

UNIT REPORT

**International Studies (BA) -
Reviewer's Report - Academic Data**

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International Studies (BA)

B.A. International Studies Mission

Mission:

The International Studies major was created to fulfill the internationalization goal stated by the University of Florida 2007 strategic work plan, which states that “The University of Florida has an obligation to develop resources for understanding different cultures and societies so that the citizenry of the state and nation are prepared for the increasing integration of the global community”. It is aimed as well to accomplish the mission of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the undergraduate level, to develop an intellectual foundation based on a well-rounded and comprehensive education designed for an increasingly technological and rapidly changing society. In this context, the major is designed to prepare students for life and work in an international arena. Students will become knowledgeable of at least one major region of the world and significant global issues, and interpret and effectively communicate about global issues. Students develop a working knowledge of a modern foreign language, and many experience living and studying abroad or working with an international organization focused on international issues. All students conduct research and write a paper on a regional or global issue.

Start: 07/01/2017**End:** 06/30/2018

PG 1 Interdisciplinary international perspectives

Goal: Equip students with interdisciplinary international perspectives to prepare them to be competitive for graduate school or the workplace.**Evaluation Method:**

The evaluation of the final project, submitted as part of the capstone course (INS 4930) is the major assessment tool of the major. The paper is evaluated by the CLAS faculty member assigned to teach INS 4930 with consultation with a faculty member who specializes in the relevant region. Evaluation should follow the grading rubric designed for this purpose. Surveys of graduates of the program provide placement information,

Results:

Out of 95 students assessed, 95 successfully completed the final project (100%). When looking at the specific SLOs, it appeared that students need more work on SLO 2: Critical Thinking, as that had the fewest number of students and lowest percentage of students performing at an outstanding level.

XOn Campus: false**XProgram CIP:** 30.2001**XOnline:** false**XOther Site:** false**XIf Other Site:**

SLO 1 Content Knowledge

Outcome:

Describe, explain, and apply basic knowledge of the modern history, culture, politics, geography, economy, or sociology of one major region of the world (Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America or the Middle East).

SLO Area (select one): Content (UG)**Assessment Method:**

Research paper

Rubric

SLO Not Assessed This Year:**Results:**

70% or better constitutes satisfactory individual performance; 90% or better constitutes outstanding individual performance. Out of 95 students assessed, 95 (100%) successfully met the outcome (78 outstanding, 17 satisfactory). This met the 80% threshold of acceptability.

Start: 07/01/2017**End:** 06/30/2018**Threshold of Acceptability:** 80**How many students did you assess for this outcome?:** 95**How many students met the outcome?:** 95**What percentage of students met the outcome?:** 100

Does this meet your threshold of acceptability?: Yes

SLO 2 Critical Thinking

Outcome: Use analytical intellectual tools to examine global issues.

SLO Area (select one): Critical Thinking (UG)

Assessment Method:

Research paper

Rubric

SLO Not Assessed This Year:

Results:

70% or better constitutes satisfactory individual performance; 90% or better constitutes outstanding individual performance. Out of 95 students assessed, 94 (99%) successfully met the outcome (48 outstanding, 46 satisfactory, 1 unsatisfactory). This met the 80% threshold of acceptability.

Start: 07/01/2017

End: 06/30/2018

Threshold of Acceptability: 80

How many students did you assess for this outcome?: 95

How many students met the outcome?: 94

What percentage of students met the outcome?: 99

Does this meet your threshold of acceptability?: Yes

SLO 3 Communication

Outcome: Interpret and effectively communicate about global issues.

SLO Area (select one): Communication (UG)

Assessment Method:

Research paper

Rubric

SLO Not Assessed This Year:

Results:

70% or better constitutes satisfactory individual performance; 90% or better constitutes outstanding individual performance. Out of 95 students assessed, 95 (100%) successfully met the outcome (77 outstanding, 18 satisfactory). This met the 80% threshold of acceptability.

Start: 07/01/2017

End: 06/30/2018

Threshold of Acceptability: 80

How many students did you assess for this outcome?: 95

How many students met the outcome?: 95

What percentage of students met the outcome?: 100

Does this meet your threshold of acceptability?: Yes

Programmatic Use of Results

Program: International Studies (BA)

Programmatic Use of Results:

The Director reviewed the results with faculty. Based on the results, faculty decided to re-examine data from previous years to see if there is a trend in student performance on all SLOs, but especially on SLO 2 (Critical Thinking). Second, pending the outcome of that analysis, faculty will discuss potential ways to improve student performance on SLO 2. Third, the evaluation rubric has been in use without modification for six years. This year faculty decided to spend time re-evaluating both the rubric and the senior project itself to make sure we are still using proper evaluation tools.

Program Results Not Reported This Year:

B.A. International Studies Detail

End: 06/30/2018

Start: 07/01/2017

Providing Department: International Studies (BA)

Assessment Cycle (All AAPs):

Analysis and Interpretation: 2014/5 – 2016/7

Improvement Actions: Fall 2016

Dissemination: January 2017

SLOs	Year	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20
Content Knowledge		√	√	√	√	x	x
Critical Thinking		√	√	√	√	x	x
Communication		√	√	√	√	x	x

Assessment is based on the research paper submitted by students as part of their duties in the major's capstone course (INS 4930). This course will be offered for the first time in Spring 2014. It will be offered once or twice a year, depending on the number of majors we will have.

