



ADVANCING A GLOBAL AFFAIRS CAREER THROUGH GRADUATE EDUCATION

UNDERSTAND
EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

LEARN ABOUT CAREER
PREPARATION

SEE HOW GRADUATE
SCHOOL CAN HELP

GRADUATE EDUCATION SPRING 2024

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Partnerships:**
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A look at some of *Foreign Policy's* headlines—such as “What AI Will Do to Elections” and “Italy’s Energy Deal Faces Backlash in Africa”—provides insight into the evolution of international relations as a discipline and career path. Transboundary, large-scale challenges, such as war and climate change, and technological advancements, including cybersecurity and artificial intelligence, are intersecting and demanding a broader range of knowledge and skills from international relations professionals.

Consequently, “multidisciplinary” and “interdisciplinary” are now the keywords in graduation education. This approach allows students to build a curriculum that combines several specializations that align with their interests and career objectives.

With this type of career preparation, professionals can also more easily move between sectors. This is a growing trend as conventional sector boundaries blur and there become more opportunities within the private sector to make a meaningful difference.

In this *FP Guide*, leaders from top-tier universities talk about employment trends in international relations and how they are shaping graduate education to prepare students for success in this competitive field.

**COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

Diverse Campus, Flexible Curriculum Prepare Graduates for Fulfilling International Careers



“SIPA’s interdisciplinary curriculum and emphasis on practical skills development prepare graduates for diverse career paths in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors, both domestically and internationally.”

–Grace Han, Executive Director of Admissions and Financial Aid, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University

Diversity is at the heart of Columbia University’s School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), both in its student body and graduate program learning pathways. Students hail from nearly 100 countries, with more than 50 languages spoken on campus. SIPA’s interdisciplinary, flexible curriculum includes rigorous academic study and contextual learning experiences. The combination of these elements helps foster a deeper understanding of today’s pressing global issues, from geopolitical stability to preserving democratic governance to technological innovation and its impact on people.

Students can pursue a Master of International Affairs (MIA) degree or Master of Public Administration (MPA) degree, both of which are 21-month programs that are well suited for early-career professionals.

“SIPA’s MIA and MPA programs each feature a core curriculum that provides a firm grounding in economics, quantitative analysis, and management,” explains Grace Han, executive director of admissions and financial aid. “In addition to these requirements, students pursue a more flexible curriculum to gain more specialized knowledge in one of several concentrations, with opportunity for additional elective study as well.”

There is a broad range of program concentrations, which include: International Security Policy, International Finance and Economic



Policy, Economic and Political Development, Human Rights and Humanitarian Policy, Energy and Environment, and Urban and Social Policy.

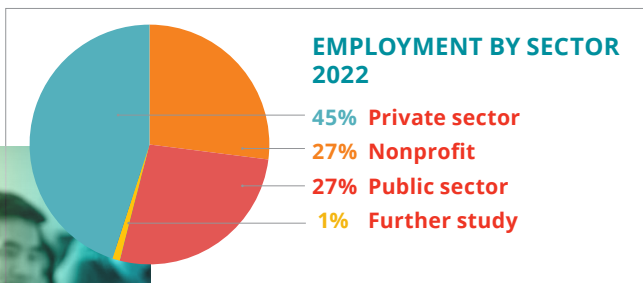
A required capstone workshop elevates and distinguishes SIPA’s MIA and MPA programs from others. During this experiential learning opportunity, teams of students are positioned as consultants for real-world organizations to solve current problems.

SIPA students graduate prepared to work in a diverse range of organizations across sectors, but Han notes a specific trend that has taken shape in recent years. “Some are surprised to learn how many SIPA graduates enter the private sector—more than 45 percent of the members of SIPA’s class of 2022, for example, versus about 27 percent each for the public and nonprofit sectors,” Han says. “Compared to previous generations, our societies are much more willing to use public-private partnerships and other creative tools to address the challenges of public policy. This opens more opportunities for SIPA graduates, whatever sector they technically work in.”

Additionally, some graduates have chosen the entrepreneurial route, launching start-ups and social enterprises, such as Revel, Laboratoria, and openigloo. Han says that “for students who are dedicated to a start-up journey, SIPA and Columbia University are committed to providing resources and guidance,” which includes plentiful networking opportunities, professional development programs, and career advancement workshops.

