

Program Change Request

Date Submitted: 09/07/18 2:58 pm

Viewing: **MIA-INTA : Master of International Affairs in International Affairs**

Last approved: 02/27/18 5:05 pm

Last edit: 11/08/18 8:33 pm

Changes proposed by: gregory.gause

Catalog Pages Using this Program [Master of International Affairs in International Affairs](#)

In Workflow

1. INTA Department Head
2. Curricular Services Review
3. GB Committee Preparer
4. GB Committee Chair
5. GB College Dean
6. GC Preparer
7. GC Chair
8. Faculty Senate Preparer
9. Faculty Senate
10. Provost II
11. President
12. Curricular Services

Contact(s)

Name	E-mail	Phone
Francis G. Gause Russell Ramirez	gregory.gause@tamu.edu r Ramirez@tamu.edu	979-862-8834

Academic level: Graduate

Effective Term: 2019-2020

Department: International Affairs

College: Bush School of Gov & Pub Serv

Program type: Degree

Degree designation: MIA - Master of Internat'l Affairs

With a major in: International Affairs (INTA)

Associated Program: **Not Applicable**

Catalog Program Title: Master of International Affairs in International Affairs

CIP and Fund code: 45090100

Approval Path

1. 09/07/18 3:00 pm
Gregory Gause (gregory.gause): Approved for INTA Department Head
2. 09/10/18 11:47 am
Sandra Williams (sandra-williams): Approved for Curricular Services Review
3. 09/13/18 3:34 pm
Rane Cunningham (rane): Approved for GB Committee Preparer
4. 09/28/18 2:56 pm
Blease Graham (cole_graham): Approved for GB Committee Chair
5. 10/01/18 7:12 am
Frank Ashley (fashley): Approved for GB College Dean
6. 10/29/18 8:49 am
LaRhesa Johnson (lrjohnson): Approved for GC Preparer
7. 11/01/18 3:53 pm
LaRhesa Johnson (lrjohnson): Approved for GC Chair

Rationale for Proposal

The Department of International Affairs seeks to reduce the number of required courses for the MIA degree from six to five. Attached memo explains in more detail the rationale for this proposed change. The number of credit hours for the degree remains the same.

Program hours: **48**

Is this program eligible for financial aid? **Yes**

Will program hours change (increase/decrease) due to the proposed curriculum changes? No

Program delivery mode: **On-campus**

History

1. Aug 15, 2016 by cimgjwehrheim
2. Feb 27, 2018 by Angela Allensworth (arankin)

Catalog Program Requirements

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Student's Advisory Committee

The International Affairs department MIA student's advisory committee consists of the student's designated faculty advisor and the Department Head of the International Affairs department, who has the responsibility of approving the proposed degree plan for an INTA student. The Department Head or the student's advisor serves as chair. When necessary, recommendations in cases of academic deficiency will be made to the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies.

Degree Plan

The student's advisory committee, in consultation with the student, will develop the proposed degree plan. **The degree plan must be completed and filed with the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies prior to the deadlines imposed by the student's college, and no later than dates announced in the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies calendar of deadlines for graduation.**

This proposed degree plan should be submitted through the online Document Processing Submission System located on the website <https://ogsdps.tamu.edu>. Additional coursework may be added to the approved degree plan by petition if it is deemed necessary by the advisory committee to correct deficiencies in the student's academic preparation. No changes can be made to the degree plan once the student's Request for Final Examination or Request for Final Examination Exemption is approved by the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies.

Credit Requirement

A minimum of 48 semester credit hours of approved courses that include a core curriculum of **five of six** courses, a summer internship or intensive language and cultural study, and a specialized track of study is required for the Masters Degree of International Affairs.

Transfer of Credit

A student who has earned 12 hours of graduate credit in residence at Texas A&M University may be authorized to transfer courses in excess of the limits prescribed above upon the advice of the advisory committee and with the approval of the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies. Graduate and/or upper-level undergraduate courses taken in residence at an accredited U.S. institution or approved international institution with a final grade of B or greater **might** be considered for transfer credit if, at the time the courses were completed, the courses would be accepted for credit toward a similar degree for a student in degree-seeking status at the host institution. Otherwise, the limitations stated in the preceding section apply. **Coursework in which no formal grades are given or in which grades other than letter grades (A or B) are earned (for example, CR, P, S, U, H, etc.) is not accepted for transfer credit. Courses appearing on the degree plan with grades of D, F or U may not be absolved by transfer work.** Credit for thesis research or the equivalent is not transferable. Credit for coursework submitted for transfer from any college or university must be shown in semester credit hours or equated to semester credit hours. An official transcript from the university at which the transfer coursework was taken must be sent directly to the Office of Admissions.

Courses used toward a degree at another institution may not be applied for graduate credit. If the course to be transferred was taken prior to the conferral of a degree at the transfer institution, a letter from the Registrar at that institution stating that the course was not applied for credit toward the degree must be submitted to the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies.

Grades for courses completed at other institutions are not included in computing the GPR, with the exception of courses taken at the Texas A&M University Health Science Center.

Limitations on the Use of Transfer, Extension and Certain Other Courses

Some departments may have more restrictive requirements for transfer work. If otherwise acceptable, certain courses may be used toward meeting credit-hour requirements for the master's degree under the following limitations.

