

PROGRAMS AVAILABLE: Bachelor of Arts | Minor

Focus on understanding and explaining how the international political system operates.

Are you fascinated by how governments function? Do you want to make a difference and have an impact on public policy? If so, a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in international relations from Creighton University will be an important step toward your goal of having a meaningful life. The Department of Political Science and International Relations prepares students to be independent and responsible citizens. The Department strives to strengthen these skills through classroom instruction, research and other department activities.

When you major or minor in international relations, you'll examine global governance. Among the core issues are international conflict, inter-state cooperation, growing global integration, the role of international institutions and global nonprofit organizations and the development and extension of international law.

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

- Develop high-level analytical, problem-solving and critical thinking skills necessary for a rapidly changing world and gain the ability to manage and interpret information.
- Conduct research along-side faculty, participate in internships and engage in compelling dialogue through the Model UN and student government.
- Research, Design and Analysis track prepares students to excel in an emergent data science industry. Students have studied human trafficking in an effort to assist the FBI while others have focused on consumer research or STRATCOM internships.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Political Science Research Conference

Each spring students have the opportunity to attend the annual Political Science Student Research Conference held at various colleges and universities. You can present research papers and discuss your research with undergraduates from other schools. Every April, a group of students also travels to the Midwest Political Science Association meeting in Chicago to present their research.

Capitol Hill Internship Program

Through the Capitol Hill Internship Program (CHIP), you can spend a semester living and working in Washington, D.C., the hub of U.S. politics and international relations. You will work at a compelling internship 4 days a week (32 hours) and attend classes 1 day per week. Creighton's CHIP townhouse is a short walk from Capitol Hill, the Supreme Court, the House and Senate Office Buildings, Union Station (and its Metro station), the Capitol Mall and museums, restaurants and galleries.

State and Local Internships

The Department of Political Science and International Relations actively places students in internships with city, state and local government, as well as with local interest groups and nonprofits. During election years, many students also intern with local political campaigns.

CAREER OUTLOOK

Creighton international relations majors learn data analysis skills, which are highly sought after by firms that do market research, intelligence gathering, polling and risk analysis. Mastery of a foreign language further enhances your career prospects.

CAREER OUTCOMES

Employment Opportunities

A bachelor's degree in international relations from Creighton opens the door to a variety of careers:

- Law
- Business
- Public administration
- Journalism or public relations
- Community service agencies
- Public affairs
- Education
- Military or intelligence and anti-terrorism
- Political campaign management or public office

Graduate Studies

Our students have gone on to some of the best graduate schools in the country, including:

- Harvard University
- Princeton University
- University of Michigan
- University of North Carolina
- University of Rochester

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS TRACKS

One general track is available through the department.

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Major in International Relations

For more details on the full curriculum, visit:

<http://catalog.creighton.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/political-science/international-relations-ba/>

CLASSES FOR THE GENERAL TRACK

PLS 105	Introduction to World Politics 1	3
PLS 121	American Government And Politics	3
PLS 215	Comparative Political Systems	3
PLS 310	Political Science Research Methods	0-4
PLS 340	International Politics	3
PLS 591	Senior Research Seminar In Political Science	3

Select six credits from the following: 6

PLS 345	International Political Economy
PLS 347	International Regimes
PLS 435	Global Poverty and Development
PLS 472	International Conflict

Select twelve credits from the following: 12

PLS 301	Western European Political Systems
PLS 303	Politics Of Russia And The USSR Successor States
PLS 305	Eastern European Political Systems
PLS 313	Politics of the Middle East
PLS 315	Politics of Asia
PLS 316	Government and Politics of People's Republic of China
PLS 317	Latin American Government And Politics
PLS 319	Politics Of The Developing Areas
PLS 341	Issues And Challenges In American Foreign Policy
PLS 342	Foreign Policy And Diplomacy Of Major Powers
PLS 343	National Security and Strategic Studies
PLS 345	International Political Economy
PLS 347	International Regimes
PLS 401	The European Union
PLS 405	Ethnicity, Nationalism and Democracy
PLS 407	Revolutions and Revolutionary Movements
PLS 410	Seminar On Comparative Politics
PLS 411	Politics of Africa
PLS 435	Global Poverty and Development
PLS 440	Seminar on International Relations
PLS 472	International Conflict
PLS 481	Poverty, Development and Public Policy
PLS 510	The New Institutionalism
PLS 537	International Law

Total Credits

33-37

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

Pi Sigma Alpha

Creighton's award-winning chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, the national political science honor society, was established in 1977 and is popular with international relations majors. Members organize student-faculty events and bring speakers to campus. Since 2000, seven Creighton students have been awarded "Best Paper" or "Best Thesis Paper" by Pi Sigma Alpha's national office.

Journal of Political Research

Creighton's Journal of Political Research is student-led and student-edited. The journal publishes research papers written by undergraduate students from across the country.

International Relations Club

The International Relations Club (IRC) is ideal if you have special interests in international politics. The IRC sponsors speakers, campus crisis simulations and award-winning delegations to Model United Nations conferences across the country and around the world.

Model United Nations

Creighton's Model United Nations team participates in several Model UN conferences throughout the year. Students have traveled to conferences in Boston, Montreal, Chicago, Turkey, Germany, Egypt, Japan, Korea, Brazil and Singapore.

Public Affairs Colloquium

Several times a semester, students and faculty gather over lunchtime for speakers, research presentations or discussion on current political topics. The colloquium is a great opportunity for informal interaction by students, faculty and staff.