NEW Internship and Independent Study (including SRP and thesis) Registration Deadline

Students registering Internships (for academic credit or non-credit to fulfill the professional experience requirement) or Independent Studies (including SRPs and theses) for the spring 2017 semester are required to submit their completed registration materials (including any necessary approvals and attachments) to the Graduate Advising office by Friday, January 27 to allow time for processing before the end of Add/Drop, Tuesday, January 31. Incomplete paperwork will not be processed. For information on registering independent studies (including SRPs and theses) and internships, please review the SPRING 2017 ADD/DROP REGISTRATION FAQs or visit the SIS Graduate Advising website. If you anticipate being unable to submit completed registration paperwork by this deadline, or you anticipate securing a spring internship after the registration deadline, please let your academic advisor know ASAP to discuss your options.

NEW Post-Election Dialogue Opportunity for SIS

SIS is offering members of our community the unique opportunity to explore the post-election landscape in the context of a 6-week dialogue group. This dialogue group will meet for 2 hours each week and will be facilitated by Rebecca Coughlin, Director of SIS’ Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives (SIS/MA ’11), and Maria Jessop (SIS/MA ’09). The goal of this dialogue is to create a diverse group of individuals from across SIS- including undergraduate and graduate students as well as faculty and staff. The conversation will have a particular emphasis on the implications of the election for a community that shares a special focus on the field of international affairs. For more information, including how to apply, please see attached Participant Request Form. Space is limited and the application is due January 25.

Registration Open for January TOR exam (Saturday, January 28)

Students planning to take the free Tool of Research exam to fulfill the SIS MA language requirement should be aware that the first of four exams being offered this semester will be held Saturday, January 28. For more information on the TOR exam and to register, click here. The last day to register for the January exam is Friday, January 20 or until all seats are filled. The Graduate Advising office recommends that students planning to take the TOR exam to fulfill their language requirement do so early in their program.

Spring 2017 Skills Institutes, including New Section taught by Russ Feingold

For an master list of all weekend skills institutes being offered during the spring semester and registration instructions, including how to make registration changes for skills institutes after add/drop, please visit the SIS Skills Institute website. Please be sure to cross-check the Schedule of Classes for updated dates and/or offerings.

** We are excited to announce a new offering for spring, SIS-730-020: Peacekeeping and Negotiation in Africa taught by Senator Russ Feingold:

This skills institute explores the post-1994 conflicts in the Great Lakes Regions of Africa from the perspective of the former US Special Envoy to the region, Senator Russ Feingold. Students will learn about international conflict resolution efforts as well as the implications these activities have for the region, legal accountability, international peacekeeping and the conduct of American foreign policy.

Apply to Graduate for Spring 2017

Students planning to complete all degree requirements in the Spring 2017 semester must apply to graduate via their myAU portal (Eagle Service). We recommend that you complete the application now (the application takes less than 5 minutes), even if you have not yet finalized your registration for spring. The deadline to apply to graduate for spring is Wednesday, February 1. Click here for information about the Spring 2017 AU Commencement ceremony.

The Geneva Challenge 2017

SIS graduate students are encouraged to consider applying for the Advancing Development Goals International Contest for Graduate Students, hosted by the Graduate Institute Geneva, an SIS partner institution. They are seeking proposals from teams of 3-5 graduate students that are “both theoretically grounded and offer pragmatic
solutions to a relevant international development problem.” This year’s theme is “The Challenges of Employment.” For more information, including eligibility requirements, please visit their [website](#). The team registration deadline is **May 25, 2017**.

**Spring 2017 Add/Drop Express Advising and Registration FAQs**

Spring 2017 classes begin **Tuesday, January 17** and the last day of the add/drop period (the last day to make changes to your schedule for a 100% refund and without a ‘W’) is **Tuesday, January 31**. All internships (academic credit or noncredit) and independent studies (including SRPs and theses) for spring must be registered by Friday, January 27. **Advisors will hold Express Advising Monday, January 9 – Thursday, February 2** to meet with as many students as possible during this busy time. Express Advising meetings can be booked at: [https://sisgraduateadvising-expressadvising.youcanbook.me/](https://sisgraduateadvising-expressadvising.youcanbook.me/). **STUDENTS ARE RECOMMENDED TO REVIEW THE SPRING ADD/DROP REGISTRATION FAQs** FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SPRING REGISTRATION, Including the following FAQ topics:

- Add/Drop Registration Deadlines and Information
- Approved Second-Level Methods Courses
- Waitlists
- SRP, Thesis, Independent Study Registration
- MA Professional Experience Requirement
- Internship (Academic Credit or No-Credit)

**CAS Tool of Research (TOR) Preparation Courses**

In order to support students preparing for the Tool of Research (TOR) language exam, the College of Arts and Sciences will be offering two new language course options in spring 2017: CAS-025 Reading Preparation for TOR (0 credit) or CAS-600 Language Preparation for TOR (1 credit). For more information about the courses, including necessary pre-requisites and approvals, and registration processes and deadlines, click [here](#).

**Grad Advising Staffing Updates - Interim Advisors for CRS and USFP/USFS students**

Per recent announcements to program listservs, Kaitlin Capobianco has left SIS/AU. Until a new advisor is hired and trained, students in the CRS and USFP/USFS programs will be assigned interim advisors as follows:

- **CRS (Last names A-I):** Mary Barton (mbarton@american.edu)
- **CRS (Last names K-Z):** Mike Rosenberger (rosenber@american.edu)
- **USFP/USFS (Last names beginning with A – G):** Jessica MacArthur (jmacarth@american.edu)
- **USFP/USFS (Last names beginning with H – P):** Marley Crutcher (crutzer@american.edu)
- **USFP/USFS (Last names beginning with R – Z):** Morgan Doerge (doerge@american.edu)

**Additional Section of SIS-750 Project Design, Monitoring and Evaluation added for Spring**

SIS has added an additional section of SIS-750 Project Design, Monitoring and Evaluation (section 010, Thursdays 8:20-10:50pm) for the spring 2017 semester. SIS-750 is an approved methods course for all MA programs. Students can register now for the course in Student Planning. To consult which methods courses are approved for your MA program, students should reference their program-specific list of approved methods available on the Graduate Advising website at: [http://www.american.edu/sis/gradadvising/secondmethods.cfm](http://www.american.edu/sis/gradadvising/secondmethods.cfm).

**Important Reminder about Degree Audit function of Student Planning "My Progress"**

Graduate Advising would like to remind students about how to approach the Degree Audit or "My Progress" function in AU’s registration system, Student Planning (as outlined in the **SPRING 2017 SIS STUDENT PLANNING REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS**). Due to the structure of the curriculum of many graduate degrees in SIS, the degree audit report available in the My Progress tab of Student Planning may not accurately reflect students’ fulfilled and remaining requirements. Students are recommended to consult their [program-specific advising worksheet](#) to review their requirements. Students with questions about their remaining requirements should consult their academic advisor.

**Upcoming Events**
NEW SIS 3rd Annual International Affairs Expo
Thursday, February 9, 4-7pm, SIS Founders Room
This interactive event brings together students and organizations with a shared interest and concern about
diversity & inclusion in the field of international affairs. Organizations such as USAID, the Department of
Homeland Security, the Institute of International Education and the Council on Foreign Relations will be among the
organizations represented during the tabling portion of the Expo where representatives will be on hand to have
informal conversations about their organizations. This is not the traditional job fair with transactional exchanges,
but rather a time to ask questions and learn more about these organizations. Business cards may be more useful
than resumes, and it’s best to attend the event from beginning to end. A popular portion of the event in past years
has been the “speed mentoring” activity. Professionals from these organizations and many others (including some
SIS alumni) will be available for informal conversations about their own career paths, advice for career
development and ideas about how you can further connect with people and organizations in your areas of
interest. This event is especially tailored for students from historically underrepresented groups; however, all SIS
Grad and Undergrad Students are welcome to attend. Space is limited, so RSVP early
at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/IA_Expo_RSVP. Questions? Contact Rebecca
Coughlin: sisinclusion@american.edu.

FOR SIS EVENTS: http://www.american.edu/sis/events

TO ACCESS SIS GRADUATE ADVISING WEEKLY BULLETINS ON THE WEB:
http://www.american.edu/sis/gradadvising/News-and-Announcements.cfm

To schedule a 15-minute Express Advising meeting: https://sisgraduateadvising-expressadvising.youcanbook.me/
For self-service advising resources, including Weekly Bulletin archives, please visit the Graduate Advising website
at: www.american.edu/sis/gradadvising