

Diplomacy & International Commerce

Patterson School of Diplomacy & International Commerce

The Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Commerce offers a Masters of Arts program designed to prepare students academically, professionally, and personally for careers in international affairs. Formal academic coursework is combined with experiential learning via a rich variety of co-curricular activities. The Patterson School M.A. is excellent preparation for service with government agencies such as the U.S. Departments of State, Treasury, or Commerce, and in the intelligence community, careers in international organizations or non-governmental organizations or in the private sector. The Patterson School faculty is a mix of academics and former foreign-affairs practitioners whom spent decades in government service prior to starting their teaching careers. Students come to the Patterson School with diverse undergraduate degrees but most are well-prepared in political science, economics and foreign languages.

Our flexible program totals 30 credit hours and can be completed in just three semesters. Each student enrolls in core curriculum courses and seminars taught by regular Patterson School faculty in one of four concentrations: diplomacy, development/international organizations, security/intelligence, and international commerce. Beyond this core, students can work with their academic advisors to craft interdisciplinary courses of study tailored to their unique desires that draw widely upon other University of Kentucky graduate departments. Patterson School students have developed individual degree plans that include classes in agricultural economics, anthropology, finance, marketing, management, foreign languages, history, political science, communications, sociology, law, geography, public health, and more. Additionally, students can pursue certificate programs in Global Health or International Education. This flexibility in curriculum is pivotal to the Patterson School concept.

All students begin the program as a group in the fall semester. Even though three semesters are required to complete the required the coursework, some students elect to remain a fourth semester in order to obtain more breadth and/or depth in their desired fields of professional preparation, or additional language training. Entering students are expected to have a strong background in at least one foreign language but many students undertake further language study during the program (although this study does not earn credit for the M.A. degree). Students are strongly encouraged to complete a career-related internship in the United States or abroad, typically during the summer between their second and third semesters.

All students must successfully pass written and oral comprehensive examinations before being awarded their master's degree. These exams require students to draw upon the full measure of academic and professional activities they have experienced in the program, testing their universal foreign affairs knowledge as well as their unique specialized skills. During their last semester, most students join informal study groups to prepare for this critical final step. Each student has only two chances to pass the comprehensive examinations. Students are also required to maintain a 3.0 grade point average to graduate.

Patterson School students are able to take advantage of a variety of joint degree opportunities to combine the study of international affairs with other disciplines, such as law or business. Students must meet the admission requirements of the separate programs independently and commit upfront to pursue both degrees. The Patterson School currently maintains concurrent degree programs in Law, Business, Economics, and Modern Languages. While many Patterson School graduates have later obtained doctoral degrees, this M.A. program is specifically designed to prepare students for non-academic careers in international affairs. Students who contemplate working immediately on a Ph.D. are generally advised to pursue that goal elsewhere.

Financial Assistance

A number of non-service Patterson School fellowships are available from the bequest of James K. Patterson, the first President of the University. Additional merit fellowships are provided to Patterson School students by the Vince Davis Memorial Fund and other sources.

Admission Requirements

Admission to the Patterson School is highly selective. The deadline for applications is February 1st. The online application process begins at the Patterson School website <http://www.uky.edu/PattersonSchool/>. Each applicant is required to submit GRE scores, college transcripts, a resume, a brief statement explaining his/her interest in the Patterson School program in terms of career goals, and two to four letters of reference. International students are also required to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language or the International English Language Testing System.

Dual Degree Program

J.D./M.A. in Diplomacy

The University of Kentucky Law School joins the Patterson School in offering a dual degree program in law and diplomacy that permits students to acquire both degrees in four years time. Professionals trained in both law and international affairs are well positioned to seek positions in the private, public and non-profit spheres. Interested students must apply separately to each program, noting their desire to pursue the dual degree. For further information, contact the Director of Graduate Studies in the Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Commerce and the College of Law.

M.B.A./M.A. in Diplomacy

The Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Commerce and the College of Business and Economics offer the opportunity to obtain the Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.) and the MA in Diplomacy degrees in a dual degree program that requires less time than would be required to achieve both degrees separately. The dual program of studies is designed to train students for international business careers or careers in government service that emphasize international business relations. Interested students must apply separately to each program, noting their desire to pursue the dual degree.

M.S. in Economics/M.A. in Diplomacy

The Department of Economics of the Gatton College of Business and Economics combines with the Patterson School of Diplomacy to offer a dual degree program in economics and diplomacy that allows students to obtain both degrees in less time than would be required to achieve both degrees separately. The dual program of studies is designed to train students to become international economic analysts serving in government or international research institutions, or economic specialists headed for government departments (Treasury, State, U.S. Trade Representative) or intergovernmental organizations. Interested students must apply separately to each program, noting their desire to pursue the dual degree.

M.A. in a Modern Language/M.A. in Diplomacy

The Department of Modern and Classical Languages, Literatures, and Cultures in cooperation with the Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Commerce offers a dual degree program that allows students to obtain both degrees in less time than would be required to achieve both degrees separately. Interested students must apply separately to each program, noting their desire to pursue the dual degree.

Course Descriptions

DIP 600 SPECIAL TOPICS. (1-3)

This course will vary in content depending on special needs or faculty availability.

DIP 700 DYNAMICS OF DIPLOMACY. (3)

This course explores the historical evolution of diplomacy, then focuses on post WWII diplomatic practice and especially the dynamics of diplomacy since the end of the Cold War. Emphasis will be placed on diplomacy's role in the international system, new tasks for diplomacy, and enhancing diplomatic skills in a new paradigm. Prereq: Permission of instructor.

