International Studies and Diplomacy

Disarmament conferences at the United Nations building in New York, war crimes investigations with leading international scholars and study tours overseas – studying International Studies and Diplomacy at SOAS provides a gateway into the international arena that is shaping today’s global relations.

As a student you will gain the highest level of cross-disciplinary training that brings together a theoretical understanding of key concepts and practical skills training. Our learning and teaching draws on SOAS’s core strengths and broad portfolio of expertise covering Law, Politics, Economics, History, Development Studies and Religions and Philosophies. You will also benefit from the partnerships we have forged with key organisations and practitioners, both in the UK and overseas.

Effective communications and media skills are pivotal to the areas you will study and the forums within which you’ll engage, at SOAS and in your future career, which is why we partner with current and former BBC staff to provide you with media training. There is the added opportunity to take up an internship with our social media enterprise and online station, SOAS Radio.

You might find yourself travelling to Brussels, Geneva or Paris as part of your degree, while gaining invaluable training in negotiation, speech writing and policy analysis – to prepare you for a career in global diplomacy.

Structure and assessment
Students take taught modules to the value of 120 credits and complete a dissertation (60 credits).

PGDip students do the same except the dissertation.

Delivery method
On Campus: For each module, there is a minimum two and a half hours formal teaching a week (lecture and tutorial).

Online: programmes are delivered 100% online, and all students are supported by a dedicated Associate Tutor to guide and support their learning.

Entry requirements
Minimum upper second-class honours degree (or equivalent) – unless stated otherwise.

Practical experience may be taken into account in place of minimum grade requirements.

English language requirement
Overall IELTS grade of 6.5 with 6.5 in writing and speaking and 6.0 in reading and listening.

Visit www.soas.ac.uk/english-requirements for alternative acceptable qualifications.

Duration
On Campus: One calendar year (full-time); two or three years (part-time)
Distance Learning: two – five years.

On Campus Programmes
- MA/PGDip International Studies and Diplomacy
- MSc Global Corporations and Policy
- MSc Global Energy and Climate Policy

Online Programmes
- MA Global Diplomacy (Online)
- MA Global Diplomacy: MENA (Online)
- MA Global Diplomacy: South Asia (Online)
- MSc Global Corporations and Policy (Online)
- MSc Global Energy and Climate Policy (Online)

More Information
www.soas.ac.uk/CISD
I am part of the communications team at INBAR. My role involves coordinating our new research and project publications, and ensuring these are read and understood by the largest number of people. A lot of our work involves trying to put ‘South-South cooperation’ into practice.

My degree made all the difference to my career. Without it, I would have found it difficult to work in the environmental sector, and almost impossible to work in China. The course was very broad, meaning I could take classes from other disciplines and expand my interests. Being able to attend classes in the evening also meant that I could commute from the city where I worked. Most importantly, I made a huge network of friends from across the world, whose work continues to broaden my horizons.

**Charlotte King**

**Degree:** MSc Global Energy and Climate Policy, 2015

**Job title:** International Communications, International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation (INBAR) Beijing
MA/PGDip International Studies and Diplomacy

Convenor: Dr Dan Plesch

This programme is ideally suited for anyone wishing to pursue professional opportunities on the global stage, from government roles to NGOs, and from conflict resolution to international media. It also lays solid foundations if you wish to direct your skills in a research capacity, whether with a think-tank or risk analysis organisation.

Training is from an interdisciplinary framework, drawing on the strengths of SOAS departments in International Politics, Law and Economics and Area Studies, with particular reference to Asia, Africa and the Middle East.

To further develop your understanding of contemporary practice and international affairs, we offer media training and a European study tour.

Fees
- £16,315 (Home/EU)
- £22,810 (Overseas)

Structure
List A (a minimum of 30 credits MUST BE selected from this list; students are able to select the full 120 credits from this list)
- General Diplomatic Studies and Practice (30 credits)
- International Politics of Transitional Justice (15 credits)
- International Relations 1: Foundations of World Politics (15 credits)
- International Relations 2: Contemporary World Politics (15 credits)
- Foundations in International Law (15 credits)
- International Economics (30 credits)
- International Security (30 credits)
- Sport and Diplomacy: “More Than a Game” (15 credits)
- Global Advocacy (15 credits)
- History and the Future of the United Nations (15 credits)

List B - additional modules available within CISD
- Energy Policy in the Asia-Pacific (15 credits)
- Global Energy and Climate Policy (30 credits)
- Multinational Enterprises in a Globalising World – Economic and Legal Perspectives (30 credits)

