

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES, DIPLOMACY, GLOBAL

LANGUAGE & AREA STUDY



Global Language & Area Studies provides an individual with a basic working proficiency in a different language and a broad knowledge of the area of focus, while also having the basic theoretical tools needed to analyze language and culture in any region. Students have the option at the University of Rhode Island to specifically focus on developing higher levels of language proficiency or a deeper understanding of their region of focus within arabic, classical studies, or japanese. International Studies & Diplomacy provides students with two main focus areas: one within international studies and the other within an approved language. The international studies focus area emphasizes the relationship between international relations, international economics, and international history and culture. The language focus is designed to have students obtain full language proficiency as well as a deep understanding of the cultural context of the language. This understanding of different cultures is valued by employers in industries such as travel and tourism, law, communications, language services, education, social services, international relations, international business.

You may choose to study Global Language & Area Studies or International Studies & Diplomacy because you enjoy the subject but wish to pursue careers requiring “any major” associated with the industries listed above. In this scenario, it is critical to develop skills relevant to targeted fields through internships, part-time or summer jobs, or volunteer experiences.

Global Language & Area Studies and International Studies & Diplomacy majors are excellent candidates for a number of graduate school options because of their broad liberal arts background as well as specific interests that may set them apart from other students. For those wishing to pursue graduate education, maintain a high GPA, establish relationships with faculty to secure strong recommendations, and gain experience through volunteer, work, or research opportunities. Research areas of interest for specific program requirements.

AREAS OF OPPORTUNITY

- Human Resources/Labor Relations
- Management
- Importing/Exporting
- International Development/Business
- Diplomacy/Foreign Affairs
- Community/Resource Development
- Policy Making
- Public Sector Reform
- Human Rights
- Teaching
- Language Services
- Higher Education
- International Broadcasting/Journalism
- International Public Law
- Travel Tourism & Hospitality

- Federal Government
- Law/Consulting Firms
- Inter-Governmental Organizations
- Foreign News Agencies & Newspapers
- International Schools
- English Language Institutes
- Religions Organizations

- Colleges & Universities
- Study Abroad Providers
- Relief Agencies
- United Nations
- Peace Corps
- Humanities Services
- Non-Profits
- International Companies, Manufacturers, & Firms

COMMON EMPLOYERS

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION

- Peace Corps
- United Nations
- American Institute of Foreign Study
- American Translators Association
- International Center for Journalists
- International School Services
- National Association of International Education



STRATEGIES ON ENTERING THE FIELD

- Develop linguistic skills. Become fluent in a second language.
- Gain experience communicating with people from other cultures.
- Seek opportunities to engage and interact with international students on campus or in your community.
- Study abroad, work abroad, or travel to a foreign country while in school to develop language skills and international competency.
- Get your foot in the door through domestic positions because many international employers promote current employees to international positions.
- Supplement your coursework with courses that expand your perspectives of differences in people both individual, group, societal, and cultural
- Obtain internships in offices, with employers, and for organizations that utilize your languages of study or work to support/promote/conduct business with the cultures/countries you are interested in.
- Volunteer or work to tutor and teach others your language(s) of focus to further strengthen your language proficiency.
- Support initiatives at the local, state, federal, business, or national level that are focused on your language or culture of interest.