



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON, D C

International Affairs (M.A.): International Politics

Department Website: <http://www1.american.edu/sis/academics/graduateprograms/ma/ip.htm>

1. Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to...

- 1) Demonstrate an ability to distinguish among the major schools of thought in the field of international relations, and be able to apply these theories to explain international phenomena.
- 2) Produce research projects that demonstrate an ability to integrate theory and empirics using strong writing and analytical skills.
- 3) Master basic facts, concepts, and central policy debates in their primary field within IP.
- 4) Develop speaking skills that show an ability to clearly and effectively convey their knowledge.

2. Assessment Measures and Schedule

Learning Outcomes	Measures (method of assessment)	Target	Schedule and Use of Information
<p>Outcome 1 Produce research projects that demonstrate an ability to integrate theory and empirics using strong writing and analytical skills.</p>	<p>Direct measure: The SRP. Faculty members will review a random sample of SRPs using a rubric of specific criteria and scores of “excellent,” “satisfactory,” and “poor.”</p> <p>Indirect measure: Zoomerang survey of graduating students.</p>	<p>At least 70% of the criteria are scored as satisfactory or better.</p>	<p>Data will be collected each spring and summer, and results discussed by faculty in the September field meeting or earlier. Our discussion will produce changes to the curriculum improve areas where results are weak.</p>
<p>Outcome 2 Master basic facts, concepts, and central policy debates in their primary field within IP.</p>	<p>The SRP. Faculty members will review a random sample of SRPs using a rubric of specific criteria and scores of “excellent,” “satisfactory,” and “poor.”</p> <p>Indirect measure: Zoomerang survey of graduating students.</p>	<p>At least 70% of the criteria are scored as satisfactory or better.</p>	<p>Data will be collected each spring and summer, and results discussed by faculty in the fall semester program meeting or earlier. Our discussion will produce changes to the curriculum improve areas where results are weak.</p>