Contact

<https://www.sipa.columbia.edu>
sipa_admission@columbia.edu
212-854-6216



EXAMPLE OF EMPLOYERS

Public sector
World Bank, US Agency for International Development (USAID)

Private sector
EY, Deloitte, Morgan Stanley

Nonprofit
Bezos Earth Fund, National Public Radio



**You don't
see problems.
You see
possibilities.
Columbia SIPA.
This is where
your passion
shapes your
purpose.**



COLUMBIA | SIPA

School of International and Public Affairs

**GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF FOREIGN SERVICE**

Jobs in Political Risk, Government, and Intelligence Intrigue Students

“The alumni community here is bigger, stronger, and more engaged than any alumni community I’ve worked with before. It’s the alumni recognizing they need to help build up the next generation of leaders.”



–Nathan Slusher, Career Center Executive Director, School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University

Career planning and development is a primary focus for Georgetown University’s School of Foreign Service (SFS). Top student interests include diplomacy, intelligence and security, international business, international development, and political risk. These interests also align with employment trends that the School of Foreign Service has observed among its master’s degree graduates.

The two sectors that employed the largest share of SFS graduates between 2019 and 2023 were the private sector (37 percent average) and public sector (36 percent average), according to SFS Career Center Executive Director Nathan Slusher. The other sectors that graduates went into were the nonprofit (22 percent) and multilateral (5 percent) sectors.

Among graduates taking private sector jobs, many were interested in consulting, especially in the subfields of political risk, management consulting, and government contracting. Deloitte, Guidehouse, and Booz Allen Hamilton were three of the biggest employers.

The public sector—especially intelligence organizations—has always been keen on SFS students because of Georgetown University’s focus on public service, as a Jesuit institution, and the



school’s location in Washington, DC, Slusher says. Top 2023 public employers were the departments of State, Defense, Homeland Security, and Commerce, the Intelligence Community, the US Agency for International Development, and the US Congress. The State Department was the single largest 2023 employer, with 33 hires.

Recent SFS graduates taking government jobs bucks a nationwide trend of an aging US government workforce. At the end of 2020, only 7 percent of permanent full-time federal employees were younger than 30, compared with 20 percent in the broader labor market, according to the Partnership for Public Service, a nonpartisan nonprofit organization focused on improving government. The reasons that were cited included lengthy and convoluted hiring processes and an outdated pay system.

One source of support for job-hunting graduates across all industries is a network of engaged alumni, Slusher says. The School of Foreign Service celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2019, which gives graduates a wide swath of alumni resources to draw from.

“The alumni community here is bigger, stronger, and more engaged than any alumni community I’ve worked with before,” Slusher says. “That goes back to the Jesuit value of ‘people for others.’”

Contact

<https://sfs.georgetown.edu/admissions/graduate-programs>
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202-687-9267

JOBS BY SECTOR

Private sector 37%
Public sector 36%
Nonprofit 22%
Multilateral 5%

**EMPLOYMENT
LOCATION EXAMPLES**

Colombia
India
Indonesia
Nigeria
Qatar
Switzerland
Turkey
United Kingdom

GRADUATES EMPLOYED

Domestically 87%
Internationally 13%

TOP EMPLOYERS

Booz Allen Hamilton
Chemonics International
Center for Strategic and International Studies
Deloitte
US Agency for International Development
US Department of Defense
US Department of Homeland Security
US Intelligence Community
US Department of State
World Bank Group



Aggregate graduation outcomes data for the classes of 2019-2023.

SFS

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
School of Foreign Service



OUR STUDENTS *are* **CHANGING** *the* **WORLD**

Georgetown's School of Foreign Service — the oldest school of international affairs in the United States — prepares students to lead in business, tech, development, national security and government.

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U.S. STUDENT SCHOLARS

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MANAGEMENT FELLOWS

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RANGEL FELLOWS

in 2023-2024



SENATOR JON OSSOFF (SFS'09)

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Graduate and Undergraduate Degrees
in International Affairs

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Professional Development and Field Experience Prepare Graduates to Lead



“Our program gives graduates the confidence to apply their knowledge and be impactful leaders in the field who will create a more just and peaceful world.”



–McKenna Pencak, Associate Director of Professional Development and Alumni Engagement, Keough School of Global Affairs, University of Notre Dame

From day one, students in the Master of Global Affairs (MGA) program at the University of Notre Dame’s Keough School of Global Affairs gain real-world, hands-on experience to prepare them for their postgraduate career. With a class size of approximately 45 students spread over the three concentrations of International Peace Studies, Sustainable Development, and Governance and Policy, this two-year, on-campus program places experiential learning at the core of the curriculum.

