Elliott School bachelor's degrees engage students with global issues through multi- and interdisciplinary approaches. Students begin their studies in the first year with foundational courses in political science, economics, history, and anthropology or geography. They supplement these courses with courses in the traditional liberal arts categories of composition, math, science, and the humanities. Foreign language study is also emphasized early in each program to enable students to satisfy the third-year language proficiency requirement of our majors in a timely manner. Explore our introductory curriculum below.

I. Introduction to the Major

These requirements introduce the basic ideas of the social sciences that are central to the study of international affairs.

The Introduction to the will impart the fundamental concepts, theories, and reasoning processes of the major disciplines at the center of international affairs: economics, history, and political science. Students will be able to identify the different approaches that peoples and governments take toward international affairs problems and explain the nature of those different approaches.

Prerequisite Core (19 credits)

Required*:

IAFF 1005: Introduction to International Affairs: A Washington Perspective  
ECON 1011: Principles of Economics – Micro  
ECON 1012: Principles of Economics – Macro  
HIST 1011: World History (1500 to present)  
PSC 1001: Introduction to Comparative Politics

*These courses must be taken in the first year. With the exception of ECON 1011 (fall) and ECON 1012 (spring), courses can be taken in fall or spring.

Select One:

These courses satisfy departmental prerequisite requirements for upper-level courses approved for use later in the International Affairs program.

ANTH 1002: Sociocultural Anthropology  
GEOG 1001: Introduction to Human Geography

With advisor approval, a student may select another introductory social science course if s/he can demonstrate why it is relevant to the student’s academic pursuits. Examples of courses that might be accepted include ANTH 1004, GEOG 1003.
II. Supporting Courses in the Liberal Arts

These courses, focusing on writing, science and mathematics, and the humanities, provide a general education in the classic tradition and enhance intellectual capacity and critical thinking skills.

Writing (10 Credits)

This requirement enables students to develop their ability to write effectively and to read analytically for the academic world and beyond.

- Writing requirements are established by the University Writing Program
- Students must complete UW1020 before enrolling in a WID course for WID credit.
- The two WID courses should be in the student's major, minor, or a related field, and must be completed in separate semesters in order to receive WID credit.
- WID courses are designated in the Schedule of Classes and GWeb with a "W" next to the course number (e.g. HIST 2340W).

Required:

UW 1020: University Writing (4 credits)
Two WID courses (6 credits)*

Math (3 Credits)

Courses in quantitative reasoning enhance logical and critical abilities using numerical data.

- The courses listed below represent the minimum acceptable level; higher-level courses might fulfill this requirement as well. Academic Advisor approval required.
- MATH courses numbered 1051 and higher require a placement test.
- Credit for only one of the following MATH courses may be applied toward a degree: 1221, 1231, or 1252.
- Credit for only one of the following STAT courses may be applied toward a degree: STAT 1051, 1053, or 1111.
- STAT courses may not be double-counted between the Math requirement and the Research Methods requirement.

Select One:

MATH 1007: Mathematics and Politics
MATH 1009: Mathematical Ideas I
MATH 1010: Mathematical Ideas II
MATH 1051: Finite Mathematics for the Social and Management Sciences
MATH 1221: Calculus with Precalculus II
MATH 1231: Single-Variable Calculus I
MATH 1232: Single-Variable Calculus II
MATH 1252: Calculus for the Social and Management Sciences
STAT 1051: Introduction to Business and Economic Statistics
STAT 1053: Introduction to Statistics in Social Science
STAT 1111: Business and Economic Statistics, I
STAT 2112: Business and Economic Statistics, II
Science (3-4 Credits)

Courses in the sciences promote exploration of the fundamental principles of the natural world and demonstrate how the tools of science — careful observation and experimentation — not only help develop technology, but also lead to a deeper understanding of the universe.

Select One:

- ANTH 1001: Biological Anthropology
- ANTH 1005: Biological Bases of Human Behavior
- ASTR 1001: Introduction to Astronomy I
- ASTR 1002: Introduction to Astronomy II
- BISC 1005: Biology of Nutrition and Health
- BISC 1006: Ecology and Evolution of Organisms
- BISC 1111: Introductory Biology: Cells & Molecules
- BISC 1112: Introductory Biology: The Biology of Organisms
- CHEM 1003: Contemporary Science for Non-Science Majors
- CHEM 1004: Contemporary Science for Non-Science Majors
- CHEM 1111: General Chemistry I
- CHEM 1112: General Chemistry II
- CHEM 2085: Environmental Chemistry
- GEOG 1002: Introduction to Physical Geography
- GEOL 1001: Physical Geology (Credit will not be given for both GEOL 1001 and 1005)
- GEOL 1002: Historical Geology
- GEOL 1005: Environmental Geology (Credit will not be given for both GEOL 1001 and 1005)
- GEOL 1006: Science and the Environment
- PHYS 1003: Physics for Future Presidents
- PHYS 1005: How Things Work
- PHYS 1007: Music and Physics
- PHYS 1008: Origin and Evolution of Ideas in Physics
- PHYS 1011: General Physics I
- PHYS 1012: General Physics II

