position
- Consider running for office in the **Undergraduate Society for IR and Political Science** and/or as student representative on the **Departmental Council**
- Consider applying to become a Political Science Mentor (in third or fourth year)
- Join a professional association in your field such as the **International Studies Association**

- Research career fields and occupations with the help of a **CDEL** career advisor
- Explore opportunities and meet potential employers by participating in job fairs and industry networking events
- Explore further educational opportunities by attending the **Graduate and Professional Schools Fair** and researching admission requirements for programs you are interested in
- Create a **LinkedIn** profile and have it critiqued
- Take part in informational interviews and join online communities like **LinkedIn** and **Ten Thousand Coffees** to connect with people in your targeted profession or industry
- Search job postings to learn what skills, knowledge, and credentials you will need for potential careers

FINAL YEAR

- Meet with an academic advisor to go over degree requirements
- Complete all required courses for your degree
- Apply to graduate through **UWinsite Student Portal**
- Complete both required concentrations, as well as remaining coursework
- Work with a faculty member on a research project or publication 
- Complete required courses for **Public Administration** or **Law and Politics Certificate**
- Take a field work or practicum course to culminate your senior experience 

- Work with the **Cross-Border Institute** to conduct research and public outreach
- Become a tutor for **Students Offering Support (SOS)** 
- Join the **UWindsor Model NATO**, **Model United Nations** or run for a **UWSA** executive position
- Work with a local organization through field placement courses such as the **Public Service Management Internship Practicum** 
- Run for office on the **Departmental Council** or **Undergraduate Society for IR and Political Science**
- Conduct field research with faculty member 
- Consider applying to become a **Political Science Mentor** (in third or fourth year)

- If you are considering applying to graduate or professional school, be aware of early application deadlines
- Meet with **CDEL** to prepare application documents like a resumé, cover letter, CV, or personal statement for jobs and education programs you are applying to
- Attend **CDEL's workshops** on interview skills and job search strategies
- Use **InterviewStream** to practice your interview skills online
- Set up an in-person mock interview with a career advisor for professional school or job applications
- Meet employers at the annual job fair in January
- Compose a portfolio of relevant academic and work experience
- Explore professional development opportunities through **Continuing Education**

LIFE AFTER GRADUATION



“

My education at the University of Windsor has prepared me for the demands of this experience, especially through developing my writing and communication skills. I'd really recommend the Young Diplomats Abroad Program to any other students interested in the foreign service. It's been everything I could ask for.”

*Erik Stenlund - BA in International Relations and Development Studies
MA in Political Science*

17 NUMBER OF GRADUATES (2018)

93%

EMPLOYMENT RATE OF GRADUATES

Employment rate of graduates 2 years following degree completion (OUGS Social Sciences, 2017)

CAREER TRACKS*

Ambassador
Border services official
Community developer
Consultant
Court monitor
Demographer
Development analyst

Diplomatic officer
Foreign correspondent
Human rights officer
Immigration agent
International health educator
Journalist
Lawyer

Legal consultant
Lobbyist
Operations director
Law enforcement officer
Policy analyst
Political aide
Political organizer

Professor
Project manager
Public official
Public relations officer
Reporter
Research co-ordinator
Teacher

* Additional education and/or training required for some of the above careers.



COMMON SECTORS FOR GRADUATES

- **Academia**
- **Business:** analysis, research, corporate communications
- **Education:** public schools, vocational/corporate training
- **Government services**
- **Journalism:** political correspondence and analysis
- **International diplomacy and foreign service**
- **International governance and non-governmental organizations**
- **Law and legal services**
- **Law enforcement**
- **Politics:** political office, campaign management, polling and research, speech writing
- **Public policy think tanks and consulting:** public/private sectors

CAREER-READINESS COMPETENCIES



CRITICAL THINKING
AND PROBLEM
SOLVING



PROFESSIONALISM
AND WORK ETHIC



TEAMWORK AND
COLLABORATION



COMMUNICATION



CAMPUS RESOURCES

- Research scholarships and bursaries through the **Student Awards and Financial Aid Office**
- Visit **Leddy Library** and the **Writing Support Desk** for help with academic assignments
- Learn about our **Bounce Back** program designed to support students struggling to find both personal and academic success in their post-secondary experience
- Build leadership skills and find leadership opportunities at the **Leadership Hub**
- Experience international service learning on an **Alternative Spring Break** team
- Get advice and support about your academic status by making an appointment with **Academic Advising**
- Seek out assistance with academic accommodation from **Student Accessibility Services**
- Discover ways to get involved on campus through the **Student Success and Leadership Centre**
- Look into the **Ignite: Work Study** program for on-campus employment opportunities
- Get assistance developing your career plan and job search skills from **Career Development and Experiential Learning**
- Consult with the **EPICentre** if you are interested in starting your own business
- Broaden your cultural awareness through the **International Student Centre** and **Student Exchange Office**
- Find support for Indigenous learners and broaden your understanding of Indigenous culture by visiting **Turtle Island**
- Tend to your health and wellness with support from **Student Health Services** and **Lancer Recreation**
- Receive confidential mental health counselling delivered by trained professionals at the **Student Counselling Centre**
- Seek personal support or learn more about sexual violence education through the **Sexual Misconduct Response and Prevention Office**
- Explore professional development opportunities through **Continuing Education**

We've got you covered!

GET IN TOUCH

STUDENT RECRUITMENT

Phone: 519-973-7014
Toll-Free: 1-800-864-2860
ask.uwindsor.ca

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Phone: 519-253-3000, Ext. 2348
Email: polsci@uwindsor.ca

CAREER DEVELOPMENT AND EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Phone: 519-253-3000, Ext. 3895
Email: careerservices@uwindsor.ca