“All students participate in a fully funded field experience,” says McKenna Pencak, the Keough School’s associate director of professional development and alumni engagement. “Our students in the sustainable development and governance and policy concentrations spend three months in the field with a partner organization during the summer between their first and second years. Our peace studies students do a six-month internship in the field at an organization of their choosing anywhere in the world.”

Career preparation begins in the first year, with plentiful professional development opportunities from experts on the Keough School staff and graduate career consultants at Notre Dame’s Center for Career Development. This includes one-on-one advising and the Career Colloquium workshop series, which helps students define and meet their postgraduate goals. The Colloquium includes practical skill and tool development, such as resume and cover letter preparation and learning how to effectively network and interview, as well as an opportunity to connect with alumni. The MGA program

also organizes on-campus career talks and trips to major cities to learn about different career paths in global affairs.

“More than half of graduates go into the nonprofit sector,” Pencak notes. “The remaining graduates start careers in government and the public and private sectors. We have active alumni at Catholic Relief Services, Clinton Health Access Initiative, Oxfam, the United Nations, U.S. Department of State, U.S. Department of Justice, U.S. Institute of Peace, Chemonics, and the National Immigrant Justice Center.”

The Keough School also offers grants that support students in pursuing additional professional development opportunities that are offered outside of the MGA program, such as attending conference presentations and participating in language studies.

“Throughout their two years here, students develop cross-cultural competence, practical skills, and training to help them meet their post-graduate career goals, and a broad worldview,” says Pencak. “Our program gives graduates confidence to apply their knowledge and be impactful leaders in the field who will create a more just and peaceful world.”

WHERE KEOUGH SCHOOL GRADUATES WORK



- US Department of Justice
- Chemonics International
- US Department of State
- Oxfam
- World Bank Group
- Mercy Corps
- International Rescue Committee
- Catholic Relief Services
- Meta
- United Nations Population Fund
- NNSA Office of Nuclear Verification

Contact

<https://keough.nd.edu/mga>
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Emerge with the skills you need to be an agent of change.



A Multidisciplinary Approach Combined with Real-World Experience Produces Problem Solvers

“Our students are not only keenly aware that they’re inheriting a world beset with challenges, they are also eager to do something about it.”

–Bhaskar Chakravorti, Dean of Global Business, The Fletcher School, Tufts University



On many minds at the Fletcher School at Tufts University, no matter what the master’s or PhD program, “are three big issues that cross international boundaries: data, money, and greenhouse gases,” says Bhaskar Chakravorti, dean of global business at The Fletcher School. “Those issues are very much the topic of conversation in practically every class.”

They also help explain graduates’ career choices. “We are seeing an increasing footprint in the private sector,” Chakravorti says, echoing employment statistics, which show, over the past few years, a boost in the percentage of “Fletcherites” entering the private sector and a decrease in those taking public-sector jobs. Numbers for the nonprofit and international organization sectors remain steady.

A few factors are at play. For one, the private sector’s influence has grown and, accordingly, so have the number of opportunities to

make a meaningful difference, “whether as part of a business unit committed to environmental responsibility or social equity, or part of an organization advancing impact investing,” Chakravorti explains. At the same time, budgetary shifts at employers like the United Nations and World Bank have increased the need to leverage consultants and contract workers.

To prepare its 500-plus students, Fletcher immerses them in multidisciplinary

studies taught by what Chakravorti calls “the complete table”—faculty representing all aspects of global affairs, including development, geopolitics, innovation, technology, and international law. The approach is apropos, seeing as many Fletcher graduates are focused on acquiring the skills needed to become problem solvers, he says, adding: “someone able to wrap their mind around an issue, bring evidence to the table, analyze it, and arrive at some kind of action. The destination for people in that space is consulting.”

Accordingly, one of Fletcher’s most popular programs is the Master of International Business, which requires that students focus on two fields of study—one in business and one in global affairs. Examples of the school’s many career-preparation opportunities include the Fletcher Social Investment Group, a student-run organization offering services to Boston-area nonprofits and companies trying to solve specific challenges; and Digital Planet, a research initiative in which students, studying technologies’ effects across 125 countries, engage in cutting-edge research and deliver outcomes to companies.

