

Major Planning Guide: International Relations

What can I do with a degree in international relations?

Students interested in international relations may go on to work in many fields, especially business, government, and non-profit organizations. The communication, analytical, intercultural, and problem-solving skills international relations students learn are valued in many professions, but a bachelor's degree in international relations does not necessarily prepare student for entry into a specific career.

Related Majors

Area studies (Asian, Latin American, etc.)
Global Studies
International Business
Economics
Political Science
Communication

Where can I earn a bachelor's degree in international relations in

Many universities offer international relations as an undergraduate major. You can use the College Navigator search engine found at <http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator> to find international relations programs in Washington state or around the country.

How do I prepare to major in international relations?

Here are a few steps that we recommend you take to make sure that international relations is the right choice for you. There are many different types of careers in international relations, and it is important to do some research ahead of time to find the one that best fits your goals. An advisor can help you choose the transfer degree, and what

Step One: Research

- Those who are undecided about a major/career can make an appointment with our Career Exploration Center in BE 1102E to take a career assessment test. This assessment can reveal your interests, values, and skills which then match you up with potential careers and programs that prepare you for specific career paths.
- When searching for programs in this field, be sure to include a variety of search terms, and also consider area studies programs or concentrations available within the political science major. Majors with international focus can be called "international studies/affairs," and "global studies."
- Students interested in international issues should consider what skills they may need for their future career plans (languages, quantitative skills, study abroad) and look for a major that will include courses that provide these needed skills.
- Students should also plan to study abroad at Seattle Central or your transfer university.
- Our Transfer Center in BE 1102F can help find universities you are interested in attending and guide you through the application process.

Step Two: Pick a Degree

Students planning to major in international relations often earn the Associates of Art (AA-DTA) degree. Advisors can help students understand how to best approach coursework recommended or required for transfer. You may pick up a degree planning worksheet for the AA-DTA ([purple sheet](#)) in BE 1102 lobby.

Step Three: Make a Long Range Academic Plan

Students planning to major in international relations at a university usually take courses in world language, history, economics, political science, and statistics, as well as general education requirements, to prepare to transfer.

English	Social Sciences	Language	Other Courses
<input type="checkbox"/> ENGL& 101	<input type="checkbox"/> History	<input type="checkbox"/> World Language	<input type="checkbox"/> MATH& 146
<input type="checkbox"/> ENGL& 102	<input type="checkbox"/> Economics	<input type="checkbox"/> (2 college quarters or 2 high school years of the same language)	<input type="checkbox"/> Humanities
	<input type="checkbox"/> Political Science		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Sociology		
	<input type="checkbox"/> International Studies		

Please note: this is not a complete list of prerequisites. You should consult with an advisor at Seattle Central to make sure you take the appropriate courses to be prepared to enter the major.

*Check prerequisites, admission requirements, and GPA requirements at your intended transfer university early so you can be well-prepared to transfer.

Consider an emphasis to your associate degree before you transfer, such as [Global Studies](#), [Global Health](#), [Sustainable Agriculture Education](#) or [Equity and Social Justice](#). This can enhance your resume, personal experience and be something you put into your personal statement.

What are my next steps?

- Once you have had the chance to explore the career opportunities in international relations you might want to schedule an appointment to meet with an advisor to plan out your course of study. You can make an appointment by stopping by the Advising office in BE 1102D or calling us at 206-934-4068. *(If you are an international student, please stop by International Education Programs in BE 1113).*
- Attend Transfer Fairs and Career & Networking Fairs hosted by our office throughout the year.
- Explore the professional organizations in your area of interest for more information about education and career options.

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Reasonable Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Seattle Central College is committed to providing qualified students with a disability an equal opportunity to access the benefits, rights, and privileges of services, programs and activities in an accessible setting appropriate to the student's needs. No student shall, on the basis of her or her disability, be excluded from participation, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subject to discrimination under any Seattle Central College program or activity.