The Bachelor of Arts degree in International studies at UAB promotes an appreciation of the different values that exist in societies around the globe and an understanding of the diverse institutions and policies that foster a growing interdependence among nations.
The undergraduate major in international studies is headed by a director and is jointly administered by the School of Behavioral and Social Sciences and the School of Arts and Humanities. Interdisciplinary in nature, it draws upon the faculty and courses of various departments and programs including Art History, Anthropology, Economics, English, Foreign Languages, Government, History, Justice Sciences, and Sociology. By integrating courses on area studies and world affairs, the major allows students to gain a broader and more complete understanding of cultures, organizations, and societies outside the United States than any traditional discipline might offer.

Graduates of our program are equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in an increasingly complex and global environment.

International Studies is of particular value to students interested in careers in federal, state, or local government and the foreign service, law, journalism, teaching, business, or military service. It also serves well those who may seek employment with international organizations, such as the United Nations, or with non-governmental organizations and agencies that have an international or cross-cultural focus, such as Human Rights Watch. Students may consider International Studies as their exclusive major or as a second major (or minor) to enhance their preparation for other types of careers with an international dimension.

Contact Information

For more information about the major, career opportunities, and internships, please contact the Director of International Studies, Dr. Nikos Zahariadis, at nzaharia@uab.edu

Major Requirements

The major requires a minimum of 36 hours from an approved list of courses, including 9 hours in an area concentration - Africa, Asia, Europe, or Latin America.

In addition, majors are required to show second-year proficiency in a foreign language and complete an international experience requirement. Such international experience may be fulfilled by way of study abroad or internship with an international organization or company.