“It’s great synergy,” Chakravorti says. “The company gets cutting-edge advice, the students help solve a hard, real-world, market-facing challenge an enterprise has and, simultaneously, they advance a significant action—on climate or social inequalities or other issues.”

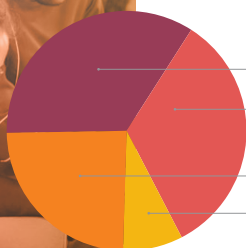
Contact

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

96% OF FLETCHER STUDENTS FOUND MEANINGFUL PLACEMENTS WITHIN 6 MONTHS OF GRADUATING (2023)

JOBS BY SECTOR

- 34% Private sector
- 33% Nonprofit/non-governmental organizations
- 24% Public sector
- 8% Multilateral/International organizations





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**JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF ADVANCED INTERNATIONAL STUDIES**

Multidisciplinary Curriculum and Career Planning Foster Flexibility and Public-Private Sector Transitions

“Students who come to SAIS aspire to tackle global issues and solve problems, and they’re discovering numerous approaches to shaping their careers and addressing the world’s challenges.”



–Julie Nussdorfer, Associate Director of Global Careers, School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University

Amid the ever-changing terrain of international affairs careers, Julie Nussdorfer, associate director of global careers at Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), has observed several transformative trends. Notably, there’s a growing demand for data analytics skills, coupled with ongoing discourse on the role of artificial intelligence—its risks and benefits—among employers.

Simultaneously, the global push for sustainability and decarbonization continues to propel SAIS students toward social-impact careers in the technology, environment, and energy spaces.

Nussdorfer underscores a trend in students’ recognition of the changing nature of career paths. In a post-COVID era, the conventional boundaries between private and public sectors are blurring, enabling students to be more flexible in leveraging their skills and knowledge across industries and sectors. “Previously, students would train to enter either private or public sectors, but now we’re seeing a lot of crossover and overlap,” she explains. “People in the public sector with knowledge of the defense and intelligence industry are transitioning into the tech industry or vice versa.”

Built on life-design principles, the school’s multidisciplinary curriculum promotes curiosity, versatility, adaptability, and flexibility—indispensable traits for thriving in an evolving field and making a positive impact on the world.

This curiosity-driven approach to education and career planning encourages students to explore a broader range of applications of their abilities and interests. Additionally, SAIS facilitates engagement through classes that integrate

academic knowledge with professional skills, global career events, personalized career support and workshops, career treks, internships, and meaningful interactions with alumni and potential employers that aid students in building a varied and extensive professional network.



MAIR PROGRAM EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES

EMPLOYMENT LOCATIONS

83% United States

17% International

INTERNATIONAL EMPLOYMENT LOCATIONS

- Belgium
- Canada
- China
- Germany
- Guatemala
- India
- Indonesia
- Italy
- Japan
- Morocco
- Nepal
- People’s Republic of China
- Rwanda
- Singapore
- Spain
- Taiwan

EMPLOYER SAMPLE

- Amazon
- Center for European Policy Analysis
- Deloitte
- European Parliament
- Goldman Sachs
- International Monetary Fund
- McKinsey & Company
- United States Institute of Peace
- US Department of Defense
- US Department of State
- US Department of Treasury
- World Bank Group

Data collected from 81% of MAIR students who graduated between August 2021-May 2022.

“When students come to SAIS, they may have something in mind, but as they’re exposed to broader paths, they often uncover new career options that were not within their initial purview,” says Nussdorfer. “We encourage students to listen to their curiosity and try out different things. It gives them a chance to explore and find their best fit.”

SAIS is also broadening the ways in which students can pursue their degree. The school’s catalog now includes specialized one-year master’s programs like the Master of Arts in Strategy, Cybersecurity, and Intelligence (MASCI) and the Master of International Public Policy (MIPP), as well as online master’s programs focusing on sustainable energy and global risk. The school’s traditional two-year Master of Arts in International Relations (MAIR) remains versatile, allowing students to apply their knowledge and skills across diverse career paths.

Contact

<https://sais.jhu.edu>
sais.dc.admissions@jhu.edu
 202-663-5700





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SCHOOL of ADVANCED
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Flexible Curriculum Allows Students to Follow Their Global Passions

“Whether a student is interested in the environment, development, national security, or any other global arena, they have the opportunity to take classes across the campus.”



