International Affairs (IAFF)

Explanation of Course Numbers

- Courses in the 1000s are primarily introductory undergraduate courses.
- Those in the 2000s to 4000s are upper-division undergraduate courses that can also be taken for graduate credit with permission and additional work.
- Those in the 6000s and 8000s are for master's, doctoral, and professional-level students.
- The 6000s are open to advanced undergraduate students with approval of the instructor and the dean or advising office.

IAFF 1001. First-Year Experience. 1 Credit.
First-Year Experience assists students in developing their personal, academic, and career goals. Restricted to students in the Elliott School.

IAFF 1005. Introduction to International Affairs. 3 Credits.
Introduction to the field of international affairs; the challenge of promoting cooperation and order in a world in which competition, conflict, and disorder are common; interstate relations, intrastate conflicts, regional problems, and old and new global challenges.

IAFF 2040. Basic Topics in International Affairs. 0-3 Credits.
Topics announced in the Schedule of Classes. May be repeated for credit provided the topic differs. Primarily for Elliott School freshmen and sophomores.

IAFF 2090. Latin America: Problems and Promise. 3 Credits.
An interdisciplinary course in Latin American studies designed to introduce undergraduates to the diverse, rich, and complex history, politics, economy, culture, and society of Latin America.

IAFF 2091. East Asia—Past and Present. 3 Credits.
An interdisciplinary course offering a comprehensive and integrated introduction to the civilizations and present problems of East Asia.

IAFF 2092. Russia and Eastern Europe: An Introduction. 3 Credits.
A multidisciplinary introduction to the lands and cultures of the former Soviet Union and Central and Eastern Europe. The main emphasis is on history and politics, with attention also given to economics, trade, geography, military matters, literature, and the media.

IAFF 2093. Africa: Problems and Prospects. 3 Credits.
Aspects of the environment, culture, and politics as they affect the present and anticipated future of Africa.

IAFF 2094. Europe: International and Domestic Interactions. 3 Credits.
A multidisciplinary view of contemporary Europe, including the E.U. states, other states of Eastern Europe, and Turkey. The widening processes of political, judicial, economic, cultural, and security integration. Prerequisites: IAFF 1005 and PSC 1001.

IAFF 2095. The Middle East in International Affairs. 3 Credits.
Multidisciplinary survey of social, cultural, political, historical, and religious issues in the Middle East with a concentration on the modern period.

IAFF 2190. Special Topics. 3 Credits.
Topics vary by semester. May be repeated for credit provided the topic differs. Consult the Schedule of Classes for more details.

IAFF 2190W. Special Topics. 3 Credits.
Includes a significant engagement in writing as a form of critical inquiry and scholarly expression to satisfy the WID requirement.

IAFF 3171. U.S. Foreign Policy Summer Program. 3-4 Credits.
The institutions and ideas that shape U.S. foreign policy, including the U.S. Congress and administration, foreign embassies, international organizations, think tanks, interest groups, and media outlets. A separate section of the course covers issues of reporting on foreign policy issues. The program has special admission criteria.

IAFF 3179. Special Topics in Science and Technology Policy. 0-3 Credits.
The course may be repeated for credit provided the topic differs. Restricted to juniors and seniors. Prerequisites: IAFF 1005 or PSC 1003.

IAFF 3180. Special Topics in Security Policy. 0-3 Credits.
The course may be repeated for credit provided the topic differs. Restricted to juniors and seniors. Prerequisites: IAFF 1005 or PSC 1003.

IAFF 3180W. Spec Topics in Security Policy. 0-3 Credits.
The course may be repeated for credit provided the topic differs. Includes a significant engagement in writing as a form of critical inquiry and scholarly expression to satisfy the WID requirement. Restricted to juniors and seniors. Prerequisites: IAFF 1005 or PSC 1003.

IAFF 3181. Special Topics in Conflict Resolution. 0-3 Credits.
The course may be repeated for credit provided the topic differs. Restricted to juniors and seniors. Prerequisites: IAFF 1005 or PSC 1003.