Humanities/Creative Arts (9 Credits)*

This requirement can be satisfied by completing nine (9) credits of Humanities courses, or six (6) credits of Humanities courses AND three (3) credits of Creative Arts.

Humanities

The humanities express the ideas, aspirations, and values of individuals and the societies in which they live. Through courses in the humanities, students experience the richness of ideas, traditions, and stories that have shaped the world.

Select Two or Three:

- AH: Any Art History course (except AH 4199)
- CLAS: Any non-language Classical Studies course
- FILM: Any Film Studies Course
- IAFF 2190W: Dissent: A Study in Memoirs
- MUS 1103: Music in the Western World
- MUS 1104: Topics in Music
- MUS 1105: Intro: Musical Thought and Practice
- MUS 1107: Music of the World
- MUS 1108: History of Jazz
MUS 2101: Harmony
MUS 2105: Introduction to Ethnomusicology
MUS 2106: Music History III: 20th Century Art Traditions
MUS 2109: Orchestra Literature
MUS 2110: Chamber Music Literature
MUS 2111: Keyboard Music Literature
MUS 2121: Opera
MUS 2122: Music in the United States
MUS 2123: Musical Cultures of Black Americans
MUS 2174: Introduction to Jazz
MUS 2661: Electronic and Computer Music*
MUS 3126: Music History I: Antiquity through Early Baroque
MUS 3127: Music History II: The Tonal Era
MUS 3139: Form and Analysis
MUS 3174: Topics in Music Theory & Composition
MUS 3175: Topics in Music History & Literature
PHIL: Any Philosophy course (except PHIL 2045 and PHIL 3121)
REL: Any Religion course
TRDA 3220: Scene Study: Contemporary Text
TRDA 3221: Scene Study: Classical Text
TRDA 1015: Understanding the Dance
TRDA 1020: Women & the Creative Process
TRDA 1025: Understanding the Theater
TRDA 2185: Trends in Performance Art
TRDA 2910: Gender and Indian Classical Dance
TRDA 2191: Dance History
TRDA 2240: Play Analysis
TRDA 3221: Scene Study: Classical Text
TRDA 325: History of the Theatre
TRDA 3246: History of the Theatre
TRDA 3248: Theatre Criticism

*MUS 2661 is a prerequisite to MUS 2662.

**Literature and Film** classes in the following departments will also fulfill this requirement:

- Classics;
- East Asian Languages and Literatures;
- English Literature;
- Romance, German, and Slavic Languages and Literatures

**Creative Arts**

Through courses that require participation in a creative or performing art, students gain insight into the interactions among materials, talent, and imagination, and they develop sensitivity to the diverse elements involved in the arts.

**Select up to three credits:**

Some MUS and TRDA courses may be repeated for credit. Please consult the Bulletin. All courses must be taken for a letter grade in order to fulfill the requirement; courses taken as pass/no pass will not be accepted.

ENGL 1210: Introduction to Creative Writing
FA: Any Fine Arts course
MUS: Non-Ensemble Performance Study Courses, including:
- MUS 1101: Elements of Music Theory (2 credits)
- MUS 1102: Comprehensive Musicianship I
- MUS 2102: Comprehensive Musicianship II
- MUS 2134: Composition
- MUS 2173: Comprehensive Musicianship for Jazz (2 credits)
- MUS 2662: Electronic and Computer Music*
- MUS 4184: Advanced Composition
*MUS 2661 is a prerequisite to MUS 2662.

