

International and Comparative Politics

Program Description

The international and comparative politics major is a specialized political science degree program for students with career and/or advanced degree interests that require comprehensive knowledge of politics in foreign countries and international politics. It prepares students for careers in international affairs, foreign service, development assistance, and international business.

Students in international and comparative politics can study a range of topics including democracy and authoritarianism, political systems around the world, political economy in rich and developing nations, gender and politics, war and conflict, terrorism, foreign policy, and the global economy.

Courses Include

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|-----------|------------------------------------|
| PSCI 2400 | Comparative Politics |
| PSCI 2500 | International Relations |
| PSCI 3400 | European Politics |
| PSCI 3410 | Politics of Sub-Saharan Africa |
| PSCI 3420 | Chinese Politics |
| PSCI 3440 | Russian and Central Asian Politics |
| PSCI 3450 | Latin American Politics |
| PSCI 3460 | Women in Developing Countries |
| PSCI 3500 | American Foreign Policy |
| PSCI 3510 | Terrorism and Political Conflict |
| PSCI 3520 | International Conflict |
| PSCI 4400 | European Union |
| PSCI 4410 | Women and Politics |
| PSCI 4420 | Ethnicity and Nationalism |
| PSCI 4420 | Democratization in South Asia |
| PSCI 4420 | Japanese Politics |

Study abroad

There are many study abroad opportunities for students in this major including summer, semester and full academic year programs all over the world. Some students combine language study overseas with their major; others study political science in an English-language program. Approved study abroad courses can be applied to the major. Study abroad experience greatly enhances job prospects in international career tracks.

Evan Mayo, (international/comparative 2011). Department of Defense (2015).



Shanna Dietz Surendra (international/comparative politics, 2002). Consul, US embassy in London. Photo taken at arrival of Air Force One (2016).



WMU Students Studying Abroad in Istanbul, Turkey (2013).





Placement

Our graduates have gone on to careers in US Foreign Service and other government agencies such as the CIA, international organizations, military intelligence, international law, and higher education.

Faculty: the faculty in the international and comparative major are bilingual or multi-lingual and have expertise in regions all over the world including Europe, Russia and Central Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, China, Japan, Latin America, and South Asia.

Left: Josh Lampen (international/comparative politics, 2005). First Lieutenant, US Army intelligence. Photo taken at Bagram Air Force Base, Afghanistan (2015).

Right: Annalisa Wilder (IR/comparative, current student). Photo taken in Inhubamba, Peru (2016).



Are you ready for a Globalized World?

International and Comparative Politics

- An ideal major for students considering an international career
- Develop skills as a discriminating reader and critical thinker, and the ability to communicate ideas and arguments in a clear and persuasive way
- Study with faculty whose expertise covers the world
- Major in political science and incorporate study abroad into your course of study

Western Michigan University

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