

Meet Our Alumni

The Department has taught me the essentials of international relations – the actor, the state, and the system. The tides may turn and geopolitical realities may shift, but the interaction of these elements remain. One cannot make and implement foreign policy in a vacuum.



As a diplomat, this has contributed so much to my understanding of conflict management, crisis prevention, and problem-solving. All which require the courage to protect the country's interests, the capacity to reconcile differences among states, and the ability to utilize existing mechanisms and institutions for cooperation and peaceful resolution of disputes.


Maria Fides A. Quintos
Foreign Service Officer, Department of Foreign Affairs

My education under the Department of Political Science and the International Studies Program has been invaluable, particularly in the fields of international cooperation and diplomacy. Graduate students were/are able to choose from a diverse range of thematic courses, such as geopolitics, migration studies, intersectional approaches, and the convergence of spreadable media, technology, and transcultural politics. Aside from unique courses offered by the program, I also credit the faculty who have extensive experience within the academe and with other key institutions.

Their nuanced insights and support have been helpful to my career and my research interests, including my work with the Japan Foundation's arts and cultural exchange programs, and my current research on ever-evolving global, regional, and grassroots exchanges.

Szusza Velasco
Assistant Professor
Department of Art Studies, UP Diliman



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University of the Philippines Diliman
College of Social Sciences and Philosophy
Department of Political Science

MASTER IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Background of the Department

The **Department of Political Science** of the University of the Philippines Diliman is proud of more than a century-long tradition of honor and excellence. It is the only one recognized by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) as a Center of Excellence in Political Science in the Philippines. As home to the largest number of full-time political science faculty in the Philippines with graduate degrees from reputable universities, it contributes to the distinction of the University of the Philippines as the only Philippine higher education institution ranked in the Quacquarelli Symonds' World University Ranking for the subject of Politics.

Program Overview

Our **Master in International Affairs (MIA)** program provides students with an understanding of contemporary international society, including the forces shaping and transforming it. Through the program, students can better understand contemporary international issues and problems, as well as the various strategies for responding to them. Students also develop a sense of importance for conceptual paradigms that guide the actions of individual leaders and institutions in the international arena. They likewise develop an appreciation for academic and policy-oriented research and are exposed to multidisciplinary and comparative approaches.

The program is practitioner-oriented and aims to provide professional preparation for those who plan to pursue careers in foreign service, international organizations, transnational corporations, or similar industries that require an International Relations background.

Scanned copies of the following documents shall be submitted via email.

1. Application form via a google form that will be uploaded during application period.
2. Original and complete Transcript of Records
3. Certificate of GWA
4. Original PSA-certified Birth Certificate (for Filipino citizens)
5. Three (3) recommendation letters from former professors and/or employers
6. Letter of application addressed to the Department Chair
7. A statement on research interest (800-1,000 words)
8. For non-UP graduates: Upon acceptance, a softcopy of the original Honorable Dismissal or Transfer Credentials from the immediately preceding higher education institution

The following are the minimum requirements for admission into the program:

1. Bachelor's degree
2. General Weighted Average (GWA) of 2.0 or better for UP graduates or 1.75 or better for non-UP graduates;
3. Non-refundable fee of PhP100 for Filipino citizens, PhP200 for resident aliens, and US\$25 for foreigners. Payment procedures will be emailed to applicants at the end of the application period.
4. For those whose native language is not English, proof of English proficiency (e.g., a TOEFL score of 80 for the internet-based test or 550 for the paper-based test or IELTS Band 6.5), unless they earned degrees from institutions where English is the medium of instruction.
5. Panel interview

APPLICATION DEADLINE: JUNE 15
(First semester entry only)

Program Requirements

| Courses | Units |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| Core Courses/Prerequisites | 9 |
| IA 202 | 3 |
| IA 205 | 3 |
| IA 290 | 3 |
| IA Electives* | 9 |
| IA 264 (required) | 3 |
| Elective 2 | 3 |
| Elective 3 | 3 |
| Cognate Courses ** | 9 |
| IA 299 | 3 |
| Capstone Project (under IA 299) | |
| Total units | 30 |
| Comprehensive Examinations | |

**Prerequisites: IA 202, IA 205, and IA 290.*
**Elective courses can be taken in Master in International Affairs and Master of Arts (Political Science) program courses in Area 3 (Comparative Politics) and Area 4 (International Relations).*
***Cognate courses can be taken in the following disciplines / areas: Anthropology, Linguistics, Asian Studies, Philippine Studies, Economics, Public Administration, Geography, Sociology, History, Islamic Studies, and such other areas that may be designated and allowed by the Graduate Faculty.*

