

# International Relations and Development Studies

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International Relations and  
Development Studies  
Experience Map



University  
of Windsor

## Highlights and Skills

### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

#### International Relations and Development Studies **H** **T**

Get an international perspective and prepare for an exciting career in foreign affairs and global governance. Focus your sights on a variety of areas such as diplomatic relations, human rights, international justice, conflict resolution and more. You'll learn from our faculty members and develop analytical skills to build novel approaches to global issues. You can broaden your horizons and add a student exchange opportunity, or the EU study abroad course where you will travel to Europe for exclusive access to 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

**H** Honours - 4-year program **T** 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.

	<b>CURRICULUM</b> Courses of study specific to each program
	<b>CO-CURRICULAR</b> Activities and experiences that complement coursework (Outstanding Scholars, peer mentoring, VIP)
	<b>EXTRACURRICULAR</b> Activities falling outside the scope of set curriculum (Part-time job, clubs, volunteering, athletics)

## 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.





## 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



### First Year

- 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 minors in Arabic Studies; Business Administration; Communication, Media, and Film; Economics; Entrepreneurship; French Studies; Geography; History; Indigenous Studies; Jewish Studies; Latin American Studies; Modern Languages; Philosophy; Race and Ethnicity Studies; Sociology; Women's and Gender Studies
- Meet with an academic advisor
- Receive peer mentorship from **Political Science Help Centre**

### Middle Years

- Take required courses and check in with academic advisor to make sure you are on the right path
- Take the From University to Work course
- Explore research opportunities with professor 
- Take courses in your minor
- 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 taking the Public Administration or Law and Politics Certificate
- Consider applying to go on exchange in your third year (apply in second year) to fulfill the International Exchange concentration option 




### 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 your selected minor, 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 


## 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 **Political Science Society, 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**

- 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 **Political Science Society** 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**

- 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)

## Career

Plan Ahead For What's Next



- Start by making a list of things that you enjoy and areas in which you excel
- Meet with a career advisor in **Career Development and Experiential Learning (CDEL)** for help developing a plan for your future years
- Consider a **Career Exploration Program** 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
- Chat with an advisor during **CDEL's Drop In** hours to get answers to your career and job search questions

- Research career fields and occupations with the help of a **CDEL** career advisor
- Explore opportunities and meet potential employers by participating in **Job Shadow Experience**, job fairs, and industry networking events
- Explore further educational opportunities by attending the **Graduate and Professional Schools Fair** and researching admission requirements for programs that interest you
- Create a **LinkedIn** profile and have it critiqued by **CDEL**
- 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

- 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
- Set up a mock interview with a career advisor for professional school or job applications
- Take part in recruitment events and job fairs hosted by **CDEL** and other organizations
- 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*

**13** Number of  
Graduates

(2020)

**94%** Employment  
Rate of Graduates

*Employment rate of graduates 2 years following  
degree completion (UGS Social Sciences, 2019)*

## Career Tracks\*

Ambassador  
Border services official  
Community developer  
Community rights organizer  
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 &  
Problem Solving



Professionalism &  
Work Ethic



Teamwork &  
Collaboration



Communication





# Campus Resources

- Research undergraduate scholarships and bursaries through the **Student Awards and Financial Aid Office**
- Visit **Leddy Library** and the **Writing Support Desk** for help with academic assignments
- Check out the **Bounce Back** program designed to improve academic performance as well as decrease feelings of stress and anxiety through both effective learning strategies and life skills acquisition
- Build leadership skills and find leadership opportunities at the **Leadership Hub**
- Get advice and support about your academic status by making an appointment with **Central 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**
- Broaden your cultural awareness through the **International Student Centre** and **Student Exchange Office**
- Look into the **Ignite: Work Study** program for on-campus employment
- Get assistance developing your career plan and job search skills from **Career Development and Experiential Learning**
- Develop your entrepreneurial skills and learn how to start your own business at **EPICentre**
- Find support for Indigenous learners and broaden your understanding of Indigenous culture by visiting the **Aboriginal Education Centre - Turtle Island**
- Tend to your health and wellness with support from **Student Health Services**, the **Wellness Outreach Office** and **Lancer Recreation**
- Receive confidential mental health counselling delivered by trained professionals at the **Student Counselling Centre**
- **Prevent.Resist.Support.** Seek personal support or learn more about sexual violence prevention and resistance education through the **Office of Sexual Violence Prevention, Resistance & Support**
- Explore professional development opportunities through **Continuing Education**



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## Student Recruitment

Phone: 519-973-7014

Toll-Free: 1-800-864-2860

Email: [info@uwindsor.ca](mailto:info@uwindsor.ca)

## Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

Phone: 519-253-3000, Ext. 2029

Email: [deanarts@uwindsor.ca](mailto:deanarts@uwindsor.ca)

## Career Development and Experiential Learning

Web: [uwindsor.ca/cdel](https://uwindsor.ca/cdel)

Email: [careerservices@uwindsor.ca](mailto:careerservices@uwindsor.ca)