

What you can do with your International Studies MAJOR



Major Skills:



Oral & Written Communication

You write and speak clearly and succinctly to describe, classify, persuade, and explain complex ideas to various audiences; you use appropriate style and evidence to present and justify arguments in different forms.



Research

You employ various research methodologies to find and filter information, critically evaluate the quality of sources including primary source documents, use evidence to support and make effective arguments, and synthesize information from different sources to communicate ideas clearly and concisely.



Global & Intercultural Competency

You value, respect, and learn from diverse cultures, races, ages, genders, sexual orientations, language, and religions, demonstrating openness, inclusiveness, and an understanding of how our lives are shaped by global interdependencies and diversity.



Objective Thinking

You consider topics from multiple viewpoints and perspectives with attention to their historical, social, and cultural contexts; you are able to both construct arguments about global transformations and consider the ethical implications of these arguments; you evaluate the ethical dimensions of social and political interventions.



Analytical & Creative Thinking

You learn to recognize patterns and layered reasoning about economic, political, environmental, cultural, and other issues impacting the world; you evaluate arguments about the causes and consequences of global processes; and approach dominant preconceptions of the world critically, using evidence to support your own ideas and arguments.



Textual Analysis and Editing

You develop skills in close reading and text analysis to understand complex transnational processes, structures, and interdependencies; you are able to link specific place-based processes to global structures; use attention to detail to understand, produce, review, and edit different types and styles of writing.

Supplement Your Skills With:



**Study Abroad or
International
Internship Experience**



Career and Self-Development



**Part-time work, Leadership
& Volunteering**



**Experience Fostering Professional Equity &
Inclusion in a Multicultural Environment**

Chart Your Path Forward

Activate Your Handshake Account

for connections to jobs,
internships, employer &
alumni networking.

Explore Career Communities

to discover a wide variety of
fields where you can turn your
major into success.

Get Career & Internship Advising

from SuccessWorks to make a
plan, whether you're a first-year
student or about to graduate.

Get Started: successworks.wisc.edu

Put your International Studies major to **WORK**

Common Job Titles of Alumni:

- Account Executive/Manager
- Associate
- Attorney/Associate Attorney
- Business Development Representative
- Chief of Staff
- Communications Coordinator
- Consultant
- Customer Success Manager
- Data Scientist
- Director/Executive Director
- Paralegal
- Product/Program Manager
- Program Analyst/Coordinator
- Project Manager
- Research Analyst

Sample of Recent Employers of Alumni

- 3M Healthcare
- ABT Associates
- Algar Tech
- Amazon
- American Family Insurance
- Apple
- Chicago Public Schools
- Deloitte
- Google
- Epic
- Exact Sciences
- Madison Area Technical College
- Northwest Mutual
- TruStage
- Universities of Wisconsin
- US Department of State
- US Government Accountability Office
- UW Health
- Wells Fargo
- Wisconsin Department of Health Services



Post-Graduation Plans 2016-2021:

- 71%** Employment
- 22%** Continuing Education or Grad School
- 7%** Other

Industry of Employment 2016-2021:

1. Education
2. Information Technology
3. Finance
4. Government
5. Healthcare
6. Non-Profit
7. Legal/Law Enforcement
8. Consumer Goods/Services
9. Arts, Entertainment & Media
10. Consulting
11. Marketing

Where Alumni Live & Work:

- 26%** Wisconsin →
- 13%** Illinois →
- 9%** Minnesota →
- 8%** California →
- 44%** Other →



"My international studies coursework provided a crucial foundation for my career as a diplomat. One unexpected benefit has been the opportunity to connect with fellow Badgers around the world during the past 20 years. As a freshman in Intro to Comparative Politics, I had no idea that there would be so many ways to say "On Wisconsin!" around the globe."

Harvey Sernovitz, 1995 (BA), 1999 (JD)
Foreign Service Officer, United States Department of State
Copenhagen, Denmark



The IS major has taught me how to be conscientious of others' diverse backgrounds when I'm interacting with them, such as where they're from, what language they grew up speaking, or their cultural or religious practices. The major has also made me understand that no social, political, or environmental issue is black and white, but that with almost every choice in these domains, there are people who will gain and those who will lose."

Lydia Nyachio, 2022
Junior Qualitative Researcher, Revealing Reality
London, England, UK

Career Communities for International Studies Majors

SuccessWorks has eight Career Communities to connect you with career advising, resources and programs. Here are a few suggestions on where International Studies majors can start.

- Government, Policy, International Affairs & Law
- Consulting, Management, Finance, and Client Relations
- Non-Profit Management & Education
- Environment, Natural Resources, & Wildlife

Not inspired by these options? Visit SuccessWorks to explore more widely.