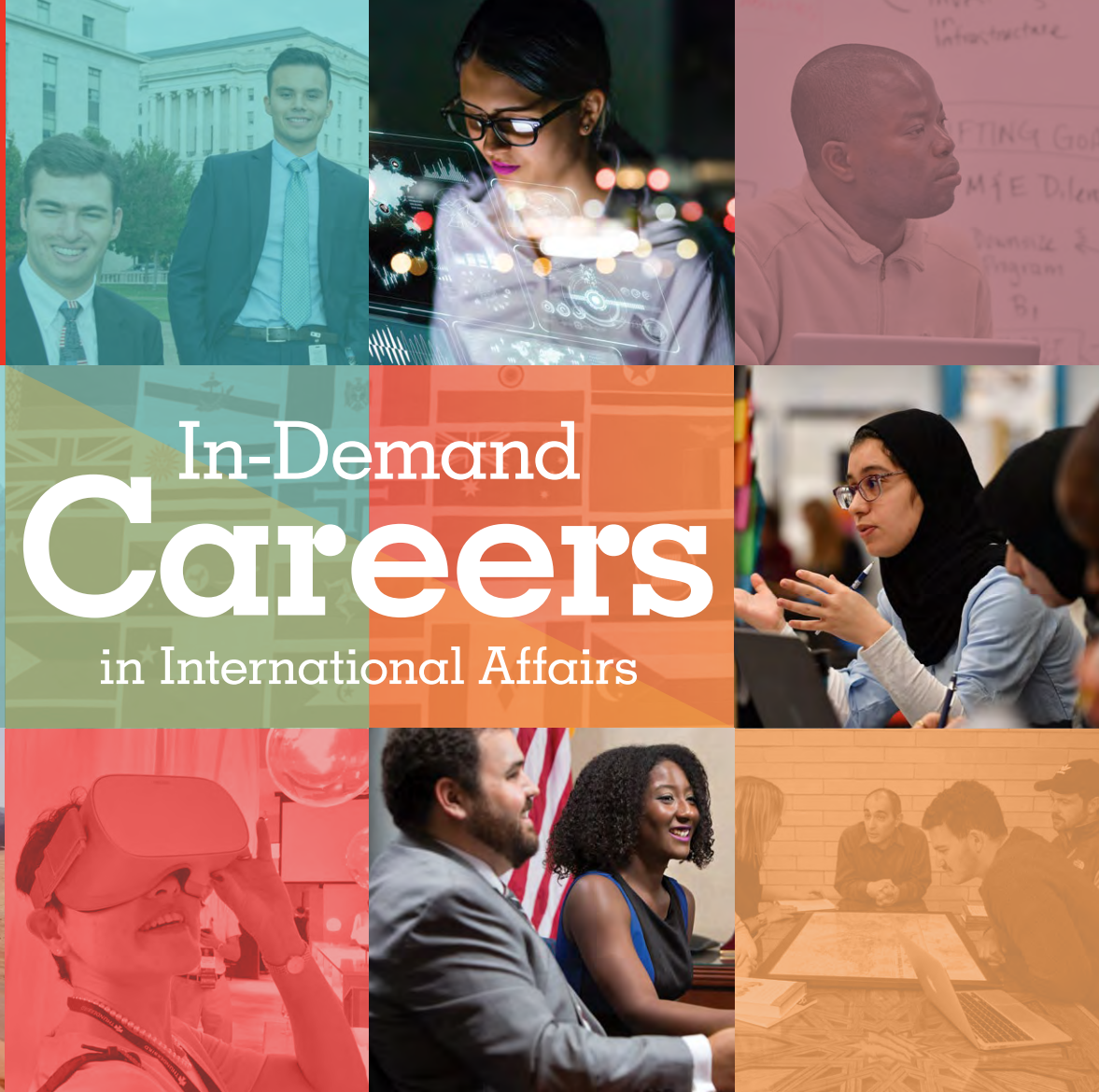


# FP GUIDE



## In-Demand Careers in International Affairs

GRADUATE  
EDUCATION  
SPRING 2021

**Virtual Job  
Searches**

**In-Demand  
Degrees**

**Sought-After  
Skills**

**A**lthough COVID-19 closed classrooms around the world, graduate programs have rallied to offer tailored degrees, networking, and internships that prepare students for fulfilling jobs. Meanwhile, the demand for international affairs careers remains robust.

Schools moved job fairs online and worked with students over video calls. They also leveraged alumni who have global jobs to help students form professional networks.

For recruiting and hiring, employers hosted Facebook Live sessions and conducted events via YouTube live broadcast sessions.

