



CENTER FOR CAREER & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

# Major Possibilities: International Studies

## Quick Facts

- Students with International Studies majors have the advantage of being able to understand cultural diversity and evaluate information from a global perspective, as well as learn a foreign language.
- Because students focus on more than one area of study, they are well-suited to a variety of jobs. To explore those options, internships help shape professional identities, develop 21<sup>st</sup> century career-readiness skills, and make meaning of the academic experience.
- International Studies can lead to further education, such as law school or graduate school. Some occupations within the fields of social science and art history require a PhD.
- Studying abroad for at least one semester is a requirement of the major, so consider that when you are planning your courses.

## International Studies Major Synopsis

International Studies is a three-part major that allows students to choose a disciplinary major, a geographical area of emphasis, and a language that corresponds to the chosen geographic area. Students may petition to study disciplines and areas besides those listed below.

**Disciplinary Major:** Art History, History or Political Science (Anthropology may also be selected for the Latin American concentration. Religion may also be selected for the Global concentration.)

**Area Concentration:** East Asia, Europe, Latin America, or Global (includes 3 foreign language courses and 3 geographical area courses beyond the general education requirement)

**Study Abroad:** At least one full semester

## Sample Occupational Areas

### POLITICAL SCIENCE

Political scientists study the origins of political systems and public policy. They may conduct polls and analyze information and ideology. To become a political scientist, advanced education is necessary. However, a myriad of careers are available to political science majors, including legal professions, journalism, employment with federal or state government, business management, or any other occupation you may desire. Many students focusing on political science move on to become lawyers. Lawyers may specialize in a number of areas, such as bankruptcy, probate, international, or environmental law. Most lawyers are in private practice, concentrating on criminal or civil law.

### ART HISTORY

A degree in Art History can lead to many unique and exciting careers, such as curator at a museum or university library or arts writer for a magazine or local arts council. The employment outlook for graduates is competitive, but jobs are available in art publishing, art journalism, libraries, public art councils, art galleries, and with companies specializing in furniture and architectural restoration. There are some entry-level jobs in museum work, but most jobs in this field require advanced degrees. Because the field of art history increasingly considers art in the larger political and social context of its culture, choosing the interdisciplinary Art History major as part of your International Studies major will make your education all the more rewarding and applicable in your future career.

### HISTORY

Historians research, analyze, and interpret the past. They usually specialize in a country or region, a particular period, or a particular field, such as social, intellectual, cultural, political, or diplomatic history. They can do work in unusual settings, preserving historical sites or

artifacts. History majors also have multiple other occupations open to them: teaching, researching, information management, consulting, filmmaking, writing, archiving, advocating for the underprivileged, civil or foreign service, and being a lawyer, among others.

## ANTHROPOLOGY

Anthropologists study the origin and the physical, social, and cultural development and behavior of humans. Anthropologists are able to find jobs almost anywhere. There are four fields in which an anthropologist can focus: social/cultural anthropology, linguistic anthropology, biological anthropology, and archaeology. Applied anthropology is an up-and-coming subfield of anthropology; professionals in this field often work for non-academic clients (e.g. governments, NGOs, educational agencies, businesses) applying the theories and methods of anthropology to the analysis of practical problems.

### Sample Job Titles

|                              |   |                             |                                       |
|------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE</b> | Stock Broker                              | International Educator      | <b>ARTS, MEDIA, AND ENTERTAINMENT</b> |
| Appraiser                    | Travel Agent                              | International Trade         | Advertising Executive                 |
| Archaeologist                |   | Interpreter/Translator      | Art Historian                         |
| Consultant                   | <b>GOVERNMENT, SERVICE, AND EDUCATION</b> | Library of Congress         | Editor                                |
| Commodities Trader           | Ambassador                                | Linguist                    | Foreign Rights Manager                |
| Curator                      | Attorney                                  | Paralegal                   | Foreign Correspondent                 |
| Economist                    | Bill Analyst                              | Public Policy Analyst       | Gallery Manager                       |
| Entrepreneur                 | Cultural Advisor                          | Public Relations Specialist | Media Planner                         |
| Financial Planner            | Export Administrator                      | Social Scientist            | News Programmer                       |
| Global Management            | Foreign Service Officer                   | Teacher                     | Travel Writer                         |
| International Trade Mgmt.    | Intelligence Analyst                      | Translator                  |                                       |
| Sales Analyst                |   | US Information Agent        |                                       |

### Sample/Possible Internship Employers of SU Students

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Agency for International Development - Washington, DC | International Cooperative Education                    |
| Alma de Mujer - Austin, TX                            | Office of State Representative Dan Gattis - Austin, TX |
| Boys and Girls Club - Georgetown, TX                  | Public Citizen-Texas - Austin, TX                      |
| Carver Elementary - Georgetown, TX                    | Stockdale Companies - Taylor, TX                       |
| Center for International Educational Exchange (CIEE)  | SU Chinese Program - Georgetown, TX                    |
| Committee on Education and Labor - Washington, DC     | SU Special Collections - Georgetown, TX                |
| Eckerd Youth Alternatives - Candor, NC                | United Nations Association of USA                      |
| Georgetown Chamber of Commerce - Georgetown, TX       | US Department of State - Washington, DC                |
| Georgetown ISD/Jarrell ISD - Georgetown/Jarrell, TX   | World Affairs Council of America - Washington, DC      |
| German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)               |  |

### Sample Full-Time Employers of SU Grads

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Assistant Language Teacher (JET Program)  | Legal Assistant (Law Offices of Richard Pena)        |
| Bill Analyst (Texas Senate Research Committee)                                  | NGO Development Volunteer (Peace Corps)              |
| Business Analyst (Hewitt Associates)  | Office Clerk (United States Census Bureau)           |
| Case Clerk (Brown McCarrol LLP)   | Office Manager (Vocabulary Enterprises)              |
| English Conversation Teacher (Shenzhen, China)                                  | Project Coordinator (Zane Segal Projects)            |
| English Teacher (Horizon International School)                                  | Research/Grant Writer (The Salvation Army)           |
| English Teaching Assistant (US Dept. of State Fulbright Program)                | Sales & Marketing Affiliate (Harris Publishing)      |
| Gallery Educator (The Thinkery)   | Staff Assistant (US Chamber of Commerce)             |
| Gender & Trade Research (Center of Concern)                                     | Study Abroad Advisor (International Studies Abroad)  |
| Latin America & Caribbean Programs Assistant (Lincoln Institute of Land Policy) | Teacher (Teach For America)                          |
| Legal Secretary (The Meyerson Law Firm)   | Teaching Assistant (Ministry of Education of France) |
| Manager (Greater Dallas Chamber of Commerce)                                    | The Experiment in International Living (Mexico)      |
|   | Web Facilitator (KZTV ACTION 10)                     |

## **Professional Associations**

American Anthropological Association

American Foreign Service Association

American Historical Association

American Political Science Association

Association for International Educators (NAFSA)

Federation of International Trade Associations

Foreign Policy Association

International Association of Business Communicators

International Studies Association

Women in International Security