SLO Assessment Rubric (All AAPs):

Appendix 1: Grading Rubric – International Studies Major

Evaluation of final written project and oral presentation

SLO	Excellent	Good	Basic	Rudimentary	Insufficient	POINTS
<p><i>Research Articulation</i> (50%)</p>	<p><i>Demonstrates profound knowledge of the cultural correlates and global issues being studied; extensive knowledge of theories applied to research question in an insightful way; provides well-structured arguments or accurately analyzed evidence to support conclusions</i> [50-45 points]</p>	<p><i>Demonstrates considerable knowledge of the cultural correlates and global issues being studied; competent knowledge of theories applied to the research question in an insightful way; provides acceptable arguments or analyzed evidence to support conclusion</i> [44-40 points]</p>	<p><i>Demonstrates some knowledge of the cultural correlates and global issues being studied; knowledge of theories is applied to the research question with some accuracy; provides some arguments analyzed evidence but conclusions are only vaguely supported</i> [39-35 points]</p>	<p><i>Demonstrates only piecemeal knowledge of the cultural correlates and global issues being studied; knowledge of theories is applied to the research question in a hit-or-miss way; arguments or evidence lead only tangentially to conclusions</i> [34-30 points]</p>	<p><i>Unable to demonstrate coherent knowledge of the cultural correlates and global issues being studied; knowledge of theories is inadequately applied to the research question ; arguments or evidence presented do no lead to any coherent conclusion</i> [29-0 points]</p>	
<p><i>Knowledge of World Region</i> (25%)</p>	<p><i>Excellent command of global issues in a region of the world; mastery in applying knowledge of a global issue and its relevance to understanding a country or society with an excellent level of proficiency in referencing and analyzing materials focused on a region of the world</i> [25-23 points]</p>	<p><i>Good command of global issues in a region of the world; above average in terms of applying knowledge of a global issue and its relevance to understanding a country or society with a good level of proficiency in referencing and analyzing materials focused on a region of the world</i> [22-20 points]</p>	<p><i>Only moderate command of global issues in a region of the world; and moderate knowledge of a global issue and its relevance to understanding a country or society with a moderate level of proficiency in referencing and analyzing materials focused on a region of the world</i> [19-18 points]</p>	<p><i>Minimal command of global issues in a region of the world; and, applying knowledge of a global issue and its relevance to understanding a country or society with a minimal level of proficiency in referencing and analyzing materials focused on a region of the world</i> [17-15 points]</p>	<p><i>Shows no command of global issues in a region of the world; and, applying knowledge of a global issue and its relevance to understanding a country or society with no proficiency in referencing and analyzing materials focused on a region of the world</i> [14-0 points]</p>	

Communication (25%)	Articulates arguments on global issues with excellent coherence and clarity of arguments. Presents topic referencing materials with confidence and ease; answers questions with ease and appropriate register [25-23 points]	Above average level of coherence and clarity of arguments; presents topic referencing materials with confidence but may falter on occasion; answers questions competently with appropriate register [22-20 points]	Only moderate level of coherence and clarity of arguments; occasionally lacks confidence in referencing materials in presenting topic; answers some questions but, may not maintain appropriate register [19-18 points]	Arguments are vague and lack coherence but still understandable; shows little confidence in ability to present topic when referencing materials; has difficulty answering questions on topic and does not use appropriate register [17-15 points]	Arguments are not clear or impossible to follow; unable to present to audience in coherent way in referencing materials; cannot answer questions related to topic [14-0 points]	
	TOTAL ___/100					

Comments:

Methods and Procedures (UG and Certificate AAPs):

2016-17 Student Learning Outcome	Assessment Method	Measurement Procedure
Describe, explain, and apply basic knowledge of the modern history, culture, politics, geography, economy, or sociology of one major region of the world (Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America or the Middle East).	Research paper	Rubric
Use analytical intellectual tools to examine global issues.	Research paper	Rubric
Interpret and effectively communicate about global issues.	Research paper	Rubric

1. The evaluation of the final project, submitted as part of the capstone course (INS 4930) is the major assessment tool of the major. The paper is evaluated by the CLAS faculty member assigned to teach INS 4930 with consultation with a faculty member who specializes in the relevant region. Evaluation should follow the grading rubric designed for this purpose (See Appendix 1).
2. At the end of the 2016/2017 academic year we will conduct interviews with senior International Studies students to learn about their experience and about the ways we can improve the program.

Curriculum Map (UG AAPs only):

Key: Introduced Reinforced Assessed

Courses	INS 3004	Category A	Category B	Foreign Language***	INS 4930
SLOs	International Studies Perspectives	Courses*	Courses**		International Studies Senior Experience
Content Knowledge	I	R	R	IR	RA Research Paper
Critical Thinking	I	R	R	IR	RA Research Paper
Communication	I	R	R	IR	RA Research Paper

* Each major is required to designate a region of the world on which to focus and to take 15 Credits of International Studies-approved courses in social science, humanities or professional courses that deal with the region of the world selected by the student.

** 15 credits of International Studies-approved courses (click the appropriate region above to see approved courses) in social science, humanities or professional courses that deal with regions of the world other than the student's chosen Category A and/or with global issues.

*** A minimum of four semesters of a single modern foreign language or demonstrated proficiency equivalent to the completion of the intermediate level. The language for which proficiency is demonstrated must be logically linked to the student's selected region.