Master of Arts in International Relations

Program Overview

Program Director: Lasha Tchantouridzé
Associate Program Director of Academics: Charles Lerche

The Master of Arts in International Relations has three parts. The first two parts are taught seminars followed by electives. At the end of the program students complete an International Relations field exam that consists of issues from the required seminars, as well as the two elective seminars. Satisfactory completion of the field exam is required to graduate from the program. The third part of the program is research elements – students complete a Master's research paper (MRP), approximately 10 to 12 thousand words. Students select their MRP or capstone topic as early as possible; by the end of Seminar Four advisors are assigned. Students choose their elective seminars according to their research interests. Master's Research Paper are a shorter version of MA thesis, with one important difference: students are asked to make original contributions to the field of international relations. Although it is not difficult to identify original theses statements in IR, even at Master's level, fundamental difficulties exist in the field in terms of scholarly rigor and methodology of fully investigating the proposed research questions. Such challenges are common in the discipline at Master's level and tend to exist even at wealthy schools – the challenges are connected with the limitations that naturally exist for those who study international security and history – it is seldom possible for Master's students to do substantial field research, especially in the areas of conflict.

Program Mission

- Prepare students to excel in a particular functional area of international relations and/or geographic area of the world,
- Provide modern, fundamental, practice-oriented education in various fields of international relations,
- Foster creativity and critical thinking in problem solving and motivate students to consider the societal consequences of their work,
- Prepare ethical leaders for the fields of international relations and committed to global service to humanity.

Program Outcomes

Students:

- Evaluate various political, economic or social issues of a particular functional area of international relations or a geographic area of the world,
- Correlate historical, political and/or economic origins of an international phenomenon or a process,
- Employ theories and methodological skills to clarify complex issues in international relations,

Requirements

Curriculum Map/Plan of Study

Term 1

IR 510	World Politics Intl Relations	6

Term 2

One concentration course		6

Term 3

One concentration course		6

Term 4

One elective course		6

Term 5

IR 555	Field Exam	0
IR 590 & IR 591	Masters Research Paper I and Masters Research Paper Conclusion and Examination	9

Culminating Academic Requirement

IR 595	MIR Residency [1]	0
Total Cr.		**33**

[1] Students are required to attend a one-week, on campus Residency Conference in the June following or concurrent with their final course.

Curriculum Requirements

All students in the Master of Arts in International Relations program are required to complete the following courses in the order prescribed in the curriculum map/plan of study for the degree.

Core Courses for all Concentrations

IR 510	World Politics Intl Relations	6
IR 555	Field Exam	0
IR 590 & IR 591	Masters Research Paper I and Masters Research Paper Conclusion and Examination	9
IR 595	MIR Residency	0
Total Cr.		**15**

Concentration Areas

All students in the Master of Arts in International Relations program must select one concentration area of study and will complete 18 credits in the concentration.

International Security Concentration Courses

IR 520	American Foreign Policy	6
IR 530	International Security	6
GD 540	Conflict Avoidance, Prevention & Containment in the International System	6
or GD 541	The Practice of Diplomacy	
or GD 550	Conflict Resolution & Post-Conflict Reconstruction in the International System	
or GD 560	Military Intervention & Conflict Management in the International System	
or GD 561	Human Rights and Conflict in the International System	
or GD 562	International Response to Transnational Terrorism	
Total Cr.		**18**

National Security Concentration Courses

IR 520	American Foreign Policy	6
IR 531	National Security	6
IR 541	Intel & Natl Security Policy	6
Total Cr.		**18**

International Development Concentration Courses

GD 530	Economics and the International System	6
IR 543	PoliEconomy of IntDevelopment	6
IR 553	Capital and international Development	6
Total Cr.		**18**