Students have been entrepreneurial, taking advantage of virtual networking. Also, an unforeseen benefit of the pandemic is that students can accept positions around the world without moving.

This *FP Guide* demonstrates the continued relevance of international affairs graduate degrees, and it also details in-demand degrees and skills, including:

- **Technology-related degrees:** cybersecurity and internet policy
- **Other specializations:** human security (people affected by climate change, human trafficking, and conflict), global entrepreneurship, data science, and sustainable tourism
- **Sought-after skills:** the ability to write about complex issues in a concise and yet engaging manner and the ability to visualize and interpret data

Dig in and hear from leading international schools ready to prepare you for today's jobs.

## Students Leverage Virtual Events, Create Professional Networks for the Future



**"I remind them that they're the COVID-19 generation, and that itself will be a selling point as they're job searching."**

—Andrew Mertha, Director of SAIS China and the George and Sadie Hyman Professor of China Studies, School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University

Although the COVID-19 pandemic closed borders and classrooms around the world, upending the traditional graduate school environment, it also opened up more ways to thrive—both on campus and in the job market.

"I have been very impressed to see the way our students have shifted their approach to landing a job after graduation," says Andrew Mertha, director of SAIS China and the George and Sadie Hyman Professor of China Studies at Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies. "Students are entrepreneurial in their career search and are taking full advantage of virtual networking opportunities to expand their reach with employers and alumni.

Fortunately, the job market continues to be robust for our graduates, which was one of the few positive surprises of this period."

Recent graduates of Johns Hopkins SAIS are seeing employment trends that are only slightly below pre-2020 levels, demonstrating the continued relevance of a graduate degree in international affairs.

"Around the world, this pandemic has shifted the way we work, but the nature of the work remains the same," Mertha says. "As we begin to imagine a post-COVID-19 vision for our future, our new normal will allow us to explore new ways to connect and conduct business."

Nearly every aspect of the student learning experience was recalibrated when courses and programming moved online last spring. One of the students' biggest concerns was

that no in-person meetings would lead to fewer networking opportunities with prestigious alumni and other professionals who could help with their job search. To meet that need, Johns Hopkins SAIS began hosting remote networking opportunities such as virtual happy hours and online chats, to allow students and recent graduates to connect with more established alumni.

For example, the school's annual "Perfect Pitch" workshop, normally held on the school's main campus in Washington, DC, connects students with accomplished alumni working in fields including international finance, international development, national security, climate, and energy. In 2021, the workshop shifted to an online format, allowing for a record number of alumni to participate and give students valuable feedback and career advice.

During the pandemic, these connections don't depend on in-person meetings. Therefore, there are more opportunities for students to create a far-reaching professional network for the future.

### MOST IN-DEMAND JOB FUNCTIONS FOR RECENT GRADUATES\*

26.6% Research

15.3% Consulting

11.2% Data analytics

*\*Class of 2020 recipients of MA in International Relations degree who are employed*

"I remind them that they're the COVID-19 generation, and that itself will be a selling point as they're job searching," Mertha says. "Being able to pivot from a rigorous in-person program to fully remote learning—amidst a global pandemic—illustrates that our graduates will succeed in the most challenging circumstances."

**Johns Hopkins SAIS Global Careers**

<https://sais.jhu.edu/career-services>

**Contact**

<https://sais.jhu.edu/student-experience/career-services>

[sais.dc.careers@jhu.edu](mailto:sais.dc.careers@jhu.edu)

+1 202-663-5710

# The World Is Changing And So Are We

Today's global challenges are complex. It is essential for leaders to understand how economics, geopolitics, security, and the environment are inextricably linked— exactly what you will learn as a student at **Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS)**.

Discover how our flexible graduate programs—including online courses and degrees—will help you to advance your globally-focused career.

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[saiss.jhu.edu](https://saiss.jhu.edu)



› Washington DC › Europe › China › Online



## Robust Alumni Network Gives Graduates a Head Start



**“Our graduates have weathered this pandemic exceptionally well. Most of their skill set adapts easily to remote work, and they have been finding employment in all sectors.”**

–Rae Ann Bories-Easley, Director of the Office of Career and Professional Development, Josef Korbel School of International Studies, University of Denver

The University of Denver’s Josef Korbel School of International Studies leverages its flourishing alumni network to help its students navigate job searching during COVID-19, by hosting virtual networking events and connecting students with alumni mentors.

“The silver lining of the pandemic is that we have a very active alumni group who are in jobs all over the world,” says Rae Ann Bories-Easley, director of the Office of Career and Professional Development at the Korbel School. “We have been working very closely with alumni since the pandemic started, to mentor and to help students find employment.”

