International Relations

Degree options in the Faculty of Arts

MA (Single Honours Degree)
International Relations

BA (International Honours Degree)
International Relations (See page 45)

MA (Joint Honours Degrees)
International Relations and one of:
- Ancient History
- Arabic
- Art History
- Biblical Studies
- Classical Studies
- Comparative Literature
- Economics
- Film Studies
- French
- Geography
- German
- Italian
- Mathematics
- Mediaeval History
- Middle East
- Modern History
- Persian
- Philosophy
- Psychology
- Russian
- Social
- Scottish History
- Anthropology
- Spanish

International Relations and two Modern Languages
Any combination of Arabic, French, German, Italian, Persian, Russian, Spanish is available, see page 130.

MA “With” Degree
Honours in which two-thirds of the course deals with the first-named subject:

International Relations with Persian

Due to a 2000-level timetable clash in second semester, students in second year take at least one of the 2000-level Classical Studies modules rather than 2000-level Ancient History.

W Available With Integrated Year Abroad – see Modern Languages.
L Timetable clash exists, alternative hours are arranged for the language.
C Contact the School of Modern Languages for more information.
H Contact the School of History for more information.

Entrance Requirements

Obtaining the following grades will not guarantee you a place as we consider all aspects of every application, including the Personal Statement.

SQA Highers: AAAB
GCE A-Levels: AAA
International Baccalaureate Points: 38

Please note:
- Each year the University receives many more applications for a degree in International Relations than there are places. If you wish to study International Relations here, ensure that you indicate this on the UCAS form.
- Access to 1000-level modules in International Relations is restricted. Only first year undergraduate students from the Faculties of Arts and Divinity meeting the Faculty Entrance Requirements as outlined on page 53 or meeting the Entrance Requirements as outlined above are allowed to take them. Check the International Relations webpages for more details on overseas Entrance Requirements. More information is available at Advising.

Features

- Our School is the only one of its kind in Scotland and one of the few universities in the UK that offers a Single Honours degree specifically in International Relations.
- Our School has an established international reputation for its high quality teaching and research.
- We specialise in international security, peace and conflict studies, terrorism studies, International institutions, international theory and regional studies.
- We provide extra-curricular opportunities including internships in School research centres and outreach programmes in the local community.
- Prizes are awarded to outstanding graduating students as well as for the best essay written in each year of undergraduate study.
- Our School attracts students from many countries and backgrounds.

Facilities and resources

The School is located in the historic heart of the town in a building opened in 2006.

The School is of a size that allows us to teach the common core of our discipline whilst offering substantial choice and specialisation in the Honours programme. We are a large and diverse School, but we strive to offer you the small size of a tutorial group and attention of staff which are so much part of the St Andrews tradition.

Our School has an enviable reputation for the quality and variety of students enrolling in its courses.
“International Relations fascinates me and this is the case for the majority of the student body. Learning in such a diverse environment is invaluable. Our variety of opinions and cultural perspectives makes studying IR very fulfilling. Also, being taught and interacting with intellectuals who impact their field of study is fascinating and motivating. The diversity of modules taught by those experts continuously fuels our passion.”

Maxime (Saint-genis Laval, France)

What will I study?

The study of International Relations is theoretically challenging whilst having a very practical purpose. How should we understand the world and how should we act in it? Some of the issues explored when pursuing a degree in International Relations are raised in Higher, A-Level and other courses particularly in Modern Studies, Politics, History and Geography.

We require students to have high academic qualifications, a firm interest in International Relations, broad intellectual interests in related areas (such as history, politics, moral philosophy and modern languages), and an enthusiasm for critical engagement with ideas old and new.

Indicative programme information

First Year (2 x 20-credit modules required)

*Introduction to International Relations* covers the basic theoretical approaches and concepts including realism, liberalism, sovereignty, statehood, power, nationalism and globalisation. These theories and concepts are related to international conflict, attempts to create a more peaceful international order, and the problems of a globalising world.

*Foreign Policy Analysis and International Security* looks at foreign policy making and the importance of security to this process. Factors that shape individual states’ conduct of foreign policy are explored including the role of public opinion, the media, culture, economics, domestic political arrangements, constitutional structures, international law and diplomacy. Case studies can include the US, China, UK, EU as well as countries in the developing world.

Second Year (2 x 20-credit modules required)

*Theoretical Approaches to International Relations* covers theoretical approaches in International Relations, such as constructivism and the English School, radical Marxist and neo-Marxist perspectives as well as feminism, postmodernism and postcolonialism. The objective of the module is to critique and compare the assumptions and values that underlie each theory encouraging an enhanced critical understanding of International Relations.

*Issues in International Relations* explores how theoretical approaches to International Relations relate to issues that confront those engaged in global politics. Issues covered include terrorism and asymmetric warfare, weapons of mass destruction, ‘new wars’, humanitarian intervention, human rights, religion, aid and development, environmental politics and regionalism.

Honours – Third and Fourth Years

Upon gaining entry to Honours you can choose from a range of modules. If you are taking Joint Honours, you will choose four 30-credit modules and if you are taking Single Honours, you will choose six 30-credit modules and a year-long dissertation.

Modules offered at Honours include those relating to the following subjects:

- Conflict and Conflict Resolution
- Human Rights
- International Security
- Globalisation
- International Political Theory
- International Law
- International Organisations
- Gender
- Terrorism
- Foreign Policy
- Comparative Politics including Africa, Middle East, China, Central and East Asia

Study abroad

We offer a variety of semester or full-year programmes for Honours students. You may apply to participate in the School’s exchange programmes. In 2016 - 2017 these include the University of Hong Kong and Renmin University of China, as well as Erasmus+ exchanges with the universities of Hamburg, Tübingen, Iceland and Sciences Po in Paris. For options available during your intended period of study, see: [www.st-andrews.ac.uk/studyabroad/outgoingstudents](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/studyabroad/outgoingstudents)

For further information about eligibility, the application and selection process, and costs involved, please see: [www.st-andrews.ac.uk/studyabroad](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/studyabroad)

You may also apply to the University’s St Andrews Abroad programme. See page 46.

Typical class sizes and teaching information

First Year: lectures ~ 365, tutorials 10 - 15
Second Year: lectures ~ 280, tutorials 10 - 12
Honours: lectures 15 - 25, tutorials 6 - 12

Research-led teaching brings cutting-edge research directly to the classroom. You will have three lectures per week in first year which decreases to one lecture per module per week at Honours. One weekly tutorial is also given to discuss material covered in lectures.

Typical methods of assessment

Almost all our modules are assessed by an equal balance of coursework and written examinations.

Careers


See also page 36 for details of the University’s Careers Centre.