

# CAREERS IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

## **General Information:**

A degree in International Studies provides students with a strong background in international affairs, which makes them competitive in a global market and qualified for an array of career possibilities. Not only do students gain a broad understanding of international studies, they also gain specialized skills through a specialization focus, both of which are transferable to different types of careers. Though all of our majors complete their degree with similar knowledge and skills, they have the ability to tailor these competencies accordingly in preparation for various professional opportunities in the field. As a result, graduates of the Josef Korbel School of International Studies have found employment in a diversity of sectors based upon their commitments, interests, academic training, and professional goals.

## **How a degree in International Studies prepares students for the global workforce:**

A degree in International Studies affords students a greater understanding of the world and the interconnectedness we share with those around the globe. With a curriculum that provides core knowledge and skills, our students will find that they are well prepared for many different work environments and employment sectors. Skills gained with a degree in International Studies at the Josef Korbel School include:

- Foreign language skills: A major in International Studies requires at least two years of proficiency in a foreign language.
- Theoretical understanding: Students not only learn core theories that apply to international affairs, but also come to understand how these theories inform international political activity and how they are applied to global events.
- Analytic skills: Students are trained to critically examine international events by learning different perspectives and approaches that foster a deeper understanding the world today.
- Research skills: Students gain these skills through our research and writing intensive program.
- Knowledge-based skills: our curriculum strives for both breadth and depth of understanding in the field of international affairs, fostering knowledge in areas ranging from international politics, economics, security and diplomacy, to environmental, developmental and global health issues
- Interpersonal skills: In all professional sectors, strong interpersonal skills are essential. The INTS major and the study abroad requirement promote these competencies by exposing students to different cultures and societies. Through this exposure, students gain an appreciation of diverse views, which better prepares them to work with people from various socio-political and cultural backgrounds, in addition to potential employment abroad.

## **Employment opportunities for graduates:**

With the knowledge and skills gained with a degree in International Studies, graduates of the Josef Korbel School are well equipped to find employment in a number of professional sectors. For example, graduates of our program often seek careers in the following fields:

- State, Local and Federal Government: Jobs in this sector include employment for local and state political offices and campaigns, the U.S. Congress, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Homeland Security, and Peace Corps.
- Intergovernmental Organizations: Employment in this sector includes work with organizations like the United Nations, World Health Organization, and the World Trade Organization.
- International Non-governmental and Non-Profit Organizations: Jobs in this sector include positions with groups such as Amnesty International, Greenpeace, and the Red Cross.
- International Education: Jobs in this sector range from teaching general education abroad to teaching English as a second language in foreign countries.
- Private Sector Employment (including international banking, trade, and marketing): Employment opportunities in this sector include work with corporations such as Lockheed-Martin and American Express.
- International Communications and the Media: Jobs in this sector include journalist positions for publications such as *The Economist* and investigative research work for other media outlets including CNN.
- General: Other jobs available to those holding a degree in International Studies may include positions such as political analyst, researcher for various governments or organizations, and translator/interpreter.

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