



MA in International Relations

► Program Description

The master of arts (MA) in International Relations enables students to analyze the complexities and processes involved in world politics and international affairs. Coursework provides exposure to the key subfields of the discipline and relevant issues such as globalization, human rights, humanitarian action, and economic development.

The program prepares students to compete for work with a governmental agency, an intergovernmental organization, a nongovernmental organization, or a multinational corporation. The program trains students in conflict management techniques. Examination of the dynamics, structural characteristics, and humanitarian issues operating within the global community is also included. We teach you to play a professional role in understanding and contributing to sustaining the world. This program is also recommended to students planning to pursue a PhD, or an academic career at another institution.

The 36 credit hours required for this Master of Arts (MA) degree must include 3 required courses, 2 courses from the Comparative Politics cluster, 4 courses from the International Politics cluster and 3 elective courses.

Note: If you take one course per term (part-time), this means one evening class per week, you can complete the program in 28 months. With two courses per term (full-time) you can complete the program in 14 months.

Program Outcomes

Upon completion the program, students will have gained an advanced Master's level understanding of:

- The contending levels of international interaction, domestic, regional and global.
- The sources of war and strategies for their resolution.
- The economic inequities of the global economy and its impact on poorer states.
- The dangers of the declining availability of energy and the challenge of confronting global warming.
- The relationship of the military-industrial arms complex to global conflicts.
- The role of ethnic, religious and cultural differences in undermining domestic and international cooperation.

And of course students will gain practical skills, like:

- Have a working knowledge of several subfields of the discipline.
- Have strong research skills.
- Be able to critically analyze international events and issues.
- Be able to apply theories of international relations to the practice of international affairs.
- Demonstrate effective written and oral communication skills.
- Have the necessary education and develop the requisite skills to seek employment relevant to the field.

Build a Career in the World of Diplomacy

The curriculum for the MA in International Relations offers a comprehensive overview of the changing realities and tensions of a globalizing world. We provide students with the methodological tools to examine and analyze international conflicts, international legal institutions and the international economy, and to conduct area studies on all continents.

**play a professional role
in understanding and
contributing to
sustaining the world**

Study trips to the nearby international legal institutions of The Hague are usually a part of the courses. Students are encouraged to gain practical experience in situations such as participating in the Model United Nations or completing an internship at an organization engaged in International Relations work. Our proximity to The Hague makes



internships with many international organizations possible. Past internships have included *Amnesty International*, *ICTY*, *Anne Frank Foundation*, *OPCW*, *European Patent Office*, *Oxfam Novib*, *IOM* and *ICC*.

The professors at Webster are currently active, working professionals in the field of international law, human rights, politics, research and other areas within the broad area of International Relations.

Students can also choose to specialize in the growing impact of NGOs on international politics while gaining practical grounding in the management and funding of NGOs. This can be done by selecting 3 electives in the field.

Career Prospects

A degree in International Relations is an excellent foundation for people interested in working in some aspect of the broad global tapestry. While it emphasizes the political and the diplomatic, and the causes of war and roads to peace, any international endeavor will require some understanding of these matters. The MA degree will prepare you for a variety of careers, such as researcher, policy advisor, diplomat, project manager in the diplomatic field.

You will be able to meet challenges in exciting areas, like:

- Researcher at the Strategic Studies Institute
- Working for, or starting, an NGO
- International legal institutions (ICTY, ICC)
- Foreign Affairs Ministry
- Think tanks (Clingendael, Chatham House)