

Undergraduate Academic Assessment Plan

International Studies

Liberal Arts and Sciences

Contact Name & email

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International Studies

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Mission Statement

The International Studies major was created to fulfill the internationalization goal stated by the University of Florida 2007 strategic work plan, which states that “The University of Florida has an obligation to develop resources for understanding different cultures and societies so that the citizenry of the state and nation are prepared for the increasing integration of the global community”. It is aimed as well to accomplish the mission of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the undergraduate level, to develop an intellectual foundation based on a well-rounded and comprehensive education designed for an increasingly technological and rapidly changing society. In this context, the major is designed to prepare students for life and work in an international arena. Students will become knowledgeable of at least one major region of the world, become knowledgeable about significant global issues, will develop a working knowledge of a modern foreign language, experience living and studying abroad or working with an international organization focused on international issues, and conduct research and write a paper on a regional or global issue.

Student Learning Outcomes

Existing SLOs in the 2012-13 undergraduate catalog:

This is what is found in the Undergraduate Catalog 2012-2013

1. Know major international issues and identify and conduct internationally relevant research.
2. Evaluate the significance, quality and veracity of information gathered in the literature and apply it effectively.
3. Articulate research results clearly and effectively in speech and in writing in an accepted style of presentation.

Revised SLOs for the 2013-14 undergraduate catalog:

1. Content knowledge: Describe and explain basic knowledge of the modern history, culture, politics, geography, economy, or sociology of one major region of the world (Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America or the Middle East).
2. Critical thinking: Use analytical intellectual tools to examine global issues. Evaluate the significance, quality and veracity of information gathered in the literature and apply it effectively.

3. Communication: Articulate research results clearly and effectively in writing or in speech in a coherent and accessible style of presentation.

Link to 2011-12*, 2012-13* SLOs	New/Revised SLOs, 2013-14*
Content	
1. Know major international issues and identify and conduct internationally relevant research.	1. Describe and explain basic knowledge of the modern history, culture, politics, geography, economy, or sociology of one major region of the world (Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America or the Middle East).
Critical Thinking	
2. Evaluate the significance, quality and veracity of information gathered in the literature and apply it effectively.	2. Use analytical intellectual tools to examine global issues. Evaluate the significance, quality and veracity of information gathered in the literature and apply it effectively.
Communication	
3. Articulate research results clearly and effectively in speech and in writing in an accepted style of presentation.	3. Articulate research results clearly and effectively in speech or in writing in a coherent and accessible style of presentation.

*undergraduate catalog dates

Curriculum Map

Curriculum Map for:

International Studies

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Key: **I**ntroduced

Reinforced

Assessed

Courses SLOs	INS 3004 International Studies Perspectives	Category A Courses*	Category B Courses**	Foreign Language***	INS 4930 International Studies Senior Experience
Content Knowledge	I	R	R	IR	RA Research Paper
Critical Thinking	I	R	R	IR	RA Research Paper
Communication	I	R	R	IR	RA Research Paper

* Each major is required to designate a region of the world on which to focus and to take 15 Credits of International Studies-approved courses in social science, humanities or professional courses that deal with the region of the world selected by the student. <http://www.clas.ufl.edu/intmajor/majorrequirements.html>

** 15 credits of International Studies-approved courses (click the appropriate region above to see approved courses) in social science, humanities or professional courses that deal with regions of the world other than the student's chosen Category A and/or with global issues.

<http://www.clas.ufl.edu/intmajor/majorrequirements.html>

*** A minimum of four semesters of a single modern foreign language or demonstrated proficiency equivalent to the completion of the intermediate level. The language for which proficiency is demonstrated must be logically linked to the student's selected region.

<http://www.clas.ufl.edu/intmajor/majorrequirements.html>

Assessment Cycle

Assessment Cycle Chart

Assessment Cycle for: International Studies

College: Liberal Arts and Sciences

Analysis and Interpretation: 2012/3 – 2014/5
Improvement Actions: Fall 2015
Dissemination: January 2016

SLOs	Year	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16
Content Knowledge		√	√	√	√
Critical Thinking		√	√	√	√
Communication		√	√	√	√

Assessment is based on the research paper submitted by students as part of their requirements in the major's capstone course (INS 4930). This course will be offered for the first time in Spring 2014. It will be offered once or twice a year, depending on the number of majors we will have.

