

MAJOR IN INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY (2020 Version)

OBJECTIVES

The major in International Political Economy prepares students for careers in government, international organizations, international business, or private foundations; for further study in international economics and politics; and for constructive citizenship in a world of increasing interdependence. The major is designed for students with broad interests in international studies.

The major focuses on the interaction between politics and economics in comparative and international settings. It examines the possibilities and constraints furnished by social structures, institutions, ideologies, and culture within and across societies, and it looks at the interplay of economic and political forces in the world arena.

Students are introduced to the field in their junior year when they take Introduction to International Political Economy, a course emphasizing theoretical foundations. They draw upon this body of theory as they undertake a research experience during the senior year.

In addition to the general college requirements, a major in International Political Economy must complete a minimum of 15 or 16 units, distributed as follows:

1. Introduction (1 unit)

PS375/EC275 Introduction to IPE	1 unit
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2. Political Science Courses (5 units)

PS290 Introduction to Political Philosophy OR PS205 Foundations of Political Economy	1 unit
PS209 Introduction to International Relations*	1 unit
PS236 Introduction to Comparative Politics OR PS306 Democracy and Markets**	1 unit
One additional unit from the Comparative Politics subfield AND one additional unit from the International Relations subfield. Students may take a maximum of one pre-approved elective from outside the Department of Political Science. The Colorado College catalog lists Political Science courses by subfield.	2 units

* Students entering CC in AY 2024-25 or later (graduating class of 2028 and beyond) must take PS209 (Introduction to International Relations) as their introductory IR course. Students who entered CC prior to AY 2024-25 (graduating classes of 2027 and previous) may take either PS209 (Introduction to International Relations) OR PS225/PS340 (Conduct of US Foreign Policy) as their introductory IR course. Please note that the course number for Conduct of US Foreign Policy was PS225 prior to AY 2024-25, and changed to PS340 as of AY 2024-25. Students in this category may choose to take both PS209 and PS225/PS340. In qualifying circumstances where students take both courses, PS209 (Introduction to International Relations) will count as the introductory IR course and PS225/PS340 (Conduct of US Foreign Policy) will count as an upper-level IR elective.

** Applies for students who declare in 2025 or later. Students who declare the major prior to 2025-2026 may take one course in the Comparative Politics or International Relations subfield to fulfill this requirement.

3. Economics Courses (6 units)

International Baccalaureate (IB) Higher Level and Advanced Placement (AP) courses with registrar-approved test scores count as the equivalents of Economics 100, 101 and 102. Those scores, and answers to other IB and AP questions on course equivalents, can be found on the Registrar's website, [here](#).

To get started with this (and any of our department majors), students will need our gateway courses of Principles of Economics, either as a 2-block course (EC100) or as two separate blocks (EC101 and EC102). Students will also need Calculus (MA125 or MA126).

EC100 Principles of Economics (2 units) OR EC101 Principles of Microeconomics AND EC102 Principles of Macroeconomics	2 units
EC301 Microeconomic Theory	1 unit
EC302 Macroeconomic Theory	1 unit

EC347 Economics of International Trade OR EC377 Economics of International Finance	1 unit
At least one of the following courses: EC371 Money, Banking, and Financial Markets EC372 Economic Development EC373 East Asian Tigers EC374 Economic Development of Latin America Other economics courses with prior approval from the chair of the Department of Economics and Business that they qualify as international economics electives from the following classes: EC211-EC290 (excluding EC275 Introduction to IPE) EC311-EC390 EC411-EC489	1 unit

4. Mathematics Courses (2 units)

MA117 Elementary Probability and Statistics OR MA217 Introduction to Probability and Statistics	1 unit
MA125 Pre-Calculus/Calculus 1 OR MA126 Calculus 1	1 unit

5. Capstone Research Experience (1 or 2 units)

While all IPE majors must complete a senior research experience, the course satisfying this requirement may be taken in either in the Political Science Department (as a one-block tutorial or a two-block thesis) or in the Economics Department (as a one-block tutorial or a two-block thesis). Supervising faculty in the two departments will seek to accommodate the interests and needs of IPE majors. Students must follow the guidelines of the respective department in registering for the Capstone Research Experience. One of the following:

1.	Seminar in International Political Economy (PS470) or, with consent of Political Science Department, students may satisfy this requirement through a Tutorial in International Relations (PS410) or a Tutorial in Comparative Politics (PS412);	1 unit
2.	Seminar in International Political Economy (EC470), supervised by Economics and Business Department faculty;	1 unit
3.	Political Science Thesis (PS450), with prerequisites of a high GPA and approval by the Political Science Department;	1 or 2 units
4.	Economics Thesis in International Political Economy (EC498), with prerequisites of EC347 or EC377 or an approved international economics elective and approval by the Economics and Business Department Chair.	2 units

Whatever the choice of research experience, students must present their projects to their peers and discuss the research of fellow majors.

Distinction in International Political Economy may be awarded to students whose GPAs within the major put them in the upper 20 percent and who have also completed and received a grade of A in their Capstone Research Experience. Faculty in both departments must approve the award of distinction to students who meet these qualifications.

Advisers for the International Political Economy Major:

Professor Kristina Acri
Economics (Campus extension 6445)

Professor Corina McKendry
Political Science (Campus extension 6788)
Professor John Gould
Political Science (Campus extension 6589)