

# International Relations

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International relations is an interdisciplinary major that combines courses from history and politics with the study of a modern foreign language. It is designed to prepare students either for further study of international relations or for future employment in government or business. Some alumni go on to graduate studies in law, international relations, history, and politics. Since the inception of the program in 1983, several graduates have been appointed as officers in the U.S. Foreign Service.

Recent international relations graduates have continued their studies at prestigious graduate schools such as Johns Hopkins, Cambridge, and Oxford. Six international relations majors since 2009 have also received the competitive Fulbright awards for research or teaching English as a second language.

Students have many options to study outside the United States. Cornell's One Course At A Time curriculum facilitates courses that are taught off campus, in countries such as Austria, Poland, New Zealand, Turkey, Spain, France, Argentina, India, Japan, and the Russian Federation. Students also perform independent research projects or take internships abroad; recent work has taken place in Indonesia, Tanzania, India, Austria, and China.

#### **BENEFITS OF ONE COURSE AT A TIME**

Cornell's One Course at a Time curriculum gives international relations students the opportunity to travel

outside the U.S. on multiple, study-abroad opportunities during their time at Cornell. Shorter trips are more affordable. It's also much easier to fit study-abroad time into an academic plan that involves more than one major, since students do not need to be gone for a whole semester to take a trip.

Individual projects on campus are facilitated by the calendar, since it lets students focus intensely on a project without having to divide their attention amongst other classes.

Finally, students sometimes have the opportunity to take a block off during their senior year to prepare for graduate school entrance exams, the foreign service exam, or job applications.

#### **CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS**

##### **LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY**

Students must complete two years of study of a modern foreign language. Most students study abroad, though they have a choice of either taking at least one course outside the United States or pursuing additional fluency in a modern foreign language through a 301 level language class.

##### **INTERDISCIPLINARY**

In addition to language courses, international relations majors are required to take courses in the history and politics departments. Students take four courses in politics, including International Politics, American Foreign Policy, and a choice of two of International Organizations, International Political Economy, Political Economy of Developing Countries, Women and Politics, Gender and Development, and Strategies to Alleviate Poverty. Students take three courses in history, including Modern European History, Warfare and

## Faculty Bios & Courses

### Core Faculty:

#### **ROBERT GIVENS**

##### *Professor of History*

Serves as the advisor of the international relations program. He specializes in European history, with particular interests in imperial and Soviet Russia, modern Europe, and international relations. His courses in international relations include Modern Europe and Its Critics, Warfare and Society in Modern Times, Diplomacy of War and Revolution, and the off-campus course Russia Today. Ph.D. in history, University of California, Berkeley

#### **APARNA THOMAS**

##### *Associate Professor of Politics and Sexuality, Gender, and Women's Studies*

Teaches the international relations courses Gender in Developing Countries, Political Economy of Developing Countries, Women and Politics: A Cross-National Perspective, and Strategies to Alleviate Poverty. Thomas is an expert on the politics of South Asia and global feminism. Ph.D. in political science, Western Michigan University

#### **DAVID YAMANISHI**

##### *Associate Professor of Politics*

Teaches courses in international relations, including International Politics, U.S. Foreign Policy, and International Political Economics. He also teaches courses in comparative politics that deal with the themes of democratization, development, and human rights, both globally and with special emphasis on Latin America and Europe. Ph.D. political science, University of California, Los Angeles



Society, and History of International Relations and Diplomacy. Students also have options in economics and other related departments.

#### INTERNSHIPS/FELLOWSHIPS

Students can participate in a variety of internships and Cornell Fellowships, both in the United States and abroad. Recent placements include:

- Global Zero, Washington, D.C.
- Westview Press, Boulder, Colorado.
- U.S. Conference of Mayors, Washington, D.C.
- Teacher-Created Materials, Huntington Beach, California.
- Institute for Exploited, Trafficked, and Missing Persons & God's Child Project, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- FeedMagnet, Austin, Texas.
- Red Cross Society of China, Beijing, China.
- Cascade Land Conservancy, Seattle, Washington.

#### POSTGRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS

Many international relations students have received fellowships and other awards for postgraduate study, which include the competitive Fulbright award funded by the U.S. State Department. Kayla Morton '16 earned a Fulbright grant to teach English in Azerbaijan. Other international relations majors who have received Fulbright scholarships include Michelle Ngirbabul '16, who has a research fellowship in India; Eva Fisk '12, who will teach English in Morocco; Tiffany Monreal '14, who taught English in South Korea; Chris Sadler '12, who taught English in Germany; and Nic Wondra '09, who did research in the Republic of Georgia. J.R. Byers '14 won a Jack Kent Cooke Fellowship and is completing a graduate degree at European University in St. Petersburg, Russia.

#### AFTER CORNELL

##### ALUMNI CAREERS

Fulbright English teaching assistant, Azerbaijan (Class of 2016)

Fulbright research fellow, Maharashtra, India (Class of 2016)

Americorps VISTA, People Working Cooperatively, Cincinnati, Ohio (Class of 2015)

Research assistant, Social and Economic Survey Research Institute, Doha, Qatar (Class of 2014)

KYC/KML Agent, Banque Privée Edmond de Rothschild Europe, Luxembourg (Class of 2013)

Program coordinator, Welthungerhilfe, Gaziantep, Turkey and Iraq (Class of 2012)

Elementary school teacher, American Academy, Casablanca, Morocco (Class of 2012)

Administrative assistant, Nurses Network Inc., Cedar Rapids, Iowa (Class of 2012)

Community planner, U.S. Department of Transportation, Cambridge, Massachusetts (Class of 2012)

Editorial assistant, the Geological Society of America, Boulder, Colorado (Class of 2011)

Website product manager, SquareTrade, Inc., San Francisco, California (Class of 2009)

Advocacy consultant for nonprofit issues, the Wollman Semester, Nevada City, California (Class of 2008)

Program assistant, the International Republican Institute, Washington, D.C. (Class of 2007)

Business analyst, Home Properties, Rochester, New York (Class of 2007)

Evaluation project manager, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, Nebraska (Class of 2007)

#### GRADUATE SCHOOL

J.D. student, Washington University School of Law, St. Louis, Missouri (Class of 2015)

M.A. and Ph.D., energy politics and economics, European University, St. Petersburg, Russia (Class of 2014)

Master of Philosophy, politics and international relations, Cambridge University, Cambridge, U.K. (Class of 2014)

M.A., international relations, Oxford University, Oxford, U.K. (Class of 2014)

M.A., international relations and affairs, Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, Bologna, Italy (Class of 2013)

M.A., international studies, University of Denver Korbel School of International Studies, Denver, Colorado (Class of 2013)

Master of Library Science, Indiana University-Bloomington, Bloomington, Indiana (Class of 2011)

M.B.A., Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts (Class of 2009)

Ph.D., political science, Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts (Class of 2009)

M.A., international economics and international relations, Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, Washington, D.C. (Class of 2009)

M.B.A., University of Rochester, Rochester, New York (Class of 2007)

#### Affiliated faculty:

##### DEVAN BATY

*Associate Professor of French*  
Teaches the international relations course Cultures of France and the Francophone World. Ph.D. in French, University of Wisconsin-Madison

##### A'AMER FAROOQI

*Professor of Economics and Business*  
Teaches the international relations courses Economic Development, International Economics, and Global Environmental Economics. Ph.D. in economics, University of Pittsburgh

##### LYNNE IKACH

*Professor of Russian*  
Teaches the international relations course Introduction to Russian Culture and Civilization. Ph.D. in Slavic languages and literature, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

##### MARCELA OCHOA-SHIVAPOUR

*Professor of Spanish*  
Teaches the international relations courses Peninsular Culture and Civilization, and Latin American Culture and Civilization. Ph.D. in Spanish, University of Iowa