Methods and Procedures

1. The evaluation of the final project, submitted as part of the capstone course (INS 4930) is the major assessment tool of the major. The paper is evaluated by the CLAS faculty member assigned to teach INS 4930 who may seek consultation with a faculty member who specializes in the relevant region. Evaluation should follow the grading rubric designed for this purpose (Appendix 1)
2. At the end of the 2014/2015 academic year we will conduct interviews with senior International Studies students to learn about their experience and about the ways we can improve the program.

Assessment Oversight

Name	Department Affiliation	Email Address	Phone Number
Tamir Sorek	JST / SCL	tsorek@ufl.edu	352-273-0129

Appendix 1: Grading Rubric – International Studies Major

Evaluation of final written project and oral presentation

SLO	Excellent	Good	Basic	Rudimentary	Insufficient	POINTS
Research Articulation (50%)	Demonstrates profound knowledge of the cultural correlates and global issues being studied; extensive knowledge of theories applied to research question in an insightful way; provides well-structured arguments or accurately analyzed evidence to support conclusions [50-45 points]	Demonstrates considerable knowledge of the cultural correlates and global issues being studied; competent knowledge of theories applied to the research question in an insightful way; provides acceptable arguments or analyzed evidence to support conclusion [44-40 points]	Demonstrates some knowledge of the cultural correlates and global issues being studied; knowledge of theories is applied to the research question with some accuracy; provides some arguments analyzed evidence but conclusions are only vaguely supported [39-35 points]	Demonstrates only piecemeal knowledge of the cultural correlates and global issues being studied; knowledge of theories is applied to the research question in a hit-or-miss way; arguments or evidence lead only tangentially to conclusions [34-30 points]	Unable to demonstrate coherent knowledge of the cultural correlates and global issues being studied; knowledge of theories is inadequately applied to the research question ; arguments or evidence presented do no lead to any coherent conclusion [29-0 points]	
Knowledge of World Region (25%)	Excellent command of global issues in a region of the world; mastery in applying knowledge of a global issue and its relevance to understanding a country or society with an excellent level of proficiency in referencing and analyzing materials focused on a region of the world [25-23 points]	Good command of global issues in a region of the world; above average in terms of applying knowledge of a global issue and its relevance to understanding a country or society with a good level of proficiency in referencing and analyzing materials focused on a region of the world [22-20 points]	Only moderate command of global issues in a region of the world; and moderate knowledge of a global issue and its relevance to understanding a country or society with a moderate level of proficiency in referencing and analyzing materials focused on a region of the world [19-18 points]	Minimal command of global issues in a region of the world; and, applying knowledge of a global issue and its relevance to understanding a country or society with a minimal level of proficiency in referencing and analyzing materials focused on a region of the world [17-15 points]	Shows no command of global issues in a region of the world; and, applying knowledge of a global issue and its relevance to understanding a country or society with no proficiency in referencing and analyzing materials focused on a region of the world [14-0 points]	
Communication (25%)	Articulate -arguments on global issues with excellent coherence and clarity of arguments. Presents topic referencing materials with confidence and ease; answers questions with ease and appropriate register [25-23 points]	Above average level of coherence and clarity of arguments; presents topic referencing materials with confidence but may falter on occasion; answers questions competently with appropriate register [22-20 points]	Only moderate level of coherence and clarity of arguments; occasionally lacks confidence in referencing materials in presenting topic; answers some questions but , may not maintain appropriate register [19-18 points]	Arguments are vague and lack coherence but still understandable; shows little confidence in ability to present topic when referencing materials; has difficulty answering questions on topic and does not use appropriate register [17-15 points]	Arguments are not clear or impossible to follow; unable to present to audience in coherent way in referencing materials; cannot answer questions related to topic [14-0 points]	
TOTAL						____/100

Comments: