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# International Security and Conflict Resolution

In the College of Arts and Letters,  
the College of Professional Studies and Fine Arts, and  
the College of Sciences

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The international security and conflict resolution major is overseen by the Institute for International Security and Conflict Resolution (IISCOR) and administered by the International Security and Conflict Resolution (ISCOR) curriculum committee. The major includes courses offered by faculty in the Colleges of Arts and Letters; Health and Human Services; Professional Studies and Fine Arts; and Sciences.

International security and conflict resolution are seen as involving more than international relations and the more traditional focus on military power and the threat or use of force. They extend into such areas as arms control, economic development, human rights, and resources and the environment.

International security and conflict resolution are also viewed from the domestic context through the lens of homeland security. Interconnections between international and domestic security concerns in the U.S. and other nations are explored.

## Faculty

*ISCOR Program Director and Undergraduate Adviser:*

Gupta (Political Science)

*ISCOR Curriculum Committee:* Alexseev (Political Science), Guang (Political Science), Gupta (Political Science), McIlwain (Public Administration and Urban Studies), Sabbadini (Biology), Sweedler (Physics), Weiner (Asia Pacific Studies), Zhang (Sociology)

## Offered by International Security and Conflict Resolution

Major in international security and conflict resolution with the B.A. degree in liberal arts and sciences.

## The Hansen Chair in Peace Studies

International Security and Conflict Resolution plays a central role in the administration of the Hansen Chair in Peace Studies, an endowed chair responsible for organizing and coordinating activities focusing on the impact of resolution of various world and regional disputes. Appointees to the chair also serve as a member of the Advisory Board of the Fred J. Hansen Institute for World Peace.

## The Major

International security and conflict resolution is an interdisciplinary program leading to a Bachelor of Arts degree in liberal arts and sciences. The program requires and integrates coursework from natural sciences, social and behavioral sciences, and humanities.

In order to provide both breadth and depth for the courses of study, all students are required to complete a set of courses addressing the major themes of the development of global systems and the nature of conflict and conflict resolution. All students must select an integrated set of courses from different disciplines focused on an area of specialization related to international security and conflict resolution in global systems, in cooperation, conflict and conflict resolution, or in environment and security.

Those completing the major will be prepared for careers in business, government, international relations or nonprofit organizations at

the local, state, national or international level as they relate to international security and conflict resolution. Alternatively, majors will be prepared to pursue graduate or professional studies in a particular discipline or area related to international security and conflict resolution.

## Advising

Students are required to meet with the undergraduate adviser in order to declare the major. All students admitted to the University with a declared major in international security and conflict resolution are urged to meet with the undergraduate adviser during their first semester. A master plan of the courses taken to fulfill the major must be approved by the undergraduate adviser and filed with the Office of Advising and Evaluations.

## International Security and Conflict Resolution Major

**With the B.A. Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences  
(Major Code: 22103)**

All candidates for a degree in liberal arts and sciences must complete the graduation requirements listed in the section of this catalog on "Graduation Requirements." Individual master plans for each student are filed with both the ISCOR undergraduate adviser and the Office of Advising and Evaluations.

A minor is not required with this major.

It is strongly recommended that international security and conflict resolution majors consider either a minor or a second major in a foreign language. In addition, international security and conflict resolution majors may wish to obtain language certification in a foreign language or to include a period of study abroad. Many career positions related to an international security and conflict resolution major will require demonstrated competency in a foreign language.

It is also recommended that international security and conflict resolution majors consider either a minor, even a second minor, if a minor in a foreign language is taken, in an area studies programs, e.g., African Studies, Asian Studies, European Studies, Islamic and Arabic Studies, or Latin American Studies. Many career positions related to an international security and conflict resolution major will require a strong background in a particular region and/or culture, perhaps tied in with a specific foreign language. The program also requires at least one preapproved study abroad experience.

**Study Abroad Requirement.** All international security and conflict resolution majors are required to complete a minimum of three units of study abroad. To meet this requirement, majors must complete one of the following with the preapproved and written consent of the undergraduate adviser:

- (1) A CSU Study Abroad Program;
- (2) An SDSU Exchange Program;
- (3) An SDSU Semester Abroad Program;
- (4) An SDSU Study Travel Program;

(5) An international security and conflict resolution internship abroad, independent study abroad, or thesis abroad;

(6) International Security and Conflict Resolution 450.