List C (a maximum of 30 credits may be selected from this list):
Please note that acceptance onto an optional module is subject to availability of places, timetabling, and the approval of the convenor of that programme.
- China and International Politics (30 credits)
- Comparative Politics of the Middle East (30 credits)
- Economic Development of South East Asia (30 credits)
- Economic Dynamics of the Asia-Pacific Region (30 credits)
- Economic Problems and Policies in Modern China (30 credits)
- Government and Politics in Africa (30 credits)
- Government and Politics of Modern South Asia (30 credits)
- Government and Politics of Modern South East Asia (30 credits)
- International Politics of East Asia (30 credits)
- State and Society in the Chinese Political Process (30 credits)
- Taiwan’s Politics and Cross-Strait Relations (30 credits)
- Theory, Policy and Practice of Development (30 credits)
- Economic Development of Modern Taiwan (15 credits)
- International Political Communication (15 credits)
- Japanese Modernity I (15 credits)
- Japanese Modernity II (15 credits)
- Power in World Politics (15 credits)
- The Making of the Contemporary World (15 credits)
- The Transnational News Environment: Production, Representation and Use (15 credits)
- Topics in the Chinese Economy (15 credits)

MA Global Diplomacy (Online)

Convenor: Dr J. Simon Rofe

Established in 2013 and based on 20 years of experience within the Centre for International Studies and Diplomacy (CISD), this programme will allow you to deepen your understanding of international affairs and contemporary diplomatic practice. The programme brings together cutting-edge research in delivering an engaging and stimulating student experience in a dynamic field of study.

You will acquire the knowledge, understanding, and skills necessary to proceed to careers in a range of professional contexts where diplomacy is relevant, while also providing the learning opportunities to enable you to acquire the interdisciplinary knowledge to undertake further advanced studies and research in the area of global diplomacy.

This programme has its foundations in an established heritage of high-quality teaching and research within SOAS’s CISD.
Fees
• £12,000

Structure
Students take four modules comprising one core and three elective modules (30 credits each) and complete a dissertation (60 credits).

Core module
• The Art of Negotiation (30 credits)

Elective modules
(Elective modules are 30 credits each)
• Afghanistan: Strategic and Geopolitical Perspectives
• America and the World: US Foreign Policy
• Digital Diplomacy
• Diplomatic Systems
• Economics, Politics and Society in MENA
• Economics, Politics and Society in South Asia
• Foundations of International Law
• Global Citizenship and Advocacy
• Global Energy and Climate Policy
• Global International Organisation: United Nations in the World
• Global Media
• Global Public Policy
• Human and Critical Security Studies
• India’s Foreign and Security Policy
• International Economics
• International History and International Relations
• Introduction to Islam
• International Security
• Making the Contemporary World
• Multinational Enterprises in a Globalising World
• Muslim Minorities and the State: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives
• Muslim Minorities in a Global Context
• Pakistan: Religion, Politics and Security
• Political Economy of Violence, Conflict and Development
• Political History, Culture and Diplomacy in Iran
• Religion & Development
• Sport and Diplomacy
• Strategic Studies
• Trade Diplomacy

MA Global Diplomacy (MENA) (Online)

Convenor: Dr J. Simon Rofe

Deepen your understanding of international affairs and contemporary diplomatic practice with a regional focus on Middle East & North Africa. This programme will give you a theoretically and historically informed understanding of the practice of international diplomacy, broadly conceived, and its applications in Middle East & North Africa.

Research is a key component of our Global Diplomacy programmes giving students the skills to:
• think critically, with reference to theoretical and empirical (historical and/or contemporary) content about international studies, diplomacy, and political economy in Middle East & North Africa.
• develop and practice the ability to see – and to comment on – the strengths and the weaknesses of others’ ideas and arguments.

Fees
• £12,000

Structure
Students take four modules comprising two core and two elective modules (30 credits each) and complete a dissertation (60 credits)

Core modules
• Economics, Politics and Society in Middle East & North Africa (30 credits)
• The Art of Negotiation (30 credits)

Elective modules
(Elective modules are 30 credits each)
• Economics, Politics and Society in Africa
• Foundations of International Law
• Global Citizenship and Advocacy
• Global International Organisation: United Nations in the World
• Global Media
• International Security
• Introduction to Islam
• Islamic Law in a Global Context
• Muslim Minorities and the State: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives
• Muslim Minorities in a Global Context
• Pakistan: Religion, Politics and Security
• Political Economy of Violence, Conflict and Development
• Political History, Culture and Diplomacy in Iran
• Religion & Development
• Strategic Studies
• Trade Diplomacy
MA Global Diplomacy (South Asia) (Online)

Convenor: Dr J. Simon Rofe

Deepen your understanding of international affairs and contemporary diplomatic practice with a regional focus on South Asia & Afghanistan. This programme will give you a theoretically and historically informed understanding of the practice of international diplomacy, broadly conceived, and its applications in South Asia.

