

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

International studies is carefully designed to prepare students to live, work, prosper—and become good global citizens—in today's rapidly changing world. It features an interdisciplinary and intercultural curriculum with both classroom learning and real-world experience in the form of internships and study abroad.

International studies offers both rigor and choice. Students complete a specific core of foundational international courses in politics, law, economics, history, and culture. They also choose one of three tracks of specialized study.

The International Expertise Track trains students to analyze international affairs from a global perspective. The Regional Expertise Track develops competency in a region of the world of the student's own choosing. Students may also apply to enter a Specialist Expertise Track, designed to address important issues, or specific cross-national, cross-cultural, or cross-regional comparisons. This track is selective and requires approval by the director. Each track has a specific language component. Each track has the same goal: to enable students to master the political, economic, environmental, historic, cultural, and sociological dynamics that drive modern life.

International studies prepares students for graduate study and for careers. It is well-crafted for students to move on into international business, law, diplomacy, academia, education, government, international organizations, nongovernmental organizations, public interest advocacy groups, journalism, mass media, and public service.

It also prepares students for a life well-lived. The program follows the Jesuit tradition of cosmopolitan education, respect for other cultures, the dignity of each unique person, and the development of the student as a whole person. Its guiding spirit is Fordham's own mission: to use education and research to "assist in the alleviation of poverty, the promotion of justice, the protection of human rights, and respect for the environment" and to "foster in all its students life-long habits of careful observation, critical thinking, creativity, moral reflection, and articulate expression." The international studies program encourages students to use these gifts in the service of the world.

Program Activities

International studies encourages and features experience-based learning. Therefore it strongly supports and helps students participate in both study abroad and internships. The program also organizes lectures, conferences, study tours abroad, and other educational events and experiential learning.

For more information

Visit the International Studies program web page.