See the undergraduate adviser to make arrangements to meet the study abroad requirement.

**Preparation for the Major.** (24 units) Economics 101, 102; History 101; Political Science 103; Religious Studies 101; and three units from each of the following groups:

(a) Anthropology 102 or Geography 102;

(b) Comparative Literature 270B, History 100, or Philosophy 101;

(c) Economics 201, Political Science 201, Psychology 270 or Sociology 201, Statistics 119 or 250.

Recommended for General Education in the Natural Sciences: In the Life Sciences, Biology 100 or 101; in the Physical Sciences, Chemistry 100, Geography 101 or Physics 107.

**Language Requirement.** It is strongly recommended that international security and conflict resolution majors consider either a minor or a second major in a foreign language. In addition, international security and conflict resolution majors may wish to obtain language certification in a foreign language. A minimum competency (successfully completing the third college semester or fifth college quarter) is required in one foreign language to fulfill the graduation requirement (excluding American Sign Language). Refer to section of catalog on "Graduation Requirements."

**Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement.** Completing one of the approved upper division writing courses (W) with a grade of C (2.0) or better or passing the Writing Proficiency Assessment with a score of 10 or above.

**Major.** A minimum of 36 upper division units to include 18 units in International Security and Conflict Resolution 300, 301, 310, 320 and either 495 or 497; Political Science 375; and 18 units from one of the three specializations: Global Systems; Cooperation, Conflict, and Conflict Resolution; or Environment and Security.

### Specialization in Global Systems

This specialization focuses on the political, economic, and social characteristics of global systems, which include the study of international relations, comparative regional studies, and internationally mobile populations. An understanding of global systems will provide the context for analyzing issues of international security, cooperation and conflict.

**Requirements for specialization.** A minimum of 18 units to include Economics 360; six units selected from Economics 330; History 480; International Security and Conflict Resolution 475; Political Science 577; six additional units from courses listed above or from Aerospace Studies 400B; Anthropology 350 ++; Asian Studies 570; Chicana and Chicano Studies 306; Economics 336 or 365; Geography 312\*, 554\*; History 408 or 486 or 512A or 512B; History 543\*\* or 544B; Political Science 361 or 478 or 479 or 481\*\* or 555 or 560; Sociology 350\*\*\*; Women's Studies 580\*; and three units from Asian Studies 459; Chicana and Chicano Studies 355; History 421, 474, 476, 555, 564, 565; Political Science 363, 364, 566. International Security and Conflict Resolution 450+ can be substituted for a maximum of one three unit course in this specialization with the approval and written consent of the undergraduate adviser.

### Specialization in Cooperation, Conflict, and Conflict Resolution

This specialization is concerned with exploring the causes, nature, consequences, management, and resolution of conflict. It will consider the psychology, sociology, economics, politics and history of cooperation, conflict and conflict resolution. It will address issues of war and peace, nationalism, civil war, terrorism, human rights, and ethnic hostility as they impact international security.

**Requirements for specialization.** A minimum of 18 units to include three units of International Security and Conflict Resolution 421; nine units selected from Africana Studies 445+ or Psychology

340\*\* or Sociology 410\*\*; Biology 339\*\*; Communication 371\*\*, 455\*\*; Philosophy 512\*\*; Political Science 302, 370, 531\*\*, or Sociology 457\*\*, or Women's Studies 530\*; Political Science 577; Religious Studies 379 or Sociology 338\*\*\*; Social Work 350; Sociology 433\*\*, 537\*\*; three units selected from Africana Studies 321\*, 448; American Indian Studies 400; Geography 337; History 486, 512A, 514\*, 533B, 556, 574; Political Science 363, 364, 566; Sociology 355\*\*; Women's Studies 375, 536\*\*; and three units selected from Africana Studies 325, 452\*; Communication 408; International Security and Conflict Resolution 475; Philosophy 329; Political Science 479; Public Administration 530+. International Security and Conflict Resolution 450+ can be substituted for a maximum of one three unit course in this specialization with the approval and written consent of the undergraduate adviser.

### Specialization in Environment and Security

Issues related to the environment and the utilization of energy and natural resources are important aspects of international security and often are related to cooperation and conflict between nations and groups within states. The purpose of this specialization is to provide the student with the necessary background to better understand this aspect of international security and the management and resolution of conflict.