In December 2020, a record number of Korbel School students participated in a virtual tour of Washington, DC, meeting 130 alumni in one week of “visits” with potential employers. The online format enabled more students and alumni to take part, and allowed students to spend more time networking.

Another unforeseen benefit of the pandemic is that students can graduate and accept competitive positions without leaving Colorado, which has freed them to expand their professional goals and connect with more potential employers.

“From research and managed projects to policy work and analysis, our students have access to unprecedented opportunities to support organizations across all sectors,” says Bories-Easley. “Even during the pandemic, all of our students are completing internships, either virtually or in person.”



Korbel School graduates accept jobs evenly across sectors, with 36 percent working for nonprofit organizations, 33 percent for private companies, 29 percent for federal or state agencies, and 2 percent for multilateral organizations (according to data averages from 2017 through 2019). Ninety-five percent of recent Korbel School graduates are employed.

A particularly bright light at the school is its MA in Global Economic Affairs, which generates competitive candidates for positions in development, security, and data analytics. The program’s robust training in data and economic analysis has helped graduates land positions at Booz Allen Hamilton, Deloitte, Robinhood, the US Agency for International Development, and research centers across the globe.

“Our graduates work on a variety of issues,” says Bories-Easley. “We’ve had students and alumni working in the private sector, performing risk analysis for companies such as Western Union, which is headquartered here in Colorado, where they might analyze the flow of money related to terrorism. We have created a pipeline of organizations like this that love our students.”

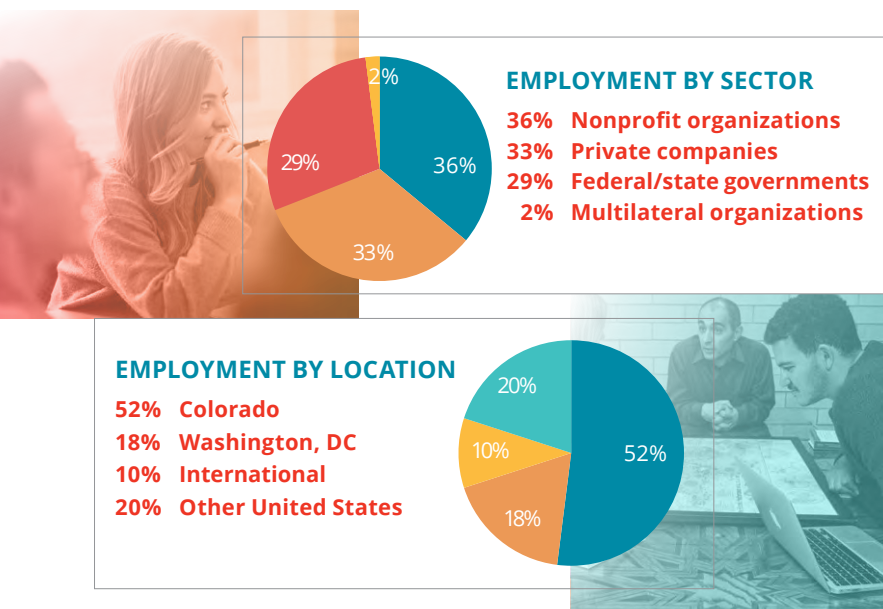
Under President Biden’s administration, Bories-Easley expects an increase in demand for jobs in the security and policy studies arenas, as much of the world turns during the pandemic to secure digital platforms for e-commerce, cloud file management, and digital internal communications.

### Career Services

<https://korbel.du.edu/careers-alumni/career-services>

### Contact

<https://korbel.du.edu>  
korbeladm@du.edu  
303-871-2324





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INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

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## Feeding a Growing Market in Technology, Cybersecurity, and Internet Policy

“Fletcher alums are comfortable walking into rooms where they have a unique set of skills and a unique expertise and then trying to find common ground and explain important concepts.”

–Josephine Wolff,  
Assistant Professor of  
Cybersecurity Policy,  
The Fletcher School,  
Tufts University



There’s a statistic cited often about The Fletcher School at Tufts University: 95 percent of Fletcher students accept a position within six months of graduating.

While COVID-19 has had a significant impact on the job market for recent graduates, Fletcher graduates are finding employment at private-sector giants, such as Facebook and Twitter. They work in influential public-sector agencies, including the US Department of State and the US Agency for International Development. Fletcher grads also go to the nonprofit world, landing coveted jobs at organizations such as the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

As The Fletcher School itself is quick to note, it has a global affairs degree option for almost any interest or ambition.

