

International Relations & Political Science (BHA Concentration)

Emily Half, BHA IRPS Concentration Advisor (POS 391)

BHA International Relations & Political Science Concentration

(90 units minimum)

Offered through the Carnegie Mellon Institute for Strategy and Technology (CMIST), the International Relations and Political Science (IRPS) BHA concentration is for students who want to learn how to think systematically and develop foundational knowledge about international and domestic politics. It is an interdisciplinary concentration that is rooted firmly in political science and draws on strengths and insights from decision science, economics, history, modern languages, and other fields. IRPS students wrestle with a wide range of issues including the future of democracy, the relationship between technology and politics, the drivers of war and peace, domestic politics across countries, and the formulation of effective foreign policies. IRPS graduates embark on a variety of careers in government, law, public policy, intelligence, national defense, consulting, international development, and more.

Core disciplinary courses for the IRPS major establish a strong foundation in the study of political science and enable students to better understand the workings of political institutions, political behavior across countries, the decision-making of political leaders, the making national and international policy, and prevailing challenges to the international system, among other topics.

Core methodology courses train IRPS students in the social science tools and communications skills needed to analyze and write persuasively about international relations and politics. Students pursuing an IRPS major learn to use a wide range of analytic tools including statistics and data science, qualitative analysis, game theory, and behavioral decision-making models as they study politics and strategy. Students also learn how to effectively communicate their analyses to affect public policy.

A rich set of electives allows students to investigate issues in security and technology, grand strategy and national security, cybersecurity and international conflict, military strategy and doctrine, the politics of key regions of the world, international political economy and economic policy, representation and voting rights, climate change and development, repression and human rights, international law and diplomacy, political psychology and public opinion, and social change and revolution.

Recognizing the influence of language and culture on politics, students are required to complete the intermediate (200) level, or its equivalent, in a modern language other than English. Advanced-level study is strongly encouraged.

Political Science Core (3 courses, 27 units)

Students must complete the following course:

	Units
84-101 Introduction to Political Science	9

Students must complete two of the following courses

84-104 Decision Processes in American Political Institutions	9
84-226 International Relations	9
84-275 Comparative Politics	9

Communication (1 course, 9 units)

Students must complete the following course:

84-250 Writing for Political Science and Policy	9
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Methodology (2 courses, 18 units)

Students must complete the following courses:

84-266 Research Design for Political Science	9
36-202 Methods for Statistics & Data Science	9

Language Requirement (1 course, 9 units)

Students are required to complete a course at the Intermediate II level or higher of a modern language other than English. Advanced level study is strongly encouraged. Students who successfully pass a language placement

exam on campus, at the intermediate II level or higher, are required to take an advanced language course to satisfy the language requirement.

Electives (3 courses, 27 units minimum)

Students must complete a minimum of 27 units from the following list of courses:

84-120	Introduction to US Constitutional Law	9
84-200	Security War Game Simulation	3
84-252	Briefing in the Policy World	6
84-274	An Introduction to Technology and War	9
84-280	Popcorn and Politics: American Foreign Policy at the Movies	12
84-285	Introduction to Legal Education and the Legal Profession	9
84-301	Policy & Persuasion	6
84-303	International Human Rights	6
84-304	Analysis of Current US National Security Priorities	6
84-306	Latin American Politics	9
84-309	American Political Divides and Great Debates	9
84-310	Policy in a Global Economy 1: International Trade and Trade Policy	6
84-311	Policy in a Global Economy 2: International Macroeconomics and Finance	6
84-312	Terrorism in Sub-Saharan Africa	6
84-314	Politics, Technological Change, and Economic Growth	9
84-315	Rise of the Asian Economies	9
84-319	Civil-Military Relations	9
84-322	Nonviolent Conflict and Revolution	9
84-323	War and Peace in the Contemporary Middle East	9
84-324	The Future of Democracy	9
84-325	Contemporary American Foreign Policy	9
84-327	Who Really Runs America?: Subnational Governance and Policymaking	9
84-328	Military Strategy and Doctrine	9
84-329	Asian Strategies	6
84-330	Race for the Future: US-China Tech Competition	6
84-331	Technology, Law, and Democracy	6
84-332	Contemporary US Constitutional Law Issues	6
84-333	Law of US Democracy	9
84-336	Implementing Public Policy: From Good Idea To Reality	12
84-338	Analysis of US Presidential Powers *	6
84-339	Seminar in Public Policy Research *	12
84-341	Transnational Criminal Networks & International Security	6
84-343	Offensive Cyber: Law & Policy	6
84-345	Hackers, the Law, & Policy Responses	6
84-347	Congress & National Security	9
84-349	Digital Diplomacy: Cybersecurity Challenges and Global Governance	9
84-350	A Strategist's Introduction to Artificial Intelligence	9
84-352	Representation and Voting Rights	9
84-353	US-China Strategic Stability	6
84-355	Democracy's Data: Analytics and Insights into American Elections	9
84-356	Applied Political Data Analytics *	9
84-358	Money, Connections, and Power: Interests and Influence in the US	9
84-360	CMU/WSP Internship Seminar *	24
84-362	Diplomacy and Statecraft	9
84-363	Click. Hack. Rule: Understanding the Power & Peril of Cyber Conflict	9

84-365	The Politics of Fake News and Misinformation	9
84-366	The 21st-Century Presidency: Expanding Powers, New Challenges	9
84-367	The Politics of Antisemitism	9
84-368	Technology Ethics	9
84-370	Nuclear Security & Arms Control	9
84-371	International Governance of Artificial Intelligence	9
84-373	International Law	9
84-375	Geopolitics of Innovation	9
84-380	US Grand Strategy	9
84-383	National Cyber Policy & Strategy	6
84-386	The Privatization of Force	9
84-387	Remote Systems and the Cyber Domain in Conflict	9
84-389	Terrorism and Insurgency	9
84-393	The US Congress: Legislative Progress or Paralysis?	9
84-402	Judicial Politics and Behavior	9
84-405	The Future of Warfare	9

* Denotes courses taught in Washington, DC, through the Carnegie Mellon University Washington Semester Program (CMU/WSP).