



What can I do with a major in International Affairs?

The University of Georgia Career Center
Clarke Howell Hall, 706-542-3375, www.uga.edu/career

*The information below describes typical occupations and employers associated with this major.
Understand that some of the options listed below may require additional training.
Moreover, you are not limited to these options alone when choosing a possible career path.*

Description of International Affairs

International Affairs is the comprehensive study of global issues of importance in the contemporary world. The focus in this field is on topics such as war and peace, globalization and economic development, as well as domestic and international politics and economics. The major is divided into two subfields: comparative politics and international relations. Comparative politics is the study of domestic politics in developed and developing countries and the different ways that countries deal with global issues. International relations studies how countries relate and interact with one another, as well as multinational entities, as they deal with global issues.

International affairs, a liberal arts major, prepares students for a variety of careers. Most importantly, it prepares students to be both better citizens and competitive in an age of globalization. The major will give students a broad understanding of domestic and international affairs and preparation for careers in both the private and public sector. International Affairs majors move on to careers in many areas of international business and development, public and international service, and in specific fields like the Foreign Service, military intelligence and homeland or international security. A major in international affairs is also an excellent step on the way to advanced study in law school or graduate school in public and international affairs and/or political science. Overall, the Department of International Affairs desires to prepare its students for the widest variety of personal and professional opportunities existing in the 21st century.

Possible Employment Settings for International Affairs Graduates

BANKING

Bank of America*
BB&T*
CitiGroup
Deutsche Bank
GE Capital Services
Goldman Sachs
SunTrust Bank*
Wachovia*

BUSINESS

Coca Cola
Eli Lilly & Company
IBM
Marathon Oil Corporation
Marsh Companies
Siemens Corporation

BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS

American Bankers Association
Consumer Electronics Association
Council of the Americas
European-American Business Council
National Associations of Manufacturers

CAPITOL HILL

Congressional Offices
Lobbying Groups

CONSULTING

Accenture*

Deloitte & Touche*

Ernst & Young*

EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Academy for Educational Development
Africa-American Institute
International Association of Students in Economics and Business (AIESEC)

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

Amnesty International
Arms Control Association
The Carter Center
Human Rights Watch
InterAction
Japan Exchange and Teaching Programme (JET)*
The Nature Conservancy
Save the Children

MEDIA ORGANIZATIONS

FEDERAL AGENCIES

US Department of Agriculture*
US Department of Commerce*
US Department of Defense*
Drug Enforcement Agency
US Department of Education
Environmental Protection Agency*
Export Import Bank of the US
Federal Bureau of Investigation
General Accounting Office*

General Services Administration
US Department of Health & Human Services*
US Department of Housing & Urban Development*
US Department of Homeland Security*
International Trade Commission
US Department of Justice
US Department of Labor

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

North Atlantic Treaty Organization

Organization of the American States
Pan American Health Organization
World Trade Organization
RESEARCH INSTITUTES
American Enterprise Institute
Brookings Institution
Cato Institute
Heritage Foundation
Worldwatch Institute

To research careers of interest, visit these web sites:

Georgia Career Information Center <http://www.gcic.peachnet.edu> (accessible only on campus computers)

O*NET <http://online.onetcenter.org> (click on Find Occupations)

Occupational Outlook Handbook <http://www.bls.gov/oco> (type in general term for career of interest)

Skill Sets and Interests Commonly Associated with International Affairs Majors

Ability to conduct and clearly explain research
Ability to effectively communicate ideas to others
Ability to relate to people from varying backgrounds
Ability to speak articulately, read comprehensively, and write well
Charisma and public appeal
Aptitude for leadership
Ability to organize and interpret social, economic, and political data
Understanding of and sensitivity to community needs
Broad background of general (world) knowledge
Ability to effectively evaluate problems and make appropriate decisions

Taken from *College Majors and Careers* by Paul Phifer

UGA Career Resources for International Affairs Majors

Careers for Courageous People and Other Adventurous Types by Jan Goldberg (*/+)

Careers for People on the Move and Other Road Warriors by Marjorie Eberts (*/+)

Careers in Government by Mary Pitz (*)

Careers in International Affairs by Maria Pinto Carland (*)

Careers in International Business by Edward Halloran (+)

How to Get a Job in Europe by Robert Sanborn and Cheryl Matherly (+)

International Job Finder by Daniel Lauber (*/+)

International Jobs: Where they are, how to get them by Nina Segal (+)

International Jobs Directory by Ronald L. Krannich (+)

Opportunities in Government Careers by Neale Baxter (+)

The Global Citizen: A guide to creating an international life and career by Elizabeth Kruepleman (+)

Work Worldwide: International career strategies for the adventurous job seeker by Nancy Mueller (+)

Working Globally by Sally Lansdell (+)

(*) Available in the UGA Career Center Library - 2nd Floor Clark Howell Hall

(+) Available in the UGA Main Library - See www.libs.uga.edu for details

UGA Organizations Associated with International Affairs

UGA Career Center

www.uga.edu/career

UGA Center for International Trade and Security

www.uga.edu/cits

UGA School of Public and International Affairs

www.uga.edu/spia

UGA International Affairs Council

<http://www.uga.edu/iac/>

UGA Model United Nations

<http://www.uga.edu/spia/uo/so.htm#un>

Additional Resources/Contacts for Majors in International Affairs

Amnesty International

www.amnesty-usa.org

American Security Council

www.ascfusa.org/

Center for Security Policy

www.security-policy.org

Human Rights Watch

www.hrw.org

International Labor Organization

www.ilo.org

Populations Action International

www.populationaction.org

Search for Common Ground

www.sfcg.org

World Trade Center Association

www.wtca.org