“It is profoundly flexible. The students have a lot of freedom to design what they want to focus on and put together a slate of courses that interests them,” says Josephine Wolff, assistant professor of cybersecurity policy.

Driven by a job market hungry for expertise, the school is actively developing degree options in technology, cybersecurity, internet policy, and related fields. For example, it added an emphasis in technology and international affairs to its popular Master of Arts in Law and Diplomacy program. The school also created a Master of Science in Cybersecurity and Public Policy, in collaboration with the Department of Computer

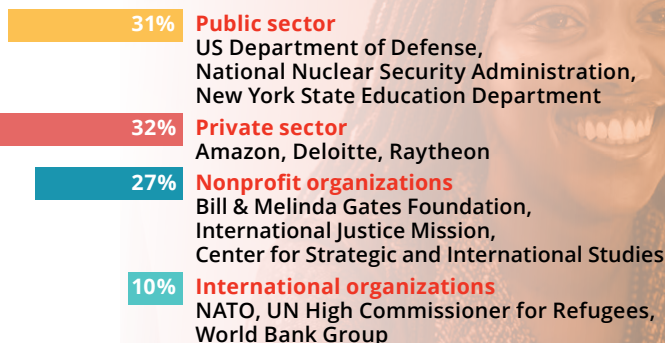
Science in the Tufts School of Engineering. The goal is to solidly ground students in technology, to create more capable policy experts.

The need for expertise in technology-related policy, from data security to internet regulation, has exploded in the last five years, as governments and multinational companies worldwide struggle to create rules for a global network that does not respect national boundaries.

To help graduates enter those markets, Fletcher is combining degree programs with an extensive alumni network (the school has more than 70 alumni clubs worldwide) and the opportunity to gain real-world experience through internships. Fletcher students normally participate in roughly 165 different internship programs in more than 50 countries. During the pandemic, the school has funded student research positions that provide new opportunities for students and faculty to collaborate. For example, Wolff had three student researchers last summer, all eager to gain experience.

“Most policy makers you interact with are not going to understand the technology,” she says. “To be effective in this space, you have to be willing to come into those rooms and explain. Fletcher alums are comfortable walking into rooms where they have a unique set of skills and a unique expertise and then trying to find common ground and explain important concepts.”

### WHERE FLETCHER GRADUATES WORK\*



\*2019 data

### Career Services

<https://fletcher.tufts.edu/careers-outcomes>

### Contact

<https://fletcher.tufts.edu>  
fletcheradmissions@tufts.edu  
617-627-3040

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For More Information Contact Maria Ireland at +1 617-627-2429 or [maria.ireland@tufts.edu](mailto:maria.ireland@tufts.edu)

[fletcher.tufts.edu/GMAP](https://fletcher.tufts.edu/GMAP)  
[fletcher.tufts.edu/ExecEd](https://fletcher.tufts.edu/ExecEd)  
[fletcheradmissions@tufts.edu](mailto:fletcheradmissions@tufts.edu)



THE FLETCHER  
SCHOOL

TUFTS UNIVERSITY

## A Journey for Students to Discover Their Ideal Job



**"It's very important that they do this reflection and don't jump into a career that their undergraduate self thinks would be right."**

—Alastair Ross,  
Head of Operations,  
Europe, Brussels  
School of  
International Studies,  
University of Kent

In addition to their academic coursework, students at the University of Kent's Brussels School of International Studies (BSIS) are engaged in a more personal learning experience, to discover what they want to do professionally.

From their earliest days on campus, students are encouraged to think about their ideal job, says Alastair Ross, head of operations for Europe for the University of Kent. This process can only be done effectively when the students are actively studying the issues involved and beginning to understand the nuances of the possible options.

An analogy, Ross says, is a person standing on the bank of a river, looking at logs go by. If the person does not jump in and hop from log to log, they will miss opportunities.

### JOB BY SECTOR FOR RECENT GRADUATES\*



\*2015–2020

### INTERNATIONAL SPECIALIZATIONS WITH THE MOST JOBS

- Development
- Human rights and international law
- Conflict resolution
- Climate/Energy and environmental sustainability



"It's a journey about them learning what they want to do in the world," Ross says. "It's very important that they do this reflection and don't jump into a career that their undergraduate self thinks would be right."

Because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, BSIS is seeing some shifts in employment trends for its graduates. The immediate impact is positive: Graduates don't have to move to the location of their new employer to start a job. "That opens up considerably more opportunities," Ross says.

However, it is uncertain whether this type of virtual arrangement will continue after the pandemic, since starting a new job involves some socialization that can be lost when it occurs virtually, Ross says.