**Requirements for specialization.** A minimum of 18 units to include nine units selected from Biology 315\*\*; Community Health Education 362; Economics 452; Geography 370\*; Physics 301; Political Science 334; Sociology 350\*\*; and nine units selected from courses listed above or from Biology 324\*, 339\*\*, 354\*; Community Health Education 350; Economics 453, 489; Geography 378\*, 570\*, 574\*; History 441; International Security and Conflict Resolution 475; Natural Science 333; Philosophy 329, 332, 333. International Security and Conflict Resolution 450+ can be substituted for a maximum of one three unit course in this specialization with the approval and written consent of the undergraduate adviser.

+ Course requires prerequisites other than those listed above.

++ Additional prerequisites other than those listed above may be required depending upon lower division courses taken for preparation for major (and/or for General Education).

+++ Consent of instructor.

## Courses (ISCOR)

### UPPER DIVISION COURSES (Intended for Undergraduates)

#### ISCOR 300. Global Systems (3) I

Prerequisite: Nine units of General Education requirements in Foundations, to include three units each in Natural Sciences and Quantitative Reasoning, in Social and Behavioral Sciences, and in Humanities.

Evolution and development of global systems, characteristics of contemporary and global systems and formulation of criteria for projecting the future of the systems.

#### ISCOR 301. Conflict and Conflict Resolution (3) II

Prerequisite: Nine units of General Education requirements in Foundations, to include three units each in Natural Sciences and Quantitative Reasoning, in Social and Behavioral Sciences, and in Humanities.

Conflict resolution as an emerging field; theories of conflict; methods and implications of conflict management including group, institutional, and international level analysis.

#### ISCOR 310. Our Global Future: Values for Survival (3) I

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.B. Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Identifies resource and social crises toward which contemporary American values are leading, examines the nature of human action; contrasts other value systems with ours; considers origins of our values and the individual's potential for changing them. Interdisciplinary.

### **ISCOR 320. International Security in the Nuclear Age (3) II**

Prerequisites: Upper division standing. Nine units of General Education requirements in Foundations, to include three units each in Natural Sciences and Quantitative Reasoning, in Social and Behavioral Sciences, and in Humanities.

International security issues from historical, ethical, economic and sociopsychological perspectives, including the security environment after the Cold War and current sources of conflict. The proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons is discussed.

### **ISCOR 421. Alternative Dispute Resolution: Theory and International Applications (3) I**

Prerequisite: Upper division standing.

Theory of collaborative negotiation and mediation, practice of negotiation and mediation skills and techniques, and focus on personal styles of mediation and collaborative negotiating. Emphasis on resolving conflicts on the international level.

### **ISCOR 450. Study Abroad in International Security and Conflict Resolution (3)**

Prerequisite: Upper division standing. Class Schedule may have other prerequisites.

Selected topics in international security and conflict resolution. Course taught abroad. Potential additional prerequisites and location of course and organizational meetings. May be repeated once with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Maximum credit six units.

### **ISCOR 475. Homeland Security (3)**

Prerequisite: Upper division standing.

Components of homeland security. Research and analysis of policies, laws, and civil rights, including comparisons between nations. Relationship between international conflicts and homeland security in the United States.

### **ISCOR 495. Internship in International Security and Conflict Resolution (3) I, II**

Prerequisites: Senior standing. Nine units of international security and conflict resolution core courses and nine units in selected specialization. Consent of instructor.

Supervised internship of 150 hours in government or nongovernmental agency, office or business in an area directly related to international security and conflict resolution.

### **ISCOR 496. Selected Topics in International Security and Conflict Resolution (1-3)**

Selected topics in international security and conflict resolution. See Class Schedule for specific content. May be repeated with new content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree.

### **ISCOR 497. Thesis in International Security and Conflict Resolution (3) I, II**

Prerequisites: Senior standing. Nine units of international security and conflict resolution core courses and nine units in selected specialization. Consent of instructor.

An original and comprehensive written description and analysis of a problem or problem area in international security and conflict resolution.

### **ISCOR 499. Special Study (1-3) I, II**

Prerequisites: Consent of instructor. Six units of international security and conflict resolution core courses and six units in specialization. Individual study. Maximum credit six units.

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