

# GLOBAL/INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

## What can I do with this major?

### AREAS

### EMPLOYERS

### STRATEGIES

#### INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

Management  
Human resources  
Labor relations  
Banking and finance  
Economics  
International development  
Real estate  
Sales  
Marketing and advertising  
Product management  
Supply chain management  
Healthcare administration  
Agricultural economics  
Manufacturing  
Engineering/Computer and software services  
Importing/Exporting  
Customer service  
Consulting

International companies:  
Foreign firms operating in the U.S.  
U.S. firms operating in foreign countries  
Domestic and foreign corporations  
Multinational service firms  
Global small and medium enterprises  
Domestic and foreign financial institutions  
International marketing firms  
International real estate firms  
International trade firms  
Contracting and consulting firms  
Logistics firms  
Manufacturers, including automobile  
Retail stores  
Environmental firms  
Sports organizations

Earn an economics or business minor or take business related courses. Consider an MBA for advancement opportunities  
Become fluent in at least one additional language.  
Obtain cross-cultural experience by studying abroad.  
Seek an international internship, even if unpaid.  
Learn about laws and policies regulating international trade.  
Acquire supervisory skills and experience by taking leadership roles in student organizations.  
Learn about geography and international travel regulations.  
Sharpen your communication skills.  
Interact with the international student population on campus.  
Stay abreast of international news, especially political and economic developments.  
Research firms with international interests. Target larger firms that may be more likely to employ contracting services.  
Develop your skills domestically and build a network of contacts.  
Understand that many companies send more seasoned employees to work abroad. Be prepared to start working in the US for a firm with an overseas presence.

#### INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Diplomacy  
Peacekeeping  
Foreign affairs  
Program administration  
Community development  
Economic development  
Resource development  
Public-private partnerships  
Governance

United Nations  
Non-governmental organizations  
Relief agencies  
Religious organizations  
Educational institutions  
Consulting firms  
Research institutes  
Foundations  
Defense contractors

Become fluent in a second (or third) language.  
Study, volunteer, or work internationally. Seek as many experiences abroad as possible.  
Complete an internship specifically with a NGO, the US government, or an international government.  
Study global politics and economics, including areas such as human rights and religious diversity..  
Prepare to demonstrate your willingness to adapt and coping strategies to combat difficult situations.

## AREAS

## EMPLOYERS

## STRATEGIES

### INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS CONTINUED

Policy making and analysis  
Legislative services  
Political advising  
Public sector reform  
Poverty-reduction strategy  
Ethics and anti-corruption  
Human rights

Federal government:  
Department of State  
Department of Agriculture  
Department of Commerce  
Department of Defense:  
Armed Services  
US Agency for International Development  
National Security Council  
National Security Agency  
Legislative officials

Develop skills in the areas of organizing groups, efficiency, and the ability to calm people.  
Seek cultural experiences on campus and get involved with international students.  
Learn about geography and international travel regulations.  
Stay abreast of international news and politics.  
Sharpen your intercultural communication skills.  
Learn to see all sides of a problem, including economic, social, political, and environmental.  
Earn a relevant graduate degree such as international diplomacy, international relations, or law.  
Research government hiring procedures and seek assistance from your campus career center.

### ADVOCACY AND NONPROFIT

Human services provision  
Public health  
Disaster/Disease relief  
Economic development  
Community development  
HIV/AIDS work  
Policy development  
Program administration  
Program evaluation  
Volunteer coordination

Non-governmental organizations  
Private voluntary organizations  
Nonprofit organizations  
Humanitarian services  
Religious organizations  
Relief agencies  
United Nations:  
World Health Organization  
UNICEF  
Economic and Social Council  
Federal government:  
Peace Corps  
US Agency for International Development  
National Security Council

Become fluent in one or more foreign language(s).  
Work or study abroad to gain international/intercultural competency and practical experience.  
Complete internships or fellowships to gain experience working with social issues of interest.  
Participate in an international service learning experience or go on mission trips.  
Develop excellent research, writing, communication, and organizational skills.  
Hundreds of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) exist in the US (and abroad). Research organizations' structure, function, and mission.  
Volunteer at relevant social service agencies to gain experience and demonstrate interest.  
Work with or assist immigrants or refugees in the local community.  
Gain experience with intercultural communication and an appreciation for diversity.  
Learn about international humanitarian law.  
Demonstrate strong analytical and management skills.  
Research government hiring procedures and seek assistance from your campus career center.  
Consider earning a graduate degree in social work, public administration, or related fields.

## AREAS

## EMPLOYERS

## STRATEGIES

### LANGUAGE SERVICES/EDUCATION

Teaching  
Curriculum development  
Tutoring  
Translating/Interpreting  
Research  
Writing  
Library science  
Higher education administration:  
    International student support services  
    International houses or cultural centers  
    Student affairs  
    Study abroad programming

International schools  
Overseas dependents' schools  
English language institutes  
Professional language schools  
Non-governmental organizations  
Religious organizations  
Colleges and universities  
Third-party study abroad providers  
Self-employed  
Federal government agencies

Gain practical domestic teaching experience and the necessary training or certificate to teach abroad. Teacher training should include supervised classroom experience.  
Minor or double major in another subject that you could also teach.  
Research certification options for teaching English (TESOL, CELTA, CELTC, TEFL).  
Obtain certificates from schools whose graduates are hired in the international marketplace.  
Consider obtaining intensive TESL (Teaching English as a Second Language) training.  
Volunteer to tutor children and adults in English.  
Learn other languages to help understand how languages work.  
Sharpen intercultural competency, sensitivity, and tolerance. Those who are successful at teaching abroad tend to be independent, flexible, and patient.  
Develop superior written and oral communication skills in the English language including proper sentence structure and comprehensive vocabulary.  
Notify local hospitals, schools, and chambers of commerce of your availability to translate or interpret for international visitors.  
Get involved with student leadership experiences on campus.  
Look for positions in developing nations or Asian countries. Teaching positions in Europe are very competitive.  
Earn a master's degree in College Student Affairs to work with study abroad programs or with international student services.

## AREAS

## EMPLOYERS

## STRATEGIES

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Foreign news correspondence  
International broadcasting  
Reporting  
Editorial/Column writing  
Investigative journalism  
Research  
Photography  
Freelance work

Foreign news agencies  
Television networks  
Large circulation newspapers  
Wire services  
Trade newspapers  
Online publishers  
Labor unions  
Academic journals  
International newspapers  
Magazines  
Websites  
Self-employed

Earn a minor or supplement curriculum with communication courses (e.g., journalism, advertising and broadcasting).  
Gain experience with campus newspaper or media.  
Obtain a summer job or internship with a newspaper or other media source.  
Demonstrate curiosity, high energy level, ability to produce under pressure, and withstand criticism.  
Develop excellent grammar and writing skills.  
Create a portfolio of work samples, especially those that have been published, or demonstrate multimedia work on a website or electronic portfolio.  
Travel and study abroad. Learn a second language.  
Get involved in professional associations. Build a network of contacts.  
Research international media firms.

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### **INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC LAW**

Economic law  
Trade and investment law  
Commercial arbitration  
Criminal law  
Refugee law  
Human rights law  
Environmental law  
Humanitarian law

Federal government:  
Department of Defense  
Department of State  
Department of Commerce  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Law firms with an international practice  
Overseas law firms  
Corporations  
Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) (e.g., Amnesty International, Human Rights First)  
Intergovernmental Organizations (IGSs) (e.g., United Nations (UN), North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO))  
Consulting firms

Develop strong research skills and attention to detail.  
Participate in debate teams to hone communication skills.  
Gain practical experience through an internship, part-time, or summer work in a law firm.  
Shadow an attorney to learn more about the field and various specialties.  
Get involved in pre-law organizations.  
Plan to attend law school and earn a law degree (JD). Maintain a high grade point average and secure strong faculty recommendations. Prepare for the LSAT (Law School Admission Test).  
Research law schools to find those that offer courses in international public law and have a good reputation.  
While in law school, gain international experience through internships or summer programs.  
Jobs in this field are extremely competitive. Plan to gain several years of experience before starting an international law career.

## AREAS

## EMPLOYERS

## STRATEGIES

### TRAVEL AND TOURISM

International airline services  
Booking and reservations  
Travel services/Guidance  
Ecotourism  
Convention and visitors' bureaus  
Transportation  
Hospitality  
Restaurant/Food service  
Customer/Guest services  
Marketing management

Tour and excursion compaines  
Travel agencies  
Lodging: hotels/motels, resorts, timshares  
Property management compaines  
Restaurants/Food service providers  
Airlines/Airports  
Cruise lines  
Car rental agencies  
Convention centers  
Chambers of commerce  
Amusement centers, theme parks, and attractions  
US Military Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs

Supplement coursework or earn a minor in hotel, restaurant, and tourism administration or recreation and tourism management.  
Gain experience through an internship, part-time, or summer work in a hotel, restaurant, or area of interest.  
Work or study abroad to gain international/intercultural competency.  
Learn about international travel regulations.  
Develop office management and technology skills.  
Maintain a travel blog.  
Show attention to detail.  
Build a strong foundation in customer service.  
Learn to communicate effectively with a wide variety of people and to work well in teams.  
Become fluent in another language.  
Understand that employees in this industry typically work long hours including nights, weekends, and holidays.  
Prepare to work "from the bottom up" in order to gain experience and relocate for promotions.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

- Become fluent in a second and third language. Commit to continuous study to maintain and develop fluency.
- Demonstrate intercultural skills competency, sensitivity, humility, and tolerance.
- Gain experience communicating with people from other cultures. Seek oportunites to interact with international students on campus or in your community.
- Study abroad, work abroad, or travel to a foreign country while in school to develop language skills and cross-cultural skills and sensitivity.
- Develop a good understanding of etiquette and business practices in country of interest.
- Look for temporary or volunteer positions abroad.
- Obtain daily news from target city to determine international and national news, business features, real estate markets, and community calendars.
- Get your foot in the door through domestic positions because many international employers promote current employees to international positions.
- Develop traits such as creativity, initiative, tenacity, flexibility, patience, a willingness to take risks, an adventurous spirit, and a sense of humor.
- In general, international positions are competitive and difficult to obtain. Be proactive in developing the skills and experiences international employers seek.
- Recognize that it takes time to develop a set of skills and experiences that will prepare you for an oversaeas job.
- Learn about international travel regulations including the specific visa requirements for the country you're traveling to and the jobs you'll be working in.