

WELCOME TO THE BACHELOR OF ARTS PROGRAM IN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

We interact with the global community in a thousand different ways every day. We connect with friends near and far via computer and phone. We view updates on elections and currency crises, we track the spread of diseases and civil unrest, and we even follow the latest in music and dance from blogs and videos posted by people around the world. We do this using devices designed by international teams and built with materials and components from dozens of countries. We are part of a truly globalized planet.

The sheer volume and the speed of trans-border movement of people, products and data mean that no country or individual exists as an island isolated from international forces. Our interdependence is a fact of life. The challenges of the 21st century are great: from controlling weapons of mass destruction to minimizing the impacts of climate change, from managing borderless trade and investment, to tackling entrenched poverty and food insecurity, modern issues require international cooperation and collective solutions.

The BA Program in International Studies offers undergraduate students at the University of Denver critical knowledge and skills for succeeding in a world that has gone global. Whether your interests lie in business, development, law, environmental studies, social work, political science, health or information technology, every student needs to understand how global institutions and exchanges work and to have an international perspective for their professional development. DU's International Studies curriculum gives students this foundation. Our program has three principle objectives:

- First, we work to **provide a broad-based undergraduate education that inspires critical evaluation of a globalized world** by employing an interdisciplinary approach to the analysis of economic, political, social, environmental, and cultural issues in the international arena. Our courses highlight the values that underpin global perspectives, the different frameworks used to understand and address international justice, the dilemmas of U.S. foreign engagement, and the tradeoffs which must occur when moving from idea to action.
- Second, the program seeks to **provoke student reflection on the ways in which the problems, challenges, and opportunities of global interdependence** can be addressed by the international community more effectively, and the methods by which individual, community, and national goals can be realized. We promote local and global citizenship for our common future.
- Third, we seek to **give students practical foreign language, experiential, technological, and service-learning skills** that will prepare them to succeed beyond their university training. DU's Cherrington Global Scholars program facilitates our students' practical understanding of world societies and cultures.

Our faculty, staff, and students believe that a global perspective is indispensable for success in the rapidly changing workplace. We endeavor to provide an unsurpassed opportunity for learning about international affairs, for understanding international forces and actors, and for building a critical toolkit to navigate today's interdependent world.

My colleagues and I invite you to join us as we explore the multifaceted field of international studies. The BA Program Handbook provides further details on the BA Program in International Studies for DU students pursuing majors and minors in this field. For updates of these guidelines and further information on program developments, we invite you to visit [our website](#) at your leisure.

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