IAFF 3182. Special Topics in Foreign Policy. 0-3 Credits.
The course may be repeated for credit provided the topic differs. Restricted to juniors and seniors. Prerequisites: IAFF 1005 or PSC 1003.

IAFF 3183. Special Topics in Development Policy. 0-3 Credits.
The course may be repeated for credit provided the topic differs. Restricted to juniors and seniors. Prerequisites: IAFF 1005 or PSC 1003.
IAFF 3184. Special Topics in Trade and International Economic Policy. 0-3 Credits.
The course may be repeated for credit provided the topic differs. Restricted to juniors and seniors. Prerequisites: IAFF 1005 or PSC 1003.

IAFF 3185. Special Topics in European and Eurasian Studies. 0-3 Credits.
The course may be repeated for credit provided the topic differs. Restricted to juniors and seniors. Prerequisites: IAFF 1005 or PSC 1003.

IAFF 3186. Special Topics in Asian Studies. 0-3 Credits.
The course may be repeated for credit provided the topic differs. Restricted to juniors and seniors. Prerequisites: IAFF 1005 or PSC 1003.

IAFF 3186W. Special Topics in Asian Studies. 0-3 Credits.
Includes a significant engagement in writing as a form of critical inquiry and scholarly expression to satisfy the WID requirement.

IAFF 3187. Special Topics in Latin American and Hemispheric Studies. 0-3 Credits.
The course may be repeated for credit provided the topic differs. Restricted to juniors and seniors. Prerequisites: IAFF 1005 or PSC 1003.

IAFF 3188. Special Topics in Middle East Studies. 0-3 Credits.
The course may be repeated for credit provided the topic differs. Restricted to juniors and seniors. Prerequisites: IAFF 1005 or PSC 1003.

IAFF 3189. Special Topics in African Studies. 0-3 Credits.
The course may be repeated for credit provided the topic differs. Restricted to juniors and seniors. Prerequisites: IAFF 1005 or PSC 1003.

IAFF 3190. Special Topics in International Affairs. 0-3 Credits.
The course may be repeated for credit provided the topic differs. Restricted to juniors and seniors. Prerequisites: IAFF 1005 or PSC 1003.

IAFF 3190W. Special Topics. 0-3 Credits.
Includes a significant engagement in writing as a form of critical inquiry and scholarly expression to satisfy the WID requirement.

IAFF 3191W. Latin American Populism in Global Context. 3 Credits.
Theoretical frameworks for thinking about classical and contemporary examples of Latin American populism in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries; examining these theories and interpretations as they pertain to the origins, process, and outcomes of selected cases. Includes a significant engagement in writing as a form of critical inquiry and scholarly expression to satisfy the WID requirement. Restricted to . Recommended background: Latin America, upper-level political science/ international affairs coursework, and writing experience.

IAFF 3192. ESIA Undergraduate Scholars Workshop. 1 Credit.
For Elliott School juniors and seniors who have applied to and been accepted into the ESIA Undergraduate Scholars Program. Students fine-tune their research questions, conduct the bulk of their research, draft abstracts, and outline their papers. See http://elliott.gwu.edu/academics/ugrad/scholars/index.cfm for more information.

IAFF 3193W. ESIA Undergraduate Scholars Course. 3 Credits.
Includes a significant engagement in writing as a form of critical inquiry and scholarly expression to satisfy the WID requirement.

IAFF 3195. Internship. 0-3 Credits.
Internships in public, private, and nonprofit organizations concerned with international affairs. Students must meet selection criteria, find a sponsoring faculty member, and receive approval from the Elliott School Office of Academic Advising and Student Services. May be repeated for up to 6 credits with permission.

IAFF 3198. Independent Study and Research. 1-3 Credits.
For juniors and seniors with a minimum grade-point average of 3.0. Students must find a sponsoring faculty member and receive approval from the Elliott School Office of Academic Advising and Student Services. May be repeated for credit with permission of the dean.

IAFF 4191. Research Seminar. 3 Credits.
Intensive readings, discussion, research, and writing. Students must meet selection criteria and receive advisor approval. Restricted to juniors and seniors in the Elliott School.

