MASTER OF ARTS IN GLOBAL AFFAIRS (MAGA) DEGREE

Program Learning Outcomes for the MAGA Degree

Upon completing the MAGA degree, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate leadership, communication, and research skills to conduct independent studies enabling them to understand and formulate public policy recommendations in the international arena.
2. Apply quantitative skills to data analysis to make policy recommendations.
3. Describe real-life experience in international public policy development by participating in an internship.
4. Assess the social responsibilities of governments, non-governmental organizations, corporations, and individuals in the global twenty-first century.
5. Analyze and develop new and innovative solutions to emerging challenges in the global community.

Requirements for the MAGA Degree

The MAGA degree is a non-thesis master's degree. For general university requirements, please see Non-Thesis Master's Degrees (https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-non-thesis-masters-degrees/). For additional requirements, regulations, and procedures for all graduate programs, please see All Graduate Students (https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees/).

Students pursuing the MAGA degree must complete:

- A minimum of 36 credit hours to satisfy degree requirements.
- A minimum of 30 credit hours of graduate-level study (coursework at the 500-level or above).
- A minimum of 24 credit hours must be taken at Rice University.
- A minimum residency enrollment of one fall or spring semester of part-time graduate study at Rice University.
- The requirements for one area of specialization (see below for areas of specialization). The MAGA degree program offers three areas of specialization:
  - International Political Development (p. ), or
  - International Political Economy (p. ), or
  - International Security (p. ).
- The required Graduate Field Internship.
- The required Capstone project.
- A minimum overall GPA of 2.67 or higher in all Rice coursework.
- A minimum GPA of 2.67 or higher in all Rice coursework that satisfies requirements for the non-thesis master's degree.

Please Note: Courses offerings may vary. Some listed courses may not be offered every year, and others may be offered that satisfy the requirements with pre-approval. Students should consult their academic advisors before enrolling and check for any course prerequisites.

The courses listed below satisfy the requirements for this degree program. In certain instances, courses not on this official list may be substituted upon approval of the program’s academic advisor, or where applicable, the department or program’s Director of Graduate Studies. Course substitutions must be formally applied and entered into Degree Works by the department or program’s Official Certifier (https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/degreeworks/officialcertifier/). Additionally, these must be approved by the Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies. Students and their academic advisors should identify and clearly document the courses to be taken.

Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Credit Hours Required for the MAGA degree</td>
<td>36</td>
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</table>

Degree Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GLBL 501</td>
<td>GLOBAL SYSTEMS I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLBL 502</td>
<td>INSTITUTIONS &amp; DEVELOPMENT</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLBL 507</td>
<td>DECISION MAKING UNDER UNCERTAINTY</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLBL 514</td>
<td>THE MIDDLE EAST CAULDRON AND UNITED STATES POLICY</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLBL 523</td>
<td>QUANTITATIVE APPLICATIONS IN GLOBAL AFFAIRS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLBL 524</td>
<td>MACROECONOMICS IN A GLOBAL ECONOMY</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLBL 525</td>
<td>INTERNATIONAL SECURITY</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
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Area of Specialization

Select 1 from the following Areas of Specialization (see Areas of Specialization below):

- International Political Development
- International Political Economy
- International Security

Graduate Field Internship Requirement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GLBL 519</td>
<td>MASTER OF GLOBAL AFFAIRS INTERNSHIP</td>
<td>6</td>
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</table>

Capstone Requirement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GLBL 520</td>
<td>MASTER OF GLOBAL AFFAIRS CAPSTONE</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

Total Credit Hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Credit Hours</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Footnotes and Additional Information

1 Core Requirements must be completed during the first year of study.
2 The Area of Specialization requirement must be completed during the second year of study.
3 Students are required to complete a minimum eight-week extensive field experience in which they intern at one of a variety of internationally-based or internationally-focused governmental and nongovernmental organizations, international commissions, embassies, agencies, or corporations. The internship will provide students valuable real-world application of their degree with the goal of facilitating their employment in these organizations.
4 In the second year, students must select a topic of concentration and pursue in-depth research which delves into the real-world, policy aspects of the topic.
**Areas of Specialization**

Students must complete a minimum of 3 courses (9 credit hours) from one area of specialization. Students should choose coursework according to their individual academic interests and career goals. No more than 1 course (3 credit hours) at the undergraduate level (300- or 400-level) can be used toward the area of specialization. The area of specialization requirement must be completed during the second year of study.

### Area of Specialization: International Political Development

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GLBL 531</td>
<td>WORLD POLITICS AND GLOBAL GOVERNANCE</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLBL 532</td>
<td>INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT AND GLOBAL ECONOMIC GOVERNANCE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLBL 542</td>
<td>INTERNATIONAL MACROECONOMIC POLICY FOR MASTER'S STUDENTS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLBL 543</td>
<td>ENERGY POLICY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLBL 553</td>
<td>INTERNATIONAL CRISIS MANAGEMENT IN A MULTI-RISK, INTER-CONNECTED WORLD</td>
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</table>

Total Credit Hours: 9

### Policies for the MAGA Degree

**Admission**

Applicants to the Master of Arts in Global Affairs degree program are required to submit:

- Statement of purpose
- Professional resume
- Three letters of recommendation
- Official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended, with official degree conferral date
- Applicants are recommended, but not required to submit scores from either the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or the Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT).
- Approved TOEFL scores for applicants whose native language is not English and who did not receive a degree from a country in which English is the official language of communication.

**Foreign Language Proficiency**

Students who expect to complete their degree program with a particular regional focus in mind are expected to be proficient in one of the primary languages of that region. Proficiency is defined as the ability to read and speak the language. This requirement can be met in one of three ways:

- By passing a language proficiency exam administered by the Rice Language Center.
- By achieving a grade of B+ (3.33 grade points) or better in an intermediate language course at Rice. Taking this class does not count toward the 36 credit hours total for degree completion.
- By graduating from a high school or university where a language other than English was the primary language of instruction.

**Transfer Credit**

For Rice University’s policy regarding transfer credit, see [Transfer Credit](https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees/#transfer). Some departments and programs have additional restrictions on transfer credit. Students are encouraged to meet with their academic program’s advisor when considering transfer credit possibilities.

**Additional Information**

For additional information, please see the Global Affairs website: [https://mga.rice.edu/](https://mga.rice.edu/)
Opportunities for the MAGA Degree

Fifth-Year Master’s Degree Option for Rice Undergraduate Students

Rice students have an option to pursue the Master of Arts in Global Affairs (MAGA) degree by adding an additional fifth year to their four undergraduate years of studies.

Advanced Rice undergraduate students in good academic standing may apply to the MAGA degree program during their junior or senior year. Upon acceptance, depending on course load, financial aid status, and other variables, they may then start taking some required courses of the master’s degree program. A plan of study will need to be approved by the student’s undergraduate advisor and the MAGA program director.

As part of this option and opportunity, Rice undergraduate students:

• must complete the requirements for a bachelor’s degree and the master’s degree independently of each other (i.e. no course may be counted toward the fulfillment of both degrees).
• should be aware there could be financial aid implications if the conversion of undergraduate coursework to that of graduate level reduces their earned undergraduate credit for any semester below that of full-time status (12 credit hours).
• more information on this Undergraduate - Graduate Concurrent Enrollment opportunity, including specific information on the registration process can be found here (https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-opportunities/undergraduate-graduate-concurrent-enrollment/).

Additional Information

For additional information, please see the Global Affairs website: https://mga.rice.edu/