

## **International Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee**

**Mission Statement:** The interdisciplinary, undergraduate major/minor in International Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee has the following three-fold academic mission.

**ONE:** to provide students with a comprehensive introductory learning experience in the broad field of international affairs.

**TWO:** to focus students' more advanced undergraduate studies in one or more of the following fields: international politics and American foreign relations, international economics, the study of a particular and significant region of the world, and international development. (Students majoring in a field other than a foreign language and literature may also complement their course of study with a second major in the international studies track devoted to applied foreign language and area studies.)

**THREE:** to help prepare and counsel students in International Studies to be better able to pursue challenging and rewarding careers that involve a knowledge and understanding of the global dimension, however that dimension is defined.

**Intended Outcomes:** 1. To develop students' speaking, writing, research and analytical skills with respect to subjects having to do with international affairs. 2. To enrich students' understanding about international affairs and to enhance their sense of self-confidence in dealing with such issues in their work and social contacts. 3. To enhance their capacity to find satisfying employment following their graduation from the university and to strengthen their ability to succeed in graduate and professional programs in which they may be enrolled.

**Assessment Criteria:** 1. All students majoring in International Studies must complete the senior seminar in the program that is offered every semester. At the end of this course they will complete an assessment of their experience in the program and an evaluation of the seminar itself. 2. The seminar instructor will evaluate each student in the class in terms of the student's abilities in the major. 3. Students will be afforded counseling on career options flowing from the program.

**Assessment Results:** 1. Each semester the faculty coordinator and primary student advisor of International Studies program will review the student and faculty assessments and consider what changes, if any, ought to be made by way of improving the program. A committee composed of past, current, and prospective senior seminar instructors might be formed to take part in this review. 2. Summaries of these assessments will be provided to all faculty and students in the program, perhaps via the International Studies newsletter, with the aim of securing feedback on the assessment material and further suggestions to further improve the program. 3. A continuing review of courses offered in the program will insure that students are afforded the greatest possible set of choices in their successful completion of the program.

## Assessment Instrument A: Questions regarding the International Studies Major

You are asked to complete the following general questions regarding your learning experience as a student in the UWM International Studies major. These questions have to do with your experience in the major *as a whole* and not only as a student in *this* senior seminar.

Please indicate your level of satisfaction with the following matters on a scale of 1 to 5 in which:

- 1.equals-“Very Satisfied”
- 2.equals-“Satisfied”
- 3.equals-“Neutral”
- 4.equals-“Dissatisfied”
- 5.equals-“Very Dissatisfied”

1. Level of Satisfaction:

- (A) Your overall academic experience in the International Studies Major \_\_\_\_\_
- (B) Overall instruction in lower division courses in the Major \_\_\_\_\_
- (C) Overall instruction in the upper division courses in the Major \_\_\_\_\_
- (D) The quality of advising within the International Studies Major \_\_\_\_\_
- (E) The requirements of the International Studies Major \_\_\_\_\_
- (F) The availability of desired courses \_\_\_\_\_

2. Please comment about your experience as a student in the International Studies Major.

3. What do you see are the strengths, and weaknesses, of this interdisciplinary major?

4. What would you like to see incorporated into the program to strengthen it in the future?

5. Would you recommend this major to others? Yes    No  
Why?            Why Not?