Why study with us?

ANU is ranked #1 in Australia and #8 in the world for Politics and International Studies, according to 2018 QS World University Rankings, placing us between Yale and the University of California, Berkeley. This program is the only international relations degree in Australia to combine the study of global politics and engagement with the Asia-Pacific region. The Department’s world-class reputation attracts leading scholars, giving you direct access to a global network of practitioners.

The Master of International Relations offers an academically rigorous and relevant program which allows our students to develop strong analytical frameworks to understand how changes in foreign policies, the strategic balance of power, international norms and globalisation drive political developments in the Asia-Pacific region and around the world.

Who should study IR?

The study of international relations has never been more relevant than in today’s globalised world, and even more so in Asia, the fastest-changing region.

Equipped with the skills to succeed, our students go on to excel in public sector departments such as Foreign Affairs and Trade. Others choose to work in NGOs, the private sector, media or research organisations. Our programs are also ideal for academic careers in diplomacy, foreign affairs, policymaking and international law.

If you are interested in understanding the dynamics of contemporary international relations and graduating with one of the most respected degrees in international affairs in the world, this degree is for you.

Scholarships

The Hedley Bull Scholarship offers up to four scholarships each year to students wishing to pursue the Masters of International Relations (Advanced) in Semester 1 (February). This scholarship provides full tuition for up to four full-time semesters.

The Dr Claire Clark Scholarship may offer up to two awards annually to support postgraduate students pursuing the Master of International Relations. This scholarship provides full tuition for the duration of the program.

“"I chose ANU because of its proximity to government in Canberra and its high international rankings. The Master of IR helped me to develop the ability to think critically, communicate complex ideas, and apply theory to practice. My interest in journalism has lead me to work in parliament where I have the opportunity to write and talk to key decision-makers in Australian foreign policy”."

Patrick Griffiths
Master of International Relations (Advanced)
MASTER OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

CRICOS CODE: 082309M
Program Code: MINTR
Duration: 96 units / 2 year full-time (credit may reduce duration)
Commencement: Semester 1 or 2

Admission Requirements
- A Bachelor Degree or international equivalent with a minimum GPA of 5/7
- All applicants must meet the University’s English Language Admission Requirements for Students
- Up to 24 units of credit may be available for graduates in a cognate discipline
- Up to 48 units of credit is available for applicants with a Graduate Diploma or Honours in a cognate discipline

Key Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion you will have the skills and knowledge to:
- Discuss the dynamics of contemporary international relations, especially in the Asia-Pacific region
- Discuss the key theories for the analysis of contemporary international relations
- Use international relations theory to reflect upon contemporary problems in areas such as international security, global governance and international political economy or human rights
- Conduct high-level research and writing to undertake self-directed study in international relations
- Analyse new areas of concern in both scholarly and policy-relevant terms
- Communicate their findings in academic and practical contexts, justifying their approach and methods as appropriate

2019 Indicative Fees
Annual indicative fee for international students – $43,680
Annual indicative fee for domestic students – $30,720

Structure
The Master of International Relations consists of 96 units which must comprise of:

54 units from the following compulsory courses:
- World Politics (12 units)
- Writing International Relations (12 units)
- International Relations Theory
- International Political Economy
- Global Security
- Making Foreign Policy

6 units from the following courses:
- Violence and Political Order
- The Evolution of the International System

36 units from the following courses:
- Globalisation: The Interaction of Economics and Politics
- International History from Asia and the Pacific: Framing Critical Perspectives
- Negotiation and Conflict Resolution (6 units)
- Case Studies in Diplomacy
- The United Nations and Peace
- Diplomacy in a Globalising World
- Issues in Australian Foreign Policy
- Special Topics in International Relations
- The Responsibility to Protect
- Asia-Pacific Security
- Global Environmental Politics
- World Politics
- Ethnicity and Conflict in Asia and the Pacific
- The Post-Colonial Pacific and Global Change
- Global Civil Society and the Role of NGOs
- Global Governance
- The Evolution of the International System
- States, Globalisation and the Movement of Peoples
- Conflict Resolution and Peace Building
- Ethics of Peace and War
- Islam, Politics and Conflict in Southeast Asia
- Democracy in World Politics
- China: Global Engagement and Domestic Transformation
- Humanitarianism in World Politics
- Japan and the World: Politics, Identity and Security
- Gender, War, and Justice in South and Southeast Asia
- Writing International Relations (6 units)
- Making Foreign Policy
- U.S. Security Policy in the Asia-Pacific
- International Organisation
- Approaches and Methods in International Relations
- Human Security
- Chinese Thinking on International Relations
- The History of International Thought
- Islam, the West and International Terrorism
- Dynamics of Israeli-Palestinian Conflict
- Islam in World Politics
- National Security Policymaking
- Civil-Military Relations
- Asian Regionalism and Security: Implications for Australia
- Malicious Networks: Transnational Terrorism and Crime
- International Policy Making in the Shadow of the Future
- Democracy and its Discontents
- The Resort to Force: Understanding Military Power
- Alliances in Asia: Theory, History and Practice
- Strategy and Southeast Asia: Defence and Security Dynamics
Overview
In addition to coursework, you will write a thesis on a topic of your choice. Throughout your thesis you will hone your research skills while being supervised by our world renowned academics. The Master of International Relations (Advanced) provides a pathway to doctoral programs that have a research thesis as a prerequisite.