Research is a key component of our Global Diplomacy programmes giving students the skills to:
- think critically, with reference to theoretical and empirical (historical and/or contemporary) content about international studies, diplomacy, and political economy in South Asia
- develop and practice the ability to see – and to comment on – the strengths and the weaknesses of others’ ideas and arguments.

Fees
- £12,000

Structure
Students take four modules comprising two core and two elective modules (30 credits each) and complete a dissertation (60 credits).

Core modules
- Economics, Politics and Society in South Asia (30 credits)
- The Art of Negotiation (30 credits)

Elective modules
(Elective modules are 30 credits each)
- Afghanistan: Strategic and Geopolitical Perspectives
- Ethnic & Religious Conflict in South East Asia in Historical Perspective
- Foundations of International Law
- Global Citizenship and Advocacy
- Global Media
- India’s Foreign and Security Policy
- International Security
- Introduction to Islam
- Muslim Minorities and the State: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives
- Muslim Minorities in a Global Context
- Pakistan: Religion, Politics and Security
- Political Economy of Violence, Conflict and Development
- Religion & Development
- Strategic Studies

MSc Global Corporations and Policy

Convenor: Dr Pallavi Roy

Multinational corporations are powerful actors in global affairs. This unique programme equips you with a complete understanding of how large corporations impact on economic, political and legal choices, and thus key policy issues, the world over. If you aspire to a career in any aspect of international or national policy, whether in the corporate, NGO or government sector, this degree is the ideal preparation.

Combining the best academic research on global corporations with state-of-the-art analyses of their operations, this degree integrates perspectives from economics, law and policy studies. You also receive training in key skills - negotiation, advocacy, strategic communication and policy analysis, and apply these on the European study tour. Access to wide range of optional courses, the expertise of other SOAS departments – International Politics, Law and Economics - and a variety of languages allows you to tailor the degree to your specific interests.

Fees
- £16,315 (Home/EU)
- £22,810 (Overseas)

Structure
Core modules
- Global Public Policy (30 credits)
- Multinational Enterprises in a Globalising World: Economic and Legal Perspectives (30 credits)

Optional modules
Students choose options worth a further 60 credits from List A and/or B.

List A - additional Modules Available Within CISD
- Energy Policy in the Asia-Pacific (15 credits)
- History and the Future of the United Nations (15 credits)
- Global Advocacy (15 credits)
- International Politics of Transitional Justice (15 credits)
- International Relations 1: Foundations of World Politics (15 credits)
- International Relations 2: Contemporary World Politics (15 credits)
- Foundations in International Law (15 credits)
- International Economics (30 credits)
- International Security (30 credits)
- Global Energy and Climate Policy (30 credits)
- Sport and Diplomacy: “More Than a Game” (15 credits)
- Project Management (15 credits)
MSc Global Energy and Climate Policy (Online)

Convenor: Dr Harald Heubaum

The online and distance learning version of the successful campus degree of the same name will provide you with a detailed understanding of the transformative change in energy systems now under way around the world and equips you with the knowledge and skills needed to play a part in it. It treats energy and climate change policy as inextricably linked, taking an integrated approach to the study of the two fields. Case studies are drawn from around the world, accounting for different conditions in developed, newly-industrialised and developing country contexts.

The programme’s focus is on policy and policymaking in the energy and climate space as the key to enabling change and creating the requisite legal and regulatory environment within which the low-carbon energy system of the future can develop and grow. It introduces students to the key energy sources, their economic and technical bases, their trade and how they are regulated. It further analyses energy and climate governance at the international level, and discusses the geopolitics of energy. The degree offers options for specialisation through its elective modules, including an in-depth exploration of sustainability and climate finance.

Fees
- £12,000

Structure
Students take four modules comprising two core and two elective modules (30 credits each) and complete a dissertation (60 credits).

Core modules
- Global Energy and Climate Change (30 credits)
- Global Public Policy (30 credits)

Elective modules
- America and the World: US Foreign Policy
- Corporations in Global Politics
- Diplomatic Systems
- Finance Sustainability and Climate Change
- Foundations of International Law
- Global Citizenship and Advocacy
- Global Media
- International Economics
- International Security
- Multinational Enterprises in a Globalising World
- Muslim Minorities in a Global Context
- Political Economy of Violence, Conflict and Development
- Sport and Diplomacy
- Strategic Studies
- Trade Diplomacy