To help its graduates find jobs during the pandemic, BSIS continues to provide internships—but virtually—with international organizations based or represented in Brussels, ranging from the Red Cross and embassies, to the European Parliament and NATO. Students also can help with the school's European Union Rights Clinic, which offers legal advice to refugees in EU member countries.

BSIS provides its students with two types of career training. Students take specific courses to prepare for certain careers, such as in human rights or EU diplomacy. In addition, the school provides general career training in skills such as the art of networking and preparation for an interview.

For instance, BSIS traditionally hosts an annual networking event with European Parliament staff for students to learn how to get an internship and hear what the jobs are like. BSIS has continued this event in a virtual format, but hopes to return to the typical happy hour format, which is more beneficial for students, Ross says.

"These networking opportunities really are at the heart of their voyage of discovery," he says.

### Contact

[www.kent.ac.uk/brussels](http://www.kent.ac.uk/brussels)  
bsisadmissions@kent.ac.uk  
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**[www.kent.ac.uk/brussels](http://www.kent.ac.uk/brussels)**

University of  
**Kent**

## Business Skills and Digital Global Mindset Open Career Doors



**“They can tailor their program to their passion and to where the [job] market is. What they get from Thunderbird is a digital global mindset and a really strong understanding of these new technologies.”**

–Sanjeev Khagram, CEO, Director General, and Dean, Thunderbird School of Global Management, Arizona State University

Even pre-pandemic, the world’s digital transformation made traditional MBA programs too generic to train the types of employees that companies needed, so the Thunderbird School of Global Management at Arizona State University pivoted.

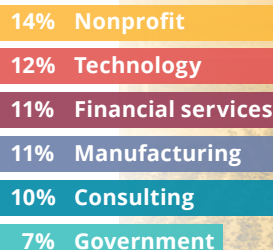
A new Master of Global Management offers core classes such as accounting (but with insight into blockchain) and also allows students to pick one or two specialties to build deep expertise. The choices: global entrepreneurship, data science, sustainable tourism, and more. Some of the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM)–oriented concentrations also qualify international students to work in the United States for an extra two years.

“They can tailor their program to their passion and to where the [job] market is,” says Sanjeev Khagram, CEO, director general, and dean of Thunderbird. “What they get from Thunderbird is a digital global mindset and a really strong understanding of these new technologies.”

Thunderbird graduates do well in the marketplace because of their training, a requirement that each student speak two languages, and a 94 percent rate of serving in internships, which often lead to permanent jobs. Students also participate in a Global Challenge Lab—a six-credit group consulting project with a faculty supervisor at clients such as Smucker’s and the Los Angeles city government. Instead of traveling to clients around the world, the program was virtual last summer because of the pandemic.

Thunderbird was set up for remote classes even before the pandemic, which eased the transition, Khagram says. Those classes and the virtual lab mean “employers know [students] can live, work, and be resilient in a digital, remote world professionally.” As consulting has boomed because companies are struggling during the pandemic, the lab also has been a training ground for consulting careers.

### EMPLOYMENT BY SECTOR,\* 2019–2020 GRADUATES



\*Accounts for two-thirds of graduates

### CROSS SECTION OF EMPLOYERS, 2019–2020 GRADUATES

Amazon.com  
Deloitte  
Honeywell International  
Stellantis  
UNICEF  
US Department of State

Thunderbird’s digital focus is appealing both to employers in traditional companies, which have learned from the pandemic about the need for digital-savvy workers, and to tech companies themselves, where there are many jobs. “Companies are looking for future-ready skill sets. We now call it present-ready,” Khagram says.

The school also has stepped up its connections between students and alumni, with an app/platform to connect them. “Every student gets an alumni mentor in their field,” notes Khagram. Students also can post résumés and videos in a digital book that is available to alumni.

Some popular domestic locations for graduates are New York, Seattle, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and fast-growing Phoenix. Top foreign landing spots include China, Mexico, India, and Nigeria.

“Our students have a range of opportunities in terms of sector, industries, and region of the world,” Khagram says.