–Elizabeth Gill, Assistant Dean for Career Development, Jackson School of Global Affairs, Yale University



The most popular courses for today’s global affairs students match developments making headlines: artificial intelligence and disinformation (fake news), authoritarianism and the weakening of democracy, and the environment.

Master’s degree students at Yale University’s Jackson School of Global Affairs who want to study these hot topics have the advantage of a curriculum that allows them to design individualized courses of study.

“The real heart of our program is the flexibility with the curriculum,” says Elizabeth Gill, assistant dean for career development.

Of the 16 credits required for the Jackson School’s two-year Master in Public Policy in Global Affairs degree, only four are required courses. The quantitative core classes are in statistics and economics, and the social science core classes

are in comparative politics and history. The remainder of a student’s coursework is structured around their career objectives. For example, someone interested in the intersection of AI, cybersecurity, and technology policy could take a multidisciplinary approach that combines coursework

at the Jackson School, Yale Law School, and the Department of Computer Science.

Small by design, the master’s program graduates 35 to 40 students annually, roughly half of which are international students. Six months after graduation, 100 percent either secure a job or enroll in an advanced degree program to further their education, Gill says.

Of graduates who take a job, 40 percent go into the public sector—the US government or the government of an international student’s home country, or a multinational organization, such as the United Nations or World Bank. For example, a 2023 graduate now works as an analysis lead for an AI task force for the UK government.

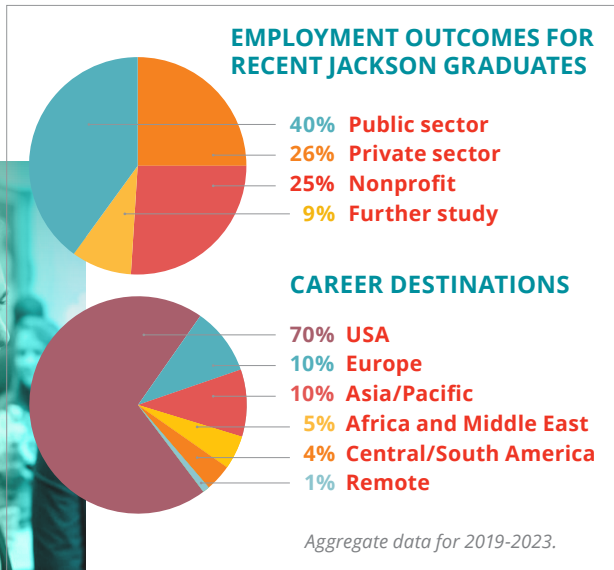
The remaining 60 percent of graduates are split between the private sector and nonprofit organizations. Two examples of jobs accepted by 2023 graduates include a senior associate at the Albright Stonebridge Group consulting firm, with a focus on Latin America, and a senior strategy and policy analyst for the nonprofit MITRE Corporation, working on national security.

Students are offered numerous networking opportunities, but one advantage exists right inside the classroom, where Jackson School faculty include prominent scholars and leading global affairs practitioners, such as Ernesto Zedillo, former president of Mexico; Bisa Williams, formerly US ambassador to Niger; and retired four-star US Army Gen. David Petraeus.

“These people can make connections or write a strong letter of recommendation or give advice on the sector they are interested in,” Gill says.

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203-432-6253



Define your path to global leadership.

“Jackson is built around the individual. Its personalized curriculum and tight-knit community of scholars provided me with foundational skills to develop and execute policy while affording me an opportunity to forge life-long friendships with colleagues, staff, and professors.”

— ADAM HAMMER, M.A. '20

Yale JACKSON SCHOOL OF GLOBAL AFFAIRS

FLEXIBILITY

The Jackson School's M.P.P. in Global Affairs prepares students to impact the global community through an academically rigorous, yet flexible interdisciplinary program. Our graduate students have the freedom to explore through an individualized course of study.

ACCESS

Jackson students have access to some of the world's preeminent global affairs experts, including interdisciplinary faculty members from across Yale as well as outstanding practitioners.



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This intellectually demanding and diverse program will provide you with the theoretical foundations, analytical skills, and professional training needed to work in today's public, nonprofit, and private sectors. Every student builds a tailored curriculum to suit their interests and career ambitions, including the full range of courses in Yale's world-class professional schools.