IAFF 4191W. Research Seminar. 3 Credits.
Intensive readings, discussion, research, and writing. Students must meet selection criteria and receive advisor approval. Includes a significant engagement in writing as a form of critical inquiry and scholarly expression to satisfy the WID requirement. Restricted to juniors and seniors in the Elliott School.

IAFF 4199. Senior Thesis. 3 Credits.
Students must meet selection criteria, find a sponsoring faculty member, and receive approval from the Elliott School Office of Academic Advising and Student Services. Restricted to seniors in the Elliott School.

IAFF 4199W. Senior Thesis. 3 Credits.
Students must meet selection criteria, find a sponsoring faculty member, and receive approval from the Elliott School Office of Academic Advising and Student Services. Restricted to seniors in the Elliott School.

IAFF 6101. International Affairs Cornerstone. 3 Credits.
Political, economic, and social theories of international relations and their applications to practice.

IAFF 6102. Global Gender Policy. 3 Credits.
An interdisciplinary and comparative approach to examination of policies targeted at achieving gender equality and of the costs of policies that are not gender-specific. Topics include poverty reduction, environmental sustainability, social justice, global and personal security, and prevention of and responses to extreme calamities and crises. How global gender policies are rationalized, adopted, implemented, and assessed. Focus on "what works" and why it works; gaps that remain in achieving global gender equality.
IAFF 6106. Nuclear Weapons. 3 Credits.
The technology and politics associated with nuclear weapons. Strategy and deterrence, force planning and operations, and the prospect of nuclear terrorism.

IAFF 6107. The Science of Nuclear Materials. 3 Credits.
Fundamental principles of nuclear materials, including the origins of radiation, manufacture and detection of nuclear materials, nuclear weapons and power issues, and medical uses and environmental issues related to nuclear materials.

IAFF 6108. International Development Policy. 3 Credits.
The changing scope and nature of international development and the challenges currently facing development agencies; how the mixed results of investment in development has brought methods and concepts into question and how agencies are responding to this challenge.

IAFF 6118. Special Topics in International Affairs. 3 Credits.
Topics announced in the Schedule of Classes.

IAFF 6121. International Development Studies Cornerstone. 3 Credits.
Introduction to the concepts and methods of international development. Prerequisite: students in the MA in international development studies program.

IAFF 6122. Development Policy and Practice. 3 Credits.
An overview of economic development in developing countries; key challenges of economic growth, poverty alleviation, and development.

IAFF 6136. Gender and Development. 3 Credits.
Theoretical approaches to gender and development and debates over how to promote gender equity and rights across the gender spectrum. Key issues in gender and development and the range of actors who are involved in promoting gender equality. General patterns, lessons with broader applications, and challenges and differences within and between societies.

IAFF 6137. Development Studies Pre-Capstone Workshop. 1 Credit.
Students work in teams to find a suitable client and negotiate a project, with detailed terms of reference and a work plan to be carried out in the spring semester. Restricted to students in the MA in international development studies program.

IAFF 6138. Special Topics in International Development Studies. 0-3 Credits.
Topics announced in the Schedule of Classes.

IAFF 6139. International Development Studies Capstone. 3 Credits.
A project-oriented development course abroad, designed to synthesize the skills and knowledge that students have acquired in their graduate study. Restricted to students in the MA in international development studies program.

IAFF 6141. International Science and Technology Policy Cornerstone. 3 Credits.
Introduction to the study of international science and technology policy; focus on policy issues that arise from interactions between scientific and technological developments and government activity.

IAFF 6142. Technology Creation/Diffusion. 3 Credits.
Examination of the relationship between invention (inception), innovation (first application), and dissemination (diffusion) of technological knowledge; focus on the technological environment prevailing in the major developed market economies.

IAFF 6143. Science and Technology Policy Analysis. 3 Credits.
The use of science by policy decision makers; the affects of policy on science and technology; issues of risk, uncertainty, regulation, democratization, and politics in science and technology policy.

