

Language Requirements

IRM students must achieve language skills beyond the level of proficiency. For most languages, proficiency is attained by completing a course at the 2000 level, by which point the basic grammar and structure of the language will have been covered.

The requirement can be fulfilled in one of two ways:

- Demonstrated proficiency in two foreign languages, or
- Demonstrated facility in one foreign language (proficiency plus one course that uses the language to explore some aspect of a foreign culture, such as literature or film)

All language courses must be taken for a letter grade.

Study Abroad

IRM students are strongly encouraged to study abroad to bring a practical dimension to their expertise in international issues. Those who choose this option will find the requirements for the concentration highly compatible with courses taken abroad.

To learn more about programs available for study abroad, consult the Cornell Abroad Office, 300 Caldwell Hall.

(www.cuabroad.cornell.edu/)

More Information

"Through its rigorous multidisciplinary requirements and the variety of opportunities opened to enrolled students, IRM both enhanced my studies and prepare me for two internships at the State Department."

- Mitchell Alva, minor in International Relations, 2010

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MARIO EINAUDI
Center for
International
Studies

International Relations Minor (IRM)

for undergraduates at Cornell University



Cornell University

About the IR Minor

An interdisciplinary program for undergraduate students enrolled in any of the seven undergraduate colleges.

The IR Minor is not a major or a department, but rather a program offering a selection of courses reaching across colleges and departments. Students follow the Minor in addition to their regular degree.

Provides a structured yet flexible program for undergraduates to take advantage of the vast resources available at Cornell for studying the politics, economics, history, languages, and cultures of the countries and regions of the world.

International course work and language study provide an opportunity to add a global and cross-cultural dimension to those majors. Spending a semester or year of study abroad can contribute to meeting the course requirements of the IR Minor, including the language requirement.

Graduates of the program have gone on to pursue further education in fields such as political science and anthropology, and to successful careers in international law, economics, agriculture, trade, finance, and government service. They are working in international and nongovernmental organizations, in cross-cultural affairs, in journalism, in education, and other fields.

Course Requirements

IRM students take courses throughout the university, which are grouped into four subject areas:

- International Economics and Development
- World Politics and Foreign Policy
- Transnational Processes and Policies
- Cultural Studies

Courses within these four subject areas are designated as “core” or “elective.” Students must complete eight courses selected from the four groups according to one of two options.

Option A emphasizes the politics and economics of international relations.

- One core course from each group
- One elective from each group

Option B puts greater stress on culture.

- One core course from each group
- One elective from either Group 1 or Group 2
- One elective from Group 3, one elective from Group 4, and one additional elective from either Group 3 or Group 4.

In either option, students should ensure that they acquire familiarity with more than one geographic region or country.

Core Courses

Group 1: International Economics and Development

ECON 4510: International Trade Theory and policy

ECON 4520: International Monetary Theory and Policy

Group 2: World Politics and Foreign policy

GOVT 1817: Making Sense of World Politics

Group 3: Transnational Politics and Policies

DSOC 3230: Gender and Global Change

Group 4: Cultural Studies

ANTHR 1400: The Comparison of Cultures

Elective Courses

Consult the IRM web page for a list of Fall 2017 electives.

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