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International Studies

The BA degree in International Studies offers capable, motivated students the opportunity to design an interdisciplinary major tailored to their unique academic and creative interests. The key rationale for this approach is the observation that the issues and problems confronting our society and world are not defined by disciplinary boundaries; understanding comes through the integration of knowledge.

Requirements:

Students must:

- 1) choose an area of concentration
- 2) integrate knowledge from at least three distinct fields
- 3) include at least one semester abroad

The proposed program of study must be designed in consultation with and approved by the advisors in the International Programs Office. They will ensure that the range and number of courses required will be available and possible to complete in the time available. The advisors will guide students to develop a coherent and balanced major that takes advantage of the breadth of knowledge across traditional disciplines while focusing on a specific topic or theme.

Topics or themes can be:

Historical

Regional

Thematic

Problem-focused

The major consists of 30 semester hours, including two interdisciplinary seminars, one in the spring of the sophomore year (3 credits), a second in the spring of the junior year (3 credits) and a directed research project/ thesis (3 credits) during the senior year.

Although the opportunity to pursue an International Studies major is limited to students in the first three years of study at SRU who have completed not more than seventy semester hours of credit, ideally, the development of the course of study is completed in the second semester of the sophomore year. Applicants must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.75 for admission to and continuation in the program.