What to do with a degree in INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

International Relations studies cross-border interactions between various groups to understand how such interactions affect people, states, regions, and the global community. This program will give you a solid foundation in the economic, political, and socio-historical interactions between nations. During the course of your studies, you'll gain statistical analysis skills, research capabilities, written and verbal communication skills, and competence in a second language (other than English).

KEY SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE

Cultural Sensitivity - Develop appreciation for diversity within societies and an understanding of interactions between different communities; historical, economical and geographic international appreciation, work with culturally diverse individuals and communities.

Language - Develop written and oral competency in a foreign language; speak and write in more than one language.

Research - Conduct multi-disciplinary research. Understand and apply methodologies from different disciplines. Research and analyze information from a variety of primary and secondary sources. Evaluate strength of research material and results.

Degree Specific - Multidisciplinary focus of subjects in specific geography, history, political economics, political science, culture and anthropology; Security and strategy, international institutions, organizations and governance.

Global political issues - Understand the interplay between official policy and general public understanding of that policy.

Theoretical Understanding - Solid understanding theoretical and philosophical approaches to international relations. Explain and apply theory to historical and contemporary events.

SAMPLE JOB TITLES

Some of these roles may require further training, certification or education. Check out the Alberta Government’s occupational profiles for salary info and more detail: alis.alberta.ca/occinfo

Aboriginal Stakeholder Relations  Financial analyst  Market Research Analyst
Business Development Manager  Foreign Affairs Analyst/Specialist  Media relations coordinator
Consultant  Foreign Service Officer  Policy Analyst/Developer
Coordinator, Humanitarian Issues  Immigration officer  Program assistant
Demographer  Intelligence officer  Public administrator
Diplomat  International Recruitment Assistant  Public or community health inspector
Editor  International Relations Officer  Researcher/Research Assistant
ESL teacher  International trade officer  Risk Analyst
Export/import manager  Language Specialist  Teacher/Professor
Federal lobbyist director  Lobbyist  Translator

Need help deciding what to do?

Formal Career Assessments like the Strong Interest Inventory and the Myers Briggs Type Indicator can be helpful tools for your career development. Request an assessment via CareerLink
Associations provide an opportunity for continued professional development. Many also offer networking opportunities and other events for their members.

- AEISEC: aeiisc.org
- Association for International Affairs: amo.cz
- Canadian Council for International Cooperation: ccic.ca
- Canadian International Council: opencanada.org
- Canadian Society for International Health: csih.org
- Canadian Translators, Terminologists, and Interpreters Council: ct tic.org
- Chamber of Commerce, Calgary: calgarychamber.com
- Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict: gppac.net/
- International Strategic Studies Association: strategicstudies.org
- International Studies Association - ISA: isanet.org
- Royal Society of Canada: rsc-src.ca

Additional Resources

The Big Guide to Living and Working Overseas, Jean-Marc Hachey
Go Global! Launching an International Career Here or Abroad, Stacie Nevadomski Berdan
Making a Living While Making a Difference, Melissa Everett
Opportunities in Public Relations Careers, Morris B. Rotman

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W: ucalgary.ca/admissions/programs

Student Clubs
International Relations Club
facebook.com/UCalgaryIRC/

Aligned Majors:
Anthropology, Economics, History
Linguistics & Language, Political Science, Sociology