### Contact

<https://thunderbird.asu.edu/hire-a-thunderbird>

### “Connect with Us” Form:

<https://forms.monday.com/forms/81c50e063817562617f91b6bcaa45df7>  
admissions.tbird@asu.edu



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— US News & World Report, 6 years, 2016–2021



“ This program is unique in equipping modern diplomats with **21st-century skill sets** and policy tools that balance strategic thinking with agility. ”

– Tarek B. Y., 2020  
Tunisia



“ The **professors are super helpful** and worry about your learning process. They are open and request constructive feedback on how they can improve the student experience. ”

– Luciana P., 2020  
Brazil



“ You are **never too old, too experienced or too busy** to join the Thunderbird Family. I enrolled in the EMAGAM program 25 years after earning my MA in International Studies from a top tier program. ”

– James E., 2020  
USA

 in Washington, DC

Learn more about the **Executive Master of Arts in Global Affairs and Management** degree:

[Thunderbird.asu.edu/DC](https://thunderbird.asu.edu/DC)

## Career Opportunities in International Security Stay Strong During Pandemic



**“The International Security program at the Schar School prepares students to handle enduring and emerging challenges—a skill set that has never been more in demand.”**



–Ellen Laipson, Director, Master's in International Security program, Schar School of Policy and Government, George Mason University

More than a year into the pandemic, the career trajectory for students in George Mason University's Schar School of Policy and Government remains solid. While many industries have been hard-hit, the skills that students are acquiring in the Schar School are still in high demand.

“Our students graduate with a wide range of cross-disciplinary knowledge as well as training in leadership skills. They know how to assess an issue and adapt to new challenges. If anything, the pandemic has only highlighted the need for employees with this kind of background,” says Ellen Laipson, director of the school's Master's in International Security program and the Center for Security Policy Studies.

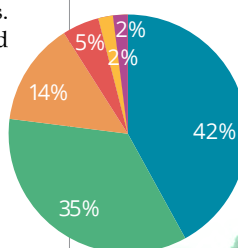
Though many traditional recruiting and hiring practices have been disrupted, employers now host Facebook Live sessions and conduct recruiting events via YouTube live broadcast sessions, according to Duane Bradshaw, director of the school's career development office. While in-person events are not an option, the Schar School has hosted virtual job fairs and worked with students one-on-one over video calls to prepare them for the challenges of today's job search.

“With the change in administration, there may be a replenishment of the State Department or other federal agencies. Trends in employment will be affected, and we are making sure our students are positioned for success,” says Laipson, who previously served as vice chair of the National Intelligence Council.

Many graduates who earned an MA in International Security work for the US federal government, including the departments of Homeland Security, Treasury, and Energy; and agencies such as the National Security Agency (NSA) and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI). Others work as staff members for representatives in Congress. International Security graduates also are employed in the private sector, sometimes for federal government consultants such as Booz Allen Hamilton, SAIC, and Lockheed Martin.

While the Master's in International Security program works well for someone just starting their career, more than half of the students in the program already hold jobs in the national security field. Many students take Schar School classes part-time—working around their full-time jobs—to help advance their career. The program also serves as a powerful career network within security fields that otherwise may be difficult to break into.

### JOBS FOR MASTER'S IN INTERNATIONAL SECURITY PROGRAM GRADUATES\*



**42% Private sector, government contractors**  
**35% Federal government**  
**14% Private sector, general\*\***  
**5% Nonprofit/Nongovernmental organizations**  
**2% State governments**  
**2% Multilateral/International organizations**

\*Graduates 2016–2019

\*\*Not government contractors



Students often select the Schar School because they want to learn from faculty who are internationally recognized for their work in Washington, DC, including former directors of the CIA, FBI, and NSA and senior White House advisers, as well as other renowned experts in security-related fields.

#### Career Services

<https://schar.gmu.edu/career>

#### Contact

<https://schar.gmu.edu/contact-admissions>  
schar@gmu.edu  
703-993-8099

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## New Washington, DC, Teaching Site Supports Mission of Public Service



**"If someone wants to make a difference and have an impact, the Bush School in DC puts you on that path."**

—Jay Silveria,  
Executive Director,  
Washington, DC,  
Teaching Site,  
Bush School of  
Government & Public  
Service, Texas A&M  
University

A job in the federal government is the choice of more than 40 percent of graduates of the Bush School of Government & Public Service who earn a Master of International Affairs degree.

So, it made sense when the school opened a Washington, DC, teaching site in January, renovating 50,000 square feet of a building two blocks from the White House.

"We are literally and figuratively trying to be in the middle of government and public service," says Jay Silveria, executive director of the Bush School's new teaching site. "If someone wants to make a difference, wants to have an impact, this is a path to make a difference."

The Bush School was founded on Texas A&M University's College Station, Texas, campus by the late President George H.W. Bush in 1997, shortly after he left office. Texas A&M also hosts the George Bush Presidential Library and the George Bush Foundation.

In its almost 25 years of operation, the Bush School's connection to the former president and his legacy has been a major attraction for students, Silveria says. For example, Jeb Bush, the president's son and a former governor of Florida, taught a 10-day course on the role of governors.

Silveria, a retired Air Force lieutenant general and former superintendent of the Air Force Academy, says the Washington, DC, teaching site intends to invite many voices from government and industry to speak about international policy.

