



MASTERS OF ARTS IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (MA)

The MA in International Relations program is a late afternoon and evening program offered by the Department of Political Science at the University of Rhode Island. It offers students specialized training in the core theories and practices in International Relations. The MA program is designed to accommodate part-time and full-time students, as well as those who are interested in taking courses for a better global understanding. Students can specialize their degree by selecting one of our three concentrations: **Diplomacy, International Development, or Global Peace Studies**. About a third of our students wish to secure PhD assistantships in the future, and we have had much success in recent years sending students to Washington University in St. Louis, Vanderbilt, Rice, North Carolina, Minnesota, Ohio State, Illinois, Maryland, and Brown with full funding.

We have a handful of teaching assistantships that come with full or half tuition and a small living stipend. These are competitive and open to new applicants as well as students currently in the MA program. Most of our students are not funded by URI. You are automatically eligible by applying to the program, though it is strongly recommended to state your interest in one of these positions in your cover letter.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Successful completion of the M.A. program requires a minimum of 30 credit hours of graduate study (at least half of which must be at the 500 level and above) and a written comprehensive exam followed by an oral exam. Students writing a thesis must present an oral defense of their thesis in lieu of the oral exam. These exams are scheduled at least once a year, and are usually taken during one's final semester in the program.

All M.A. candidates are required to complete four core graduate seminars:

- PSC 580 "Seminar in International Relations"
- PSC 585 "Diplomacy and Statecraft"
- PSC 584 "Seminar in Comparative International Development"
- PSY/NVP 500 "Theory and Research on Nonviolence and Peace"

In addition, candidates must take at least six additional courses at the graduate level, with no more than four of these outside the department.

MA CORE CURRICULUM

- PSC 586 "Political Violence and Conflict Resolution"
- PSC 553 "Scope and Methods in Political Science Research"
- PSC 577 "International Ocean Law"
- PSC 521 "Global Politics of Work and Welfare"
- PSC 544 "Democracy and Its Critics"
- PSC 581/582 Special Topics in Political Science
 - Religion and International Relations
 - Political Economy of International Migration
 - Crisis, Development, and Human Rights
 - International Conflict
 - Non-Governmental Organizations Administration and Ethics
 - Diplomacy in Practice
- Courses on Regional Politics: The Middle East, Latin America, Africa, China, and Russia.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Admission is on a rolling basis. Applicants are required to submit two letters of recommendation, a copy of their official undergraduate transcript, a resume, and a personal statement. The GRE requirement is waived for applicants whose undergraduate GPA was above 3.0. The deadline for applicants who want to be considered for a possible for TA position is March 31st.

An online application is required: http://www.uri.edu/gsadmis/gs_apply.html

CONTACT INFORMATION

Kristin Johnson, Graduate Director
401-874-5495; kristin_johnson@uri.edu