DIP 712 WEAK STATES AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY. (3)

This course reviews how the policy community has measured the weak state, revealing discrepancies in the quantifiable parameters, definitions, and categorizations, and analyze the efforts taken to address state weakness, particularly foreign economic and security assistance. It will review the five theoretical approaches to the weak state in the literature, which are informed by the international community's concerns with state weakness: development, intervention, post-colonialism, globalization and terrorism. The theory will be applied to specific cases of weak states in several regions (e.g., Africa, Asia, the Balkans, Latin America, the Middle East, and the Former Soviet States) and analyzes the threats they pose to international security.

DIP 715 DEMOCRACY AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS. (3)

Discussion of the impact of the global spread of democracy on foreign policy and war. Prereq: Graduate status and consent of instructor. (Same as PS 735.)

DIP 716 INTERNATIONAL TRADE POLICY AND PRACTICE. (3)

This course is designed to prepare students to function comfortably in either the trade policy formulation (public trade policy producers) or commercial environment (policy consumers). Although the course is organized in two discrete sections, throughout the course, the implications of policy on commercial practice and the reverse will be stressed.

DIP 720 ECONOMIC STATECRAFT. (3)

This seminar course will explore how economic values and choices shape economic options, and the techniques used to pursue them in the diplomatic arena. Trade and fiscal techniques, financial policies, and sanctions will be explored in relationship to the interplay between economic and political/international relations theory, and the relevance of economic statecraft to achieving both economic and noneconomic goals.

DIP 725 GEOPOLITICAL MODELING. (3)

Course uses large user friendly computer model of world's political/economic systems to explore topics such as globalization, development, energy security, and political instability from a theoretical and quantitative viewpoint. Prereq: STA 570 or permission of instructor.

DIP 726 INTRODUCTION TO INTELLIGENCE. (3)

This course will introduce the student to the role of intelligence in U.S. national security policy-making.

DIP 727 ANALYTICAL METHODS FOR INTELLIGENCE ANALYSIS. (3)

This course will introduce the student to the role of intelligence analysis in U.S. national security policy-making. It will be discussed and put to practical use the various analytical methods and techniques that are used by analysts within the Intelligence Community.

DIP 730 CROSS-CULTURAL NEGOTIATION AND BARGAINING. (3)

A multidisciplinary graduate course using contemporary studies of negotiation and bargaining from the individual to the international level. Uses both public (Diplomatic) and private (Commercial) examples, including case studies and practice negotiations. Group and national differences are explored as well as the content and environment of negotiations. Prereq: Any one graduate course plus consent of instructor.

DIP 734 AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES. (3)

Examination of challenges facing sub-saharan African countries in developing economic and politically sustainable societies.

DIP 735 ENERGY SECURITY. (3)

This course uses the tools of economic analysis and economic statecraft to examine energy security. It will look at the connection between energy and the economy in both the U.S. and other states and the connections between energy and military security and power. It will include a detailed review of the U.S. energy economy, the international energy market, the economies of the major Middle Eastern states, and the Russian economy. At the end of the course each student will understand the history of energy security, be aware of the data sources for current policy analysis, be able to use the relevant tools of economic analysis including econometrics, and be familiar with the energy security policy debate both in the United States and in key foreign countries. Prereq: DIP 740 or ECO 672 or at least two semesters of undergraduate economic theory with grades of B or better. DIP 720 and DIP 750 recommended.

DIP 740 GLOBALIZATION. (3)

This course examines the phenomenon of globalization by applying core theories of the international political economy. Subjects to be covered include economic and political definitions of globalization, the technological, economic, and political causes of globalization, and the effects of globalization on national politics and wealth. By the end of the course, students should be able to apply the basic international political economy analysis to both trade and financial issues, giving them the necessary skills to prepare convincing policy analyses, political advocacy programs, and business plans. Lecture/Discussion hours per week. Prereq: Graduate status, a modest undergraduate or graduate background in Foreign Affairs or permission of the instructor.

DIP 742 NATIONAL SECURITY POLICY. (3)

This course provides a foundation in the major debates on national security policy.

DIP 748 MASTER'S THESIS RESEARCH. (0)

Half-time to full-time work on thesis. May be repeated to a maximum of six semesters. Prereq: All course work toward the degree must be completed.

DIP 750 DEFENSE STATECRAFT. (3)

Students will gain familiarity with the key military policy issues that confront government officials, and they will learn to evaluate the claims of journalists and advocacy organizations that confront informed American opinion on a day-to-day basis. Prereq: Graduate status.

DIP 755 POLITICS AND DIPLOMACY OF THE MIDDLE EAST. (3)

Analyzes the interplay between politics and diplomacy in the Middle East. Prereq: Permission of instructor.

DIP 756 DIPLOMACY OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. (3)

This course explores diplomatic issues with developing and maintaining, securing, restricting and eliminating nuclear weapons.

DIP 768 RESIDENCE CREDIT FOR THE MASTER'S DEGREE. (1-6)

May be repeated to a maximum of 12 hours.

DIP 777 RESEARCH PROBLEMS IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. (3)

This seminar focuses on research strategies that can be utilized in dealing with problems in international relations. May be repeated once with consent of instructor. Prereq: PS 674 or consent of instructor.

DIP 780 INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY. (3)

A multidisciplinary graduate course that investigates policy questions and the policy process surrounding developments in international sciences and technology. This course will focus on the intersection of scientific research, technological applications and change, and business and governmental activities in these areas that impact upon international relations. Prereq: Consent of instructor.

DIP 795 SPECIAL PROBLEMS IN DIPLOMACY AND INTERNATIONAL COMMERCE. (3)

Specially designed independent study course taken under the supervision of various instructors. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits. Prereq: Permission of instructor.