Even before the building renovations were finished, the new site hosted Poland's ambassador to the United States.

"We want to be a place where we have those discussions, in the right forum," Silveria says. "We're not about an agenda."

The Washington, DC, teaching site began with a dozen students, all mid-career professionals studying to earn a Master of International Policy degree, which can take just one year if students attend full-time, although most take classes on a part-time basis. Mid-career professionals are a key market for the school, which is appealing to professionals because of its emphasis on public service and its affordable tuition.

Many Bush School students look to a graduate degree as a gateway to their next position or as a way to switch industries. Silveria says the academic offerings for the Washington, DC, location will expand to include degrees in national security and intelligence, two areas with a great need for well-educated professionals.

"The job market continues to grow and to build," Silveria says. "But people are looking for quality. People who stretch themselves with a degree will make themselves much more qualified."

### SELECTED EMPLOYERS, 2021 INTERNATIONAL POLICY STUDENTS

#### Nonprofit organizations

Foundation for the Defense of Democracies,  
The German Marshall Fund

#### Public sector

Defense Intelligence Agency,  
Department of Homeland Security,  
District of Columbia Air National Guard

#### Private sector consulting firms

Booz Allen Hamilton,  
Leidos



#### Contact

<https://bush.tamu.edu>  
BushSchoolDC@tamu.edu  
202-773-0022



# Texas A&M Plants Flag in Washington, DC

Texas A&M University has opened a new teaching site in Washington, DC featuring The Bush School of Government and Public Service, a graduate program founded by the nation's 41st president. The Bush School welcomed the first cohort for the Master of International Policy in January 2021.

The DC Teaching site is a state-of-the-art facility located in downtown DC within several blocks of the White House and other key government buildings.

## ACADEMIC FOCUS

The Master of International Policy (MIP) degree aims to strengthen students' ability to understand complex issues through rigorous coursework. Well-published scholars and seasoned practitioners from federal agencies lead in-depth classroom discussions, collaborate on research, and mentor students in and out of the classroom. The program seeks to expand students' worldview and prepare them to advance their careers in international affairs.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Designed for working professionals
- Courses offered in the evenings
- Ideal location in Downtown DC.
- Convenient to both Red and Blue/Orange/Silver lines on the Metro
- 30-credit-hour graduate degree
- Option of taking up to 6 credits online
- GRE optional
- Small class sizes
- Highly qualified faculty of academics and practitioners
- Designed to meet the practical interests of those seeking employment and advancement in the fields of international affairs, international security, and intelligence track
- National Security and Diplomacy



*"The Master of International Policy degree allows me to continue my education while furthering my career prospects."*

—**Erika**, Department of Homeland Security



*"I chose the Texas A&M Bush School in DC for my master's degree because I wanted a high-quality education while advancing my career in the nation's capital."*

—**Ryan**, Booz Allen Hamilton



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
The Bush School  
of Government & Public Service

WASHINGTON DC

📍 [bush.tamu.edu/dc](https://bush.tamu.edu/dc)  
📞 202.773.0022  
✉️ [BushSchoolDC@tamu.edu](mailto:BushSchoolDC@tamu.edu)

## Students Find Their Niche Exploring Diverse Pathways to Public Service

“Students have the flexibility to gain learning and practice experiences that prepare them for career opportunities, from local governments and community-based organizations to federal agencies and global NGOs.”



–Carissa Schively Slotterback, Dean, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh



In the changing world of public service—where local governments are addressing problems such as climate change, and the United Nations and other multilateral organizations are tackling issues related to urbanization—students at the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public and International Affairs (GSPIA) learn that there are many ways to serve the public good.

While the US Department of State and CIA employ many of GSPIA's graduates, others find equally meaningful work in a range of sectors, for example, working to improve the lives of recently resettled refugee and immigrant families at a Pittsburgh-based nonprofit, or spearheading clean energy programs for the Asian Development Bank in the Philippines.

“We focus on revealing the diverse pathways to public service,” says Carissa Schively Slotterback, dean of GSPIA.

Each fall semester, GSPIA students have access to the school's Global Security and Development Program at its Pitt Washington Center in

Washington, DC. For the spring semester, the Pitt Washington Center focuses on lobbying, advocacy, and public diplomacy. While taking courses, most students also work at an internship and connect with alumni based in the capital region. During spring break, GSPIA hosts a career fair at the center that includes site visits to potential employers, panel discussions, and networking opportunities—normally in person, but virtual during the pandemic.