Cyber Diplomacy Concentration Courses

GD 520	Law and the International System	6
IR 531	National Security	6
or GI 512	Foundations and Historical Underpinnings of Information Assurance	
or GI 522	Information Assurance Technology	
or GI 532	Human Factors and Managing Risk	
or GI 542	Information Assurance Management and Analytics	
or GI 551	Computer Forensic Investigations	
or GI 554	Computer Security Incident Response Team Management	
or GI 556	Cyber Crime	
or GI 557	Cyber Law	

or GI 562	Vulnerability Management and Penetration Testing I	
or GI 563	Vulnerability Management II	
or GI 566	Critical Infra. Protection	
GI 567	International Perspectives on Cyberspace	6
or GI 512	Foundations and Historical Underpinnings of Information Assurance	
or GI 522	Information Assurance Technology	
or GI 532	Human Factors and Managing Risk	
or GI 542	Information Assurance Management and Analytics	
or GI 551	Computer Forensic Investigations	
or GI 554	Computer Security Incident Response Team Management	
or GI 556	Cyber Crime	
or GI 557	Cyber Law	
or GI 562	Vulnerability Management and Penetration Testing I	
or GI 563	Vulnerability Management II	
or GI 566	Critical Infra. Protection	
Total Cr.		**18**

Regions of the World Concentration Courses

IR 520	American Foreign Policy	6
IR 530	International Security	6
IR 549	Regions of the World	6
Total Cr.		**18**

Field Exam

All students take a written exam consisting of three sets of questions with two questions per set, for a total of six questions. Students must choose one of the two questions in each set, thus answering three questions. The questions are devised by program faculty and are not given to students in advance. The three-hour exam is proctored online. Students may opt to take the exam during the Residency Conference, however, this option will delay degree conferral. It is a closed book exam; in other words, no sources other than what is in a student's mind can be used or consulted. The exam is read independently and blindly by a minimum of three faculty members. The exam should be passed by two readers for the passing grade; the concentration question must be passed by at least two readers for the satisfactory grade. Students who fail the exam will be given one more chance to take it. Students who publish an article in a peer-reviewed academic or a professional journal may be exempt from the Field Exam requirement.

One-Week Residency

All degree candidates of the Master of Arts in International Relations are required to attend a one-week Residency Conference (http://catalog.norwich.edu/onlineprogramscatalog/academicpolicies/graduationrequirements/) on the Norwich University campus, during which they may attend professional presentations, participate in roundtable discussions with faculty, and present papers. The one-week residency is a degree requirement.

Faculty

Faculty Member	Institution at which highest degree was earned
Lasha Tchatouridze, PhD (Program Director)	Queens University, Canada
Charles Lerche, PhD (Associate Program Director of Academics)	University of Ibaden, Nigeria
Hayat Alvi, PhD	Howard University
Clifford Bates, PhD	Northern Illinois University
Narain Batra, PhD	Gujarat University, India
John Becker, PhD	University of Denver
Bond Benton, PhD	University of Vienna, Austria
James Binney, PhD	University of Kentucky
Stefan Brooks, PhD	University of Houston
Rowland Brucken, PhD	Ohio State University
Anthony Cain, PhD	Ohio State University
Stanley Carpenter, PhD	Florida State University
Emily Copeland, PhD	The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy
Paula Doherty, PhD	Nova Southeastern University
Robert Farkasch, PhD	York University, Canada
Hatice Gamze Menali, MA	Norwich University
Don Harrington, PhD	University of Connecticut
Michael Jackson, PhD	Brandeis University
David Jones, PhD	State University of New York at Albany
William Jong-Ebot, PhD	University of Wisconsin
Seung-Ho Joo, PhD	Pennsylvania State University
Angela Kachuyevski, PhD	The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy
Brian Kupfer, PhD	Claremont Graduate School
Jonathan Levy, PhD	William Howard Taft Law School
James Miskel, PhD	State University of New York
Darryl Mitry, PhD	University of Southern California
Amit Mukherjee, PhD	Syracuse University
Eric Nelson, PhD	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Scott Nelson, PhD	Arizona State University
Robert Pauly, PhD	Old Dominion University
Eileen Scully, PhD	Georgetown University
Steven Shirley, PhD	Old Dominion University
Joel Sokolsky, PhD	Harvard University
Andrea Talentino, PhD	UCLA
Eugene Tadie, PhD	Northern Illinois University
Stephen Twing, PhD	University of South Carolina