

# Meet Our Alumni

The Masters in International Studies was a game-changer for me. The courses—especially those on democratic erosion and industrial development—challenged my assumptions and expanded my understanding of global and regional contexts and trends. The class discussions and learning materials from the MIS courses continue to inform program design in my current work as head of MBC's Governance and Sustainability and help me make better, more nuanced decisions on our regional partnerships and strategy.



**Francesca Mitchel F. Oflada**  
Director - Head of Governance and Sustainability

My journey in UP Diliman ushered in significant breakthroughs in both my personal and professional growth. The MIS program was essential in finding my feet as a young person in government for it further enriched my appreciation for International Relations and its related fields, thus empowering me to meet the evolving demands of my vocation. Apart from gaining specialized skills to contribute to Philippine foreign policy, the program led me to a community of passionate professors and fellow graduate students from various backgrounds who always supported each other's desire for continued learning. The MIS program's culture of academic rigor and critical thinking was the perfect space to freely exchange insights on the multifaceted dynamics of the international community. More importantly, it never failed to remind that excellence alone is meaningless if it is not relevant to the concerns of the country that UP students are called to serve.



**Antonio Emmanuel R. Miranda**  
Master in International Studies  
Class of 2021



(632) 8981-8500  
local 2342/ 2380



[polsci.upd@up.edu.ph](mailto:polsci.upd@up.edu.ph)



[polsci.upd.edu.ph](http://polsci.upd.edu.ph)



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UP Diliman Department of Political Science  
2/F Bulwagang Silangang Palma  
Africa Street, UP Campus  
1101 Quezon City



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.

# Admission Requirements

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

1. Application via a google form that will be uploaded during the 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 requirement 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 DATES:

See Admission Page for the updated schedule.

The MIA program accepts applications for the First Semester Only

# Program Outcomes

At the end of the program, the MIA student should be able to:

1. discuss different approaches in the study of international affairs, its institutions, actors, and processes;
2. generate policy-relevant research that addresses global challenges using advanced analytical techniques;
3. apply relevant skills for the advanced professional careers in international affairs and related fields; and
4. practice excellence and ethical conduct as professionals in the various fields of international affairs.

# Program Requirements

Courses	Units
<b>Core Courses/Prerequisites</b>	<b>9</b>
IA 202	3
IA 205	3
IA 290	3
<b>IA Electives*</b>	<b>9</b>
IA 264 (required)	3
Elective 2	3
Elective 3	3
<b>Cognate Courses **</b>	<b>9</b>
IA 299	3
Capstone Project (under IA 299)	
<b>Total units</b>	<b>30</b>

## 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.*