TRDA: Performance Study Courses, including:
- TRDA 1017: Movement Awareness
- TRDA 1035: Theatre Production
- TRDA 1150: Beginning Ballet
- TRDA 1151: Beginning/Intermediate Ballet
- TRDA 1152: Beginning Modern/Postmodern Dance
- TRDA 1153: Beginning/Intermediate Modern/Postmodern Dance
- TRDA 1170-71: Intermediate Modern/Postmodern Dance
- TRDA 1214: Introduction to Acting
- TRDA 1330: Basics of Production Design
- TRDA 2160: Intermediate Ballet
- TRDA 2161: Intermediate Ballet
- TRDA 2162: Intermediate/Advanced Ballet
- TRDA 2163: Intermediate/Advanced Ballet
- TRDA 2172: Intermediate/Advanced Modern/Postmodern Dance
- TRDA 2173: Intermediate/Advanced Modern/Postmodern Dance
- TRDA 2179: Contact Improvisation
- TRDA 2180: Movement Improvisation & Performance
- TRDA 2192: Repertory/Performance
- TRDA 2193-94: Dance Styles
- TRDA 2215: Introduction to Scene Study
- TRDA 2216: Scene Study: Voice & Character
- TRDA 2250: Dramatic Writing
- TRDA 2339: Theatre Practicum (1 credit)
- TRDA 3156: Dance in Community Settings
- TRDA 3174: Advanced Modern/Postmodern Dance
- TRDA 3175: Advanced Modern/Postmodern Dance
- TRDA 3182-83: Dance Composition
- TRDA 3186: Dance Anatomy and Kinesiology
- TRDA 3223: Physical Performance Skills
- TRDA 3225: Stage Dialects
- TRDA 3227: Scene Study: Acting for the Media
- TRDA 3229: Audition Techniques
- TRDA 3240: Introduction to Dramaturgy
- TRDA 3250: Intermediate Dramatic Writing
- TRDA 3331: Introduction to Lighting
- TRDA 3332: Makeup Design
- TRDA 3333: Stage Management
- TRDA 3335: Introduction to Scene Design
- TRDA 3336: Introduction to Costuming
- TRDA 4184: Choreographic Projects (1-3 credits)
- TRDA 4275: Directing for the Theatre
- TRDA 4338: Scene Painting
III. Foreign Language Requirement

This requirement helps students develop the language skills both required and expected in the practice of international affairs. Students majoring in international affairs may study any language listed below. Students pursuing a regional major (i.e., Asian studies, Latin American & hemispheric studies, or Middle East studies) must study a language spoken in the region.

Students must prove 3rd year proficiency in a modern foreign language by examination or coursework. If you would like information on the Elliott School foreign language examinations, please contact your academic advisor.

If you were required to take the TOEFL or IELTS exam as part of your admissions application to GW, your 3rd year proficiency requirement will automatically be waived for International Affairs majors.

**Arabic**
ARAB 1001, 1002, 2001, 2002, 3001, [3301, 3302, or 3311]
OR
ARAB 1201, 1202, 2201, 3201, [3301, 3302, 3311]

**Chinese**
CHIN 1001, 1002, 2003, 2004, 3105, and 3106

**French**
FREN 1001, 1002, 1003, 1004, 2005, and 2006

**German**
GER 1001, 1002, 1003, 1004, and [(2009, 2010) or (2101, 2102)]
OR
GER 1005, 1006, and [(2009, 2010) or (2101, 2102)]

**Hebrew**
HEBR 1001, 1002, 2001, 2002, 3001, and [3301 or 3302]

**Italian**
ITAL 1001, 1002, 1003, 1004, 2005, and 2006

**Japanese**
JAPN 1001, 1002, 2003, 2004, 3105, and 3106

**Korean**
KOR 1001, 1002, 2003, 2004, 3105, and 3106

**Persian**
PERS 1001, 1002, 2001, 2002, 3001, 3002

**Russian**
SLAV 1001, 1002, 1003, 1004, and [(2005, 2006) or (1013, 1014) or (2015, 2016)]
OR
SLAV 1012, 1034, and [(2005, 2006) or (1013, 1014) or (2015, 2016)]

**Spanish**
SPAN 1001, 1002, 1003, 1004, and [(2005, 2006) or (2056)]
IV. Electives

Students must complete a minimum of 120 credits to graduate.

- Courses that do not satisfy specific requirements are considered electives. Electives are taken in addition to courses used to satisfy requirements to earn 120 credits.

- Electives (including internships) are the only courses Elliott School students may take Pass/No Pass.

- LSPA (formerly EXSA) courses DO NOT count toward the 120 credits for graduation.

- For students in the ROTC program, only NSC 2126, 2160, 2175, 2180 and 4176 can be used as electives and count toward the 120 hour requirement. ROTC courses taken at any other college are not accepted for elective credit, except for Georgetown Army ROTC courses MLSC 251 and 252, and Howard Air Force ROTC courses AERO 021, 022, 131, and 132.