

## Perspectives

As a graduate of the Master's program in International Relations at ZIS, you will be able to:

- analyze economic, legal, political, and social structures and development trends in highly intertwined action areas at an international level,
- independently acquire and process information, interpreting it based on the interdisciplinary knowledge acquired, and
- independently develop interdisciplinary solution strategies and cooperate across disciplinary and national boundaries.

These skills qualify you for entry into a wide range of professional fields. Preferred employers of previous graduates include:

- international organizations (e.g. World Bank, WTO, IMF, ILO, UNESCO, etc.)
- European Union institutions
- ministries (Foreign Office, BMZ, BMWI, etc.)
- media
- foundations and NGOs
- management consultancies and consulting firms
- internationally active law firms
- globally and regionally active companies
- universities in Germany and abroad

## Contact

### ServiceCenterStudium

☎ +49 351 463-42000  
✉ [scs@tu-dresden.de](mailto:scs@tu-dresden.de)  
🔗 [tud.de/scs](http://tud.de/scs)

### Academic counselling (subject specific questions)

Stefan Robel (Dipl.-Pol.)  
✉ [ib-info.ma@mailbox.tu-dresden.de](mailto:ib-info.ma@mailbox.tu-dresden.de)

Know what's going on at TU Dresden.



### Imprint

Published by TUD Dresden University of Technology  
Editorial Office: Center for International Studies  
Photo: © PantherMedia Stock Agency/AntonMatyukha  
Editorial deadline: January 2026



Further information at:  
🔗 [tud.de/sins/ma-ib](http://tud.de/sins/ma-ib)



# Master International Relations



## Program profile

Combining two of the three disciplines International Politics, International Economics, and International Law, the program offers interdisciplinary, research-oriented training allowing you to pursue your individual academic interests.

- interdisciplinary, research-oriented education in two specialization track disciplines
- integrated opportunities to study abroad or complete an internship in Germany or abroad
- a motivational study atmosphere and a sense of cohesiveness due to small, dedicated student cohorts
- examinations for which credits are awarded in accordance with the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) and completion with the internationally compatible Master of Arts (M.A.) degree

## Requirements and application

The application procedures and admission restrictions can be found in the Study Information System (SINS):  
🔗 [tud.de/sins/ma-ib](http://tud.de/sins/ma-ib)

# Internationale Relations

**Start of study** Winter semester  
**Standard period of study** 4 semesters  
**Mode of study** Direct studies  
**Degree** Master

## Aptitude assessment procedure

Before application, you have to pass the aptitude assessment procedure (EFV) of the Center for International Studies (ZIS). Using written and verbal accounts, the EFV ascertains whether you meet the prerequisites for a successful course of study.

## Course content and structure

The Master's program in International Relations is modular, research-oriented, interdisciplinary, and taught in English. It comprises three core subjects:

- International Politics (IP) with a focus on International and Regional Institutions and Foreign Policy
- International Law (IL) with a focus on International Humanitarian Law und International Human Rights Law
- International Economics (IE) with a focus on Development, International Finance, and International Public Economics

At the beginning of your study, you choose one of the three areas of specialization combining two core subjects:

- Global Political Economics (GPOE)  
Core subjects: IP and IE

- International Order and Institutions (IO)  
Core subjects IP and IL
- International Law and Economics (ILE)  
Core subjects: IL and IE

In four semesters of standard study time, you earn a total of 120 credit points (CP), i.e., an average of 30 CP per semester.

You have to complete modules of at least 25 CP in each of the core subjects of your specialization. The elective area allows you to set your personal profile by choosing additional modules in the core subjects of your specialization as well as in the third core subject and supplementary fields.

### International Order and Institutions (IO)

#### International Politics (minimum 25 CP)

Compulsory modules (20 CP)

- International Institutions,
- Theories and Key Concepts of International Relations,
- Complex Actor Constellations and Horizontal Cooperation in the Transnational Realm,
- Theories of International Organizations,

plus elective modules of at least 5 CP.

#### International Law (minimum 25 CP)

Compulsory modules (15 CP)

- Public International Law,
- United Nations System,
- Critical Approaches to International Law,

plus elective modules of at least 10 CP.

### Global Political Economics (GPOE)

#### International Politics (minimum 25 CP)

Compulsory modules (20 CP)

- International Institutions,
- Theories and Key Concepts of International Relations,
- Complex Actor Constellations and Horizontal Cooperation in the Transnational Realm,
- Global Political Economy,

plus elective modules of at least 5 CP.

#### International Economics (minimum 25 CP)

Compulsory modules:

- Principles of Economic Theory,
- Empirical Economics,

plus elective modules of at least 15 CP.

### International Law and Economics (ILE)

#### International Law (minimum 25 ECTS)

Compulsory modules:

- Public International Law,
- United Nations System,
- International Economic Law,

plus elective modules of at least 10 CP.

### International Economics (minimum 25 ECTS)

Compulsory modules:

- Principles of Economic Theory,
- Empirical Economics,

plus elective modules of at least 15 CP.

### Semester Abroad

The third semester of the program is designed as a mobility window to facilitate spending a semester at a state-recognized university abroad. CP earned there are easily credited to the matching subject or module.

### Internship

To familiarize yourself with professional fields and environments after your study, you have to do an IR-related internship of at least eight weeks (10 CP).

### Master's thesis

In your master's thesis (22 weeks, 25 CP), you will address a research question speaking to one of your core subjects or an interdisciplinary topic. The research design module (5 CP) prepares you for writing the thesis and provides tailored methodological and thematical support.

Find all the details about our program on the website:  
➤ [tud.de/gsw/zis/studium/master](https://tud.de/gsw/zis/studium/master)