Admission Requirements
- A Bachelor Degree or international equivalent with a minimum GPA of 6/7
- All applicants must meet the University’s English Language Admission Requirements for Students
- Up to 24 units of credit may be available for graduates in a cognate discipline
- Students must achieve a minimum 70% weighted average mark in the first 72 units of courses in order to enrol in INTR8038 Thesis.

Key Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion you will have the skills and knowledge to:
- Discuss the dynamics of contemporary international relations, especially in the Asia-Pacific region
- Discuss the key theories for the analysis of contemporary international relations
- Use international relations theory to reflect upon contemporary problems in areas such as international security, global governance and international political economy or human rights
- Conduct high-level research and writing to undertake self-directed study in international relations
- Analyse new areas of concern in both scholarly and policy-relevant terms
- Communicate their findings in academic and practical contexts, justifying their approach and methods as appropriate
- Conduct in-depth and predominantly self-directed research in the field

2019 Indicative Fees
Annual indicative fee for international students – $43,680
Annual indicative fee for domestic students – $30,720

Structure
The Master of International Relations (Advanced) consists of 96 units which must comprise of:

60 units from the following compulsory courses:
- International Relations Theory
- International Political Economy
- Global Security
- Making Foreign Policy
- World Politics
- Writing International Relations
- Approaches and Methods to International Relations

12 units from the following courses:
- Comparative Politics of Asia and the Pacific
- Case Studies in Diplomacy
- The United Nations and Peace
- Diplomacy in a Globalising World
- Special Topics in International Relations
- The Responsibility to Protect
- World Politics
- The Post-Colonial Pacific and Global Change
- Global Governance
- The Evolution of the International System
- Ethics of Peace and War
- China: Global Engagement and Domestic Transformation
- Humanitarianism in World Politics
- Gender, War, and Justice in South and Southeast Asia
- Writing International Relations
- U.S. Security Policy in the Asia-Pacific
- International Organisation
- Human Security
- Chinese Thinking on International Relations
- The History of International Thought
- Islam, the West and International Terrorism
- Dynamics of Israeli-Palestinian Conflict
- Islam in World Politics
- National Security Policymaking
- Civil-Military Relations
- Asian Regionalism and Security: Implications for Australia
- Malicious Networks: Transnational Terrorism and Crime
- International Policy Making in the Shadow of the Future
- Globalisation: The Interaction of Economics and Politics
- Great and Powerful Friends: Strategic Alliances and Australian Security

24 units from the following courses:
- Thesis (Full-time)
- Thesis (Part-time)
“As we approach our 70th anniversary in 2019, the Department of International Relations continues its role as a leader in the study of world politics. The Asia-Pacific is the crucible where existing norms and practices will be tested and reforged. I am proud that in our academic excellence, innovative teaching programs and links with government at home and abroad, we renew the commitments made to Australian politics and society”.

Dr Mathew Davies
Head
Department of International Relations

Dr David Envall
Director of Studies, Senior Lecturer & Fellow
David’s interests include Japan’s political leadership, foreign policy, post-war security, Sino-Korean-Japanese relations and Japan-India relations.

Dr Cecilia Jacob
Senior Lecturer & Fellow

Dr Benjamin Day
Associate Lecturer
Ben’s research interests focus on foreign policy analysis and international development. Prior to his doctoral research at ANU, Ben spent a decade working in the international development sector.

Dr Jeremy Youde
Associate Professor & Fellow
Jeremy focuses on questions of global health governance and global health politics, as well as global responses to transnational health issues.

Dr Benjamin Zala
Lecturer & Research Fellow
Ben’s work focuses on great power politics, international security issues and International Relations Theory. He is also a regular contributor to national and international media on issues of foreign policy and global security.

Dr Luke Glanville
Senior Lecturer & Fellow
Luke’s research focuses on International Relations Theory, history of international thought, the Responsibility to Protect doctrine and sovereignty.
Choose your degree

The Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs offers world-class programs. You can find out more by visiting our online guide (bellschool.anu.edu.au/study), connecting with us at our events, or emailing the relevant program administrator.

Make sure you meet the requirements

For most of our programs we consider all academic qualifications when assessing your application.

If you are concerned about getting the result you need to enter your preferred program, there may be special entry pathways that you can consider. Find out more at anu.edu.au/study or email the relevant program administrator.

Apply

Domestic students should submit applications through the Universities Admission Centre (UAC) at uac.edu.au

For international students, ANU has an extensive network of official agent representatives in more than 50 countries. Agents can help you with your enquiries and all aspects of your application. Find out more at anu.edu.au/study/apply/anu-postgraduate-coursework-international-applications

Alternatively, you can submit your application directly to ANU at anu.edu.au/study/apply

Accept your offer and enrol

Once you receive your offer, accept online at anu.edu.au/study/accept

We look forward to having you here!
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