IAFF 6145. U.S. Space Policy. 3 Credits.

IAFF 6146. Space Law. 3 Credits.
The underlying principles of international space law, with emphasis on issues of particular concern as the uses of space increase for exploration, commerce, and security.

IAFF 6148. Space and National Security. 3 Credits.
Historic and current factors and emerging trends shaping the development and implementation of U.S. national security space policy and strategy, including the global security environment, domestic politics, and technology.

IAFF 6151. Environmental Policy. 3 Credits.
Examination of public policies designed to protect the human and physical environment; focus on the ways science and technology can simultaneously create new environmental problems and contribute to their mitigation and prevention.

IAFF 6153. Science, Technology, and National Security. 3 Credits.
The contributions of science and technology to U.S. security in military, intelligence, and homeland security activities.

IAFF 6157. International Science and Technology Policy Capstone Workshop. 1 Credit.
First course in a two-semester sequence. Second-year students in the MA in international science and technology policy program work in groups on a project addressing a policy problem or issue in international affairs. Restricted to students in the international science and technology policy program.

IAFF 6158. Special Topics in International Science and Technology Policy. 0-3 Credits.
Topics announced in the Schedule of Classes.
IAFF 6159. ISTP Capstone Project. 3 Credits.  
A seminar designed to synthesize the skills and knowledge that students have acquired in their graduate study. Open only to MA candidates in science and technology policy.

IAFF 6160. Defense Policy and Program Analysis. 3 Credits.  
Examination of how national security policy is formulated and translated into a defense budget, program priorities, and force structure. Focus on nuclear forces.

IAFF 6161. International Security. 3 Credits.  
Survey of the field of international security studies; overview of key concepts, theories, and approaches; inter-state, intra-state, and transnational security problems and the interrelated nature of these categories; analysis of security topics such as great-power relations, arms racing and arms control, crisis management, civil wars, terrorism, and gender, combined with a review of regional developments; non-military issues that have major security implications, including poverty, health, population movements, energy consumption, and climate change; the role of international organizations in promoting international security, and prospects for the future. Restricted to students in the MA in security policy studies program.

IAFF 6162. Security Policy Analysis. 0-3 Credits.  
Key components of security policy and the decision making behind them. Restricted to students in the MA in security policy studies program.

IAFF 6163. Transnational Security. 3 Credits.  
Overview of security concerns that transcend state borders, including terrorism, drug trafficking, organized crime, weapons proliferation, migration, and environmental degradation.

IAFF 6164. Environmental Security. 3 Credits.  
The relationship between conflict, environmental degradation, and natural resources, including how the environment, climate change, and natural resources influence national security. Theoretical security concepts and use of multidisciplinary academic literature to consider how environmental security can be integrated into future U.S. defense and foreign policy strategies and decisions.

IAFF 6165. Fundamentals of Intelligence. 3 Credits.  
The institutional structure of the intelligence community; the intelligence production cycle, including tasking, collection, analysis, covert action, and counterintelligence; and relations between the intelligence and policy communities.

IAFF 6167. Defense Policy and Program Analysis II. 3 Credits.  
Analysis of the development of national security policy and analytic techniques to derive a defense program and force structure from it. Special attention to general-purpose forces.

IAFF 6169. Homeland Security. 3 Credits.  
The central missions of a homeland security agency: domestic security, emergency preparedness, technology policy, timely intelligence, counterintelligence, and preemptive actions. How the U.S. has dealt historically with internal security matters; contemporary approaches to security problems.

IAFF 6171. Introduction to Conflict Resolution. 3 Credits.  
Interstate disputes, contemporary civil wars, complex political emergencies, and other forms of organized violence.

IAFF 6173. Security and Development. 3 Credits.  
Consideration of the relationship between security and development reflecting the growing interest from the security field in issues that have traditionally been the purview of development, and vice versa.

IAFF 6186. Special Topics in Security Policy Studies. 3 Credits.  
Topics announced in the Schedule of Classes.