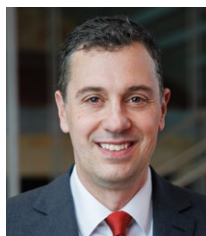
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**INDIANA UNIVERSITY
HAMILTON LUGAR SCHOOL OF GLOBAL AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES**

An International Affairs Education Informed by Policy, Strategic Languages, Area Studies



“Our graduates are among the top recipients of prestigious awards, like Fulbright and Boren scholarships, and our alumni occupy key roles in government, international organizations, business, civil society, and more.”



–John Ciorciari, Dean, Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies, Indiana University

One of the largest international affairs schools in the country, Indiana University’s Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies distinguishes itself by joining an international affairs education with the intensive study of strategic languages and world regions.

The Hamilton Lugar School offers more than 80 language programs, more than any university in the country, and more than 20 area studies centers, 10 of which are recognized as US Department of Education Title VI National Resource Centers. The school was recently awarded \$17.7 million from the Title VI program—more than any US college or university—which includes Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships that directly support students.

Hamilton Lugar combines language and area studies expertise with a strong international policy focus, featuring faculty experts on East Asian security, international law, global financial regulation, and climate change.

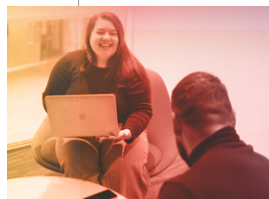
Hamilton Lugar School alumni build on the legacy of its namesakes, Rep. Lee H. Hamilton and the late Sen. Richard G. Lugar, both Presidential Medal of Freedom recipients and two of the most influential foreign policy voices of their generation.

“Our students build language skills and practical knowledge of international affairs to prepare them for immediate impact in the field,” says Hamilton Lugar School Dean John Ciorciari. “Our graduates are among the top recipients of prestigious awards, like Fulbright and Boren scholarships, and our alumni occupy key roles in government, international organizations, business, civil society, and more.”

The Hamilton Lugar School offers dozens of pathways, including master’s degrees, certificates, and PhD programs. In addition, students graduate with a high level of proficiency in a strategic language, giving them a competitive advantage in government and commerce.

The school also offers a Master of International Affairs program, designed to prepare future leaders for the challenges and opportunities of an ever-evolving global marketplace. The program is a joint effort between the Hamilton Lugar School—the national leader in language and area studies—and the O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs. In the program, students can pursue three multidisciplinary concentrations: Security, Diplomacy, and Governance; Finance and Trade; and Global Development, Environment, and Sustainability.

“The new Master of International Affairs degree was designed as a fast-track program that can address the needs of those building careers in international policy, development, and environmental sustainability,” says David Bosco, executive associate dean and a former senior editor at Foreign Policy magazine.



DOCTORAL AND SELECTED* MASTER’S DEGREES

Central Eurasian Studies, PhD
Chinese, PhD
Japanese, PhD

Middle Eastern Languages & Cultures, PhD
African Studies, MA
Central Eurasian Studies, MA
Chinese, MA
Chinese Language Pedagogy, MA
East Asian Studies, MA
European Studies, MA
International Affairs, MIA
International Studies, MA, MS
Japanese, MA
Latin American & Caribbean Studies, MA
Middle Eastern Languages & Cultures, MA
Russian & East European Studies, MA

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SCHOOL OF GLOBAL AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
Indiana University

#1

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STUDIES FELLOWSHIPS**

US Department of Education

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In addition to a wealth of program options, the Hamilton Lugar School is the #1 FLAS-awarding university in the U.S. Our students benefit from these prestigious Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships, developing cultural fluency and global expertise in nearly every area of the world.

MASTER'S DEGREES*

African Studies, M.A.
Central Eurasian Studies, M.A.
Chinese, M.A.
East Asian Studies, M.A.
European Studies, M.A.
International Affairs, M.I.A.
Master of Public Affairs-Master of
International Affairs (M.P.A.-M.I.A.)
International Studies, M.A., M.S.
Japanese, M.A.
Latin American & Caribbean Studies, M.A.
Middle Eastern Languages & Cultures, M.A.
Russian & East European Studies, M.A.

GRADUATE AREA STUDIES CERTIFICATES

European Studies
Inner Asian & Uralic Studies
Latin American & Caribbean Studies
Russian & East European Area Studies

DOCTORAL DEGREES

Central Eurasian Studies, Ph.D.
Chinese, Ph.D.
Japanese, Ph.D.
Middle Eastern Languages & Cultures, Ph.D.

**Many more are offered, including dual degree options.*



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