The maximum number of credit hours which may be considered for transfer credit is the greater of 12 hours or one-third (1/3) of the total hours of a degree plan. The following restrictions apply:

Graduate and/or upper-level undergraduate courses taken in residence at an accredited U.S. institution, or approved international institution with a final grade of B or greater will be considered for transfer credit if, at the time the courses were completed, the student was in degree-seeking status at Texas A&M University, or the student was in degree-seeking status at the institution at which the courses were taken; and if the courses would be accepted for credit toward a similar degree for a student in degree-seeking status at the host institution.

Courses previously used for another degree are not acceptable for degree plan credit.

The maximum number of credit hours taken in post-baccalaureate non-degree (G6) classification at Texas A&M University which may be considered for application to the degree plan is 12.

A zero credit 681, 684 and 685 course is only allowed for non-thesis **options** master's students. Other courses, including 691 research hours, are not eligible for zero credit.

Any combination of 684, 685, 690 and 695 may not exceed 25 percent of the total credit hour requirement shown on the individual degree plan:

A maximum of 8 hours of 684 (Professional Internship) and/or

A maximum of 8 hours of 685 (Directed Studies), and

Up to 3 hours of 690 (Theory of Research), and

Up to 3 hours of 695 (Frontiers in Research).

A maximum of 2 hours of Seminar (681).

A maximum of 9 hours of advanced undergraduate courses (300- or 400-level).

For graduate courses of three weeks' duration or less, taken at other institutions, up to 1 hour of credit may be obtained for each five-day week of coursework. Each week of coursework must include at least 15 contact hours.

No credit hours of 691 (Research) may be used.

Continuing education courses may not be used for graduate credit.

Extension courses taken are not acceptable for credit.

Exceptions will be permitted only in unusual cases and when petitioned by the student's advisory committee and approved by the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies.

Final Examination

The Bush School does not require a comprehensive final examination for completion of the Masters Degree of International Affairs.

Additional Requirements

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Residence

A student must complete 12 hours in resident study at Texas A&M University to satisfy the residence requirement for the Master in International Affairs.

Students who are employed full-time while completing their degree may fulfill total residence requirements by completion of less-than-full time course loads each semester. In order to be considered for this, the student is required to submit a Petition for Waivers and Exceptions along with verification of his/her employment to the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies.

See [Residence Requirements](#).

Time Limit

All degree requirements must be completed within a period of seven consecutive years for the degree to be granted. A course will be considered valid until seven years after the end of the semester in which it is taken. Graduate credit for coursework that is more than seven calendar years old at the time of graduation may not be used to satisfy degree requirements.

Foreign Languages

A foreign language background is not required for admission into the program. To graduate, however, a student must successfully pass a foreign language exam administered in accordance with the ratings of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. For this test the student must demonstrate a minimal proficiency in speaking and comprehension at the established rating of "intermediate low."

Internship or Practicum

During the summer term a student has the option of either participating in an internship related to the student's international career plans or enrolling in an intensive foreign language and cultural study. Internships in the United States or abroad provide practical experience in an organization or agency engaged in the conduct of some dimension of world affairs. A student who requires more preparation to successfully complete the foreign language test requirement may substitute enrollment in an approved immersion-type program of language instruction in place of the internship. A person who takes his/her language instruction at an institution other than Texas A&M University must obtain admission and cover all costs.

Application for Degree

For information on applying for your degree, please visit the [Graduation](#) section.

Additional information Editorial updated by OGAPS.
2.27.18—Standard language updates saved as requested by OGAPS.

Required Proposal

[Memo_Leadership_Course_Sept2018.pdf](#)

Forms

Reviewer Comments

Key: 670

September 6, 2018

MEMO

Proposal to decrease required courses for Master of International Affairs degree, Department of International Affairs, Bush School of Government and Public Service

From: F. Gregory Gause, III, Department Head,
International Affairs Department, Bush School



The Department of International Affairs of the Bush School proposes to decrease the number of required courses for the Master of International Affairs (MIA) degree from six to five, while maintaining the total number of credits required at 48. Under this proposal, the Department will no longer require all students for the degree to take a course in Leadership (INTA 601). Nothing else in the requirements will change.

The Department's proposal results from two factors noted in discussions among colleagues at department meetings:

- 1) The Dean of the Bush School is convening a School-wide committee to consider how practical leadership education can be integrated into curricular and extra-curricular life at the School. The Department looks forward to participating in that discussion and implementing the findings of that committee, as approved by the Dean. Our sister department in the School, the Department of Public Service and Administration, does not currently require students to take a specific course on leadership and the Department of International Affairs. The Department believes that the two departments can better coordinate implementation of any new initiatives on leadership if we begin with similar curricular requirements on the topic.
- 2) The Department as a whole believes that our current course on leadership (INTA 601), while a very useful academic course focusing on presidential decision-making in foreign policy, does not deal with practical leadership lessons and skills that students can utilize immediately in their professional careers. This is not the fault of the instructors of the course, who were assigned to teach just such a course. It is the result of a cumulative sense among the faculty, following consultations with alumni conducted by the

department head, that the needs of our students in the area of leadership education could be better served by a different approach.

The Department at its August 24, 2018 meeting supported this proposed curriculum change unanimously.