IAFF 6189. Security Policy Studies Capstone. 3 Credits.  
A project-oriented course, designed to synthesize the skills and knowledge that students have acquired in their graduate study. Prerequisite: students in the MA in security policy studies program.

IAFF 6208. Special Topics in Global Communication. 0-3 Credits.  
Topics announced in the Schedule of Classes.

IAFF 6209. Global Communication Capstone. 1 Credit.  
A project-oriented course, designed to synthesize the skills and knowledge that students have acquired in their graduate study. Restricted to students in the MA in international trade and investment policy program.

IAFF 6211. Master of International Policy and Practice Leadership Practicum. 3 Credits.  
Major issues in international affairs confronting policymakers in the United States and around the world; the evolving nature of international leadership; how diverse actors exercise power in the international realm. Restricted to MIPP degree candidates.

IAFF 6212. Strategy and Leadership. 3 Credits.  
The evolving nature of international leadership in the twenty-first century; the use of lateral leadership for managing expert, networked teams to address complex problems requiring adaptation and learning; strategic thinking and team leadership skills. Restricted to students in the MIPP Online program.
IAFF 6213. Leadership Capstone. 3 Credits.
Practical application of lateral leadership skills to researching and designing an individual leadership project addressing a critical issue in the student’s professional field; qualitative research methods, program design and evaluation, coalition building, proposal writing, and oral presentation skills. Restricted to students in the MIPP Online program. Prerequisite: IAFF 6212.

IAFF 6216. Economic Tools for Global Policy. 3 Credits.
Analysis of economic issues and concrete policy problems related to globalization, trade, and technology.

IAFF 6222. Special Topics in International Policy and Practice. 3 Credits.
Topics vary by semester. May be repeated for credit provided the topic differs. See school for more details.

IAFF 6302. Taiwan: Internal Development and Foreign Policy. 3 Credits.
The social, political, and economic development in Taiwan since World War II; Taiwan’s foreign affairs.

IAFF 6305. U.S.-South Asia Relations. 3 Credits.
The nature of challenges and opportunities facing the South Asia region and the U.S. policy response. The rise of India as a global actor; relations between India and Pakistan; political transformation in the countries of the region, including Nepal and Sri Lanka.

IAFF 6308. International Relations of South Asia. 3 Credits.
The foreign policy choices of South Asian countries and the domestic and international linkages that drive these decisions; the different patterns of state-society relationships and identity formations which determine a country’s external alliances and partnerships; the changing nature of the Asian balance of power and roles of key Asian actors.

IAFF 6318. Special Topics in Asian Studies. 0-3 Credits.
Topics announced in Schedule of Classes.

IAFF 6321. European and Eurasian Studies Cornerstone. 3 Credits.
Survey of current research on Europe and Eurasia. Research paper required. Restricted to students in the MA in European and Eurasian studies program or with permission of the instructor.

IAFF 6338. Special Topics in European and Eurasian Studies. 0-3 Credits.
Topics announced in the Schedule of Classes.

IAFF 6339. European and Eurasian Studies Capstone. 3 Credits.
Survey of current research on Europe and Eurasia. Research paper required. Restricted to students in the MA in European and Eurasian studies program or with permission of the instructor.

IAFF 6341. Latin American and Hemispheric Studies Cornerstone. 3 Credits.
Multidisciplinary foundation course for the Latin American and hemispheric studies program.

IAFF 6342. Drug Trafficking in the Americas. 3 Credits.
A historical, comparative, and contemporary picture of drug trafficking in the Americas and the anti-narcotics policies to combat this trade.

IAFF 6357. Latin American and Hemispheric Studies Pre-Capstone Workshop. 1 Credit.
First in a two-course sequence with IAFF 6359. Planning and preparation to undertake field-based research related to a specific problem or issue of interest to a sponsoring organization. Restricted to students in the MA in Latin American and hemispheric studies program.

IAFF 6358. Special Topics in Latin American and Hemispheric Studies. 0-3 Credits.
Topics announced in the Schedule of Classes.