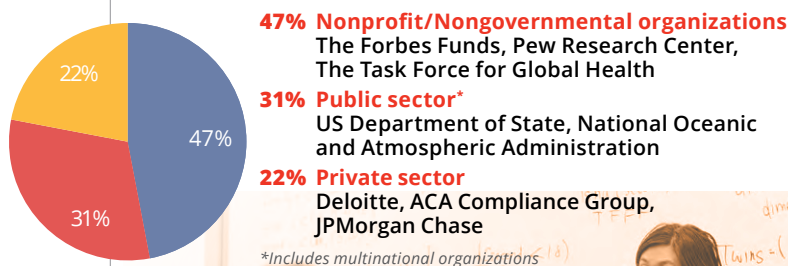
GSPIA's alumni base of more than 6,500 in more than 130 countries is an asset in generating internship opportunities and facilitating professional networking. “Zoom has made it easier to connect our students with alumni and other change makers. We will carry this kind of engagement forward as we transition out of the COVID-19 pandemic,” Slotterback says. “We're really intentional about engaging alumni. It's inspiring to hear them reflect on their time at GSPIA and how it has shaped where they are now.”

GSPIA students have held internships at the US Department of Treasury, FBI, and World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh. Of its 2019 graduating class, 96 percent were employed or pursuing further study within one year after graduation.



As one of a few graduate schools worldwide offering a concentration in Human Security, GSPIA draws students who want to work on issues involving the security of civilian and vulnerable populations affected by disasters, climate change, human trafficking, and conflict. Program graduates have been hired by the United Nations Development Programme, the US Government Accountability Office, and Global Links Pittsburgh. Meanwhile, graduates of GSPIA's popular Security and Intelligence Studies concentration have landed jobs with the National Cyber-Forensics and Training Alliance, BNY Mellon, and the US Department of Commerce.

### SAMPLE EMPLOYERS BY SECTOR, 2019 GRADUATES



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## Graduates Skilled in Data Analysis, Communication Poised for International Careers



**“The highest-priority skill graduates need is the ability to write on complex issues in a short, concise, and yet engaging manner.”**



—Paul Winters,  
Keough-Hesburgh  
Professor of Global  
Affairs, Keough  
School of Global  
Affairs, University  
of Notre Dame

Working at the United Nations gives one a critical perspective on the international system. Even before the COVID-19 pandemic overran the globe, Paul Winters witnessed how health could be affected by a range of factors—from climate change to wealth inequality and from agriculture to nutrition. This complexity and interconnectivity of today’s global system creates challenges to achieving global objectives, he says, but it also offers new opportunities for graduates of international affairs.

“Nearly every aspect of the global development field now integrates technology and data in some way,” Winters says. Now, with an increased availability of data and a focus on gathering and using that information, students who can interpret, visualize, and communicate complex data will be more competitive in the field of international affairs. “The demand for these skills is greater than the number of professionals who have them,” he says.

Winters recently left his position at the UN’s International Fund for Agricultural Development to join the University of Notre Dame’s Keough School of Global Affairs, where he is the Keough-Hesburgh Professor of Global Affairs and director of the school’s sustainable development concentration in the Master of Global Affairs program.

Educators must respond to several current trends in international development, Winters says. “The highest-priority skill graduates need is the ability to write on complex issues in a short,

concise, and yet engaging manner,” he says. “Even with the overwhelming issues facing the world, everyone wants their content to be distilled down to brief or a tweet—something that can be posted on social media or published in policy documents that are no more than five pages.”

The second-greatest need is the ability to visualize and interpret data. “Because so much of the work in international development and in humanitarian interventions is project-based, there is a need to be able to monitor and assess the impact of a project,” Winters says.

To help students be competitive in international affairs, the Keough School provides “a global curriculum for the 21st century.” This includes courses on quantitative analysis, visualizing data, Information Communications Technology for Development (ICT4D), and policy writing. The school also hosts skills-based policy labs where students get intensive, hands-on experience in topics such as big data, machine learning, and artificial intelligence.

To apply these skills in real time, the school’s Integration Lab partners students with global organizations to solve real-world problems. In doing so, students develop sought-after “soft skills,” such as leadership, design thinking, and problem solving.

### SELECTED EMPLOYERS, 2019–2020 MASTER OF GLOBAL AFFAIRS GRADUATES

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University of Pittsburgh,  
Graduate School of Public  
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**Top row left:** George Mason University, Schar School of Policy and Government

**Top row right:** University of Notre Dame, Keough School of Global Affairs

**Middle row left:** Tufts University, The Fletcher School

**Middle row right:** University of Notre Dame, Keough School of Global Affairs

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University of Denver, Josef Korbel School of International Studies

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