IAFF 6359. Latin American and Hemispheric Studies Capstone. 3 Credits.
Second in a two-course sequence with IAFF 6357. A project-oriented course, designed to apply the skills and synthesize the knowledge that students have acquired in their graduate study. Restricted to students in the MA in Latin American and hemispheric studies program.

IAFF 6361. Middle East Studies Cornerstone. 3 Credits.
Multidisciplinary foundation course for the Middle East studies program. Introduction to key issues.

IAFF 6362. Regional Security in Middle East. 3 Credits.
The nature, elements, and future of security in the Middle East region. Various analytical frameworks are examined to consider the interplay of national interests, ideology, and regionalism. Issues in regional security.

IAFF 6363. Political Economy of the Middle East. 3 Credits.
Current political economy of the Middle East, including an overview of Islamic economic concepts and political organizations.

IAFF 6364. Religion and Society in the Modern Middle East. 3 Credits.
Comparative overview, both historical and current, of religious and social trends in the Middle East.

IAFF 6377. Middle East Studies Program Capstone Workshop. 1 Credit.
First in a two-course sequence with IAFF 6379. Second-year students in the MA in the Middle East studies program work in groups on a project addressing a policy problem or issue in international affairs. Restricted to students in the MA in Middle East studies program.

IAFF 6378. Special Topics in Middle East Studies. 0-3 Credits.
Topics announced in the Schedule of Classes.

IAFF 6379. Middle East Studies Capstone. 3 Credits.
Second in a two-course sequence with IAFF 6377. A project-oriented course, designed to synthesize the skills and knowledge that students have acquired in their graduate study. Restricted to students in the MA in Middle East studies program.
IAFF 6501. Quantitative Analysis for International Affairs Practitioners. 3 Credits.
Overview of quantitative measurement, data summary, statistical inference, and elementary modeling such as linear regression.

IAFF 6502. Professional Skills I. 1 Credit.
Short courses that focus on developing specialized skills for international affairs professionals. Topics announced in the Schedule of Classes.

IAFF 6503. Professional Skills II. 1 Credit.
Continuation of IAFF 6502. Short courses that focus on developing specialized skills for international affairs professionals. Topics announced in the Schedule of Classes.

IAFF 6504. Intermediate Conversation. 1 Credit.
Short courses designed to develop professional language skills for international affairs students. Specific languages announced in the Schedule of Classes.

IAFF 6505. Elliott School Seminars. 0-3 Credits.
Topics vary by semester. May be repeated for credit provided the topic differs. See Schedule of Classes for more details.

IAFF 6515. Graduate Internship in International Affairs. 0 Credits.
Internship and research paper involving experience at an international organization or with international issues. Restricted to MA candidates in the Elliott School.

IAFF 6516. Independent Study and Research. 1-3 Credits.
Restricted to MA candidates in the Elliott School. Prerequisites: Written permission of the instructor.

IAFF 6517. Independent Study and Research. 1-3 Credits.

IAFF 6521. U.S. Foreign Policy Summer Program. 3-4 Credits.
The institutions and ideas that shape U.S. foreign policy, including the U.S. Congress and administration, foreign embassies, international organizations, think tanks, interest groups, and media outlets. A separate section of the course covers issues of reporting on foreign policy issues.

IAFF 6898. Capstone Workshop. 2 Credits.
First part of two-semester sequence that addresses a concrete policy problem or issue in international affairs. In small teams, students refine the policy question of the capstone project, develop a research strategy, select appropriate research methods, and begin research. Continued in IAFF 6899.

IAFF 6899. Capstone Course. 2 Credits.
Second part of a two-semester sequence. Completion of the capstone sequence by conduct of the group’s research, completion of the capstone report, and oral presentation of research findings and recommendations. Prerequisite: IAFF 6898.

IAFF 6998. Thesis. 3 Credits.
Restricted to MA candidates in the Elliott School who have selected the thesis option. Restricted to MA candidates in the Elliott School who have selected the thesis option.

IAFF 6999. Thesis. 3 Credits.
Open to Elliott School MA candidates who have selected the thesis option.