



BA/MIA Information Session

January 19, 2021

School of Global Policy & Strategy (GPS)

Department of Political Science

UC San Diego

What is the BA/MIA Program?

- Combined degree program offered by the Department of Political Science & the School of Global Policy and Strategy (GPS)
 - Builds on the disciplinary core of BA degree
 - Integrates the professional training of MIA degree
- Designed for students seeking advanced training in policy making and international affairs in the context of international economics, management, development, and politics
- Degrees Earned
 - **Bachelor of Arts in Political Science - International Affairs (BA)**
 - **Master of International Affairs (MIA)**



School of Global Policy and Strategy

Curriculum blends politics, policy making and regulation, economics, international development, and management with a deep expertise in Asia and the Americas

Prepares students to develop effective policy solutions for some of the world's most pressing issues: population growth, economic development, a balanced trade and business climate, climate change, security, natural resources, human health, corporate social responsibility, energy, and technological advances.

BA/MIA Program Eligibility

- You must be a current Political Science Major
- At the time of application, you must have a:
 - Cumulative GPA: 3.0 or higher
 - Major GPA: 3.4 or higher
- You must be able to demonstrate that you are able to complete all or nearly all of your upper division PS course requirements before beginning the GPS core
- You must be able to demonstrate that you will be able to reach sixth (6th) quarter proficiency in a GPS language by the time you graduate with your MIA.
- Some students may be required to attend summer prep.



BA/MIA Program Overview

Lower Division Requirements

- Asia Pacific Relevant Language Courses
- Political Science Courses

Upper Division Requirements

- A specialized set of courses for the Political Science-International Affairs major

GPS MIA Requirements

- First Year Core Sequence
- Regional Specialization
- Language Requirement
- Career Track
- Capstone Research Class

Lower Division Requirement Language Requirement

GPS Regional Specialization	Languages Accepted for Region
Latin America	Spanish
	Brazilian Portuguese
China	Chinese (Mandarin)
Japan	Japanese
Korea	Korean
Southeast Asia	Bahasa Indonesia
	Chinese (Mandarin)

- **Sixth quarter proficiency** of an approved language
- Must be completed by the end of graduate year
- Language **must** match GPS regional specialization
- Language **proficiency exams** are available to satisfy the language requirement

*Other languages allowed with prior approval from GPS Student Affairs



Lower Division Requirements

Political Science

Applicants must have completed these with a C- or better by the time of applying:

POLI 5 or 5D. *Data Analytics for the Social Sciences*

POLI 11 or 11D. *Introduction to Comparative Politics*

POLI 12 or 12D. *Introduction to International Relations*

POLI 30 or 30D. *Political Inquiry*



Upper Division Requirements Political Science Courses

Nine Courses from the following Upper Division Political Science curriculum:

- A minimum of two (2) from International Political Economy
- A minimum of two (2) from the following in American Politics: POLI 100A, POLI 100B, POLI 100C, POLI 100DA, POLI100E
- A minimum of two (2) from *either* International Relations OR Comparative Politics
- Three (3) elective courses from the Upper Division Political Science curriculum

Senior Year: GPS Core Courses

Fall Quarter:

- **GPCO 401.** *Microeconomics for Policy Making and Management*
- **GPCO 412.** *Globalization, the World System, and the Pacific*
- **GPCO 453.** *Quantitative Methods I*

Winter Quarter:

- **GPCO 400.** *Policy Making Processes*
- **GPCO 415.** *Accounting and Finance*
- **GPCO 454.** *Quantitative Methods II*

Spring Quarter:

- **GPCO 403.** *International Economics*
- **GPCO 410.** *International Politics and Security*

Graduate Career Track (2 Required + 3 Electives)

- International Development and Nonprofit Management
- International Economics
- International Environmental Governance
- International Management
- International Politics

GPS MIA Requirements

Regional Specialization

Requirements

- 1 “Economics of...” Course
- 1 “Politics of...” Course
- Language Requirement

Regions

- China
- Japan
- Korea
- Latin America
- Southeast Asia

Sample 5-Year Academic Plan

Freshman Entry

1st Year

FALL 20__	Units	WINTER 20__	Units	SPRING 20__	Units	SUMMER 20__	Units	Transfer Total:
GE	4	GE	4	GE	4			
GE	4	GE	4	GE	4			
POLI LD	4	POLI LD	4	POLI LD	4			
		GE	4	GE	4			
								Yearly Total:
Unit Total	12	Unit Total	16	Unit Total	16	Unit Total	0	44

2nd Year

FALL 20__	Units	WINTER 20__	Units	SPRING 20__	Units	SUMMER 20__	Units	Transfer Total:
POLI LD	4	GE	4	POLI UD	4	GE	4	
GE/DEI	4	GE	4	POLI UD	4	GE	4	
GE	4	GE	4	GE	4			
GE	4			GE	4			
								Yearly Total:
Unit Total	16	Unit Total	12	Unit Total	16	Unit Total	8	52

3rd Year

FALL 20 ²⁰	Units	WINTER 20 ²⁰	Units	SPRING 20 ²¹	Units	SUMMER 20__	Units	Transfer Total:
POLI UD	4	POLI UD	4	POLI UD	4			
POLI UD	4	POLI UD	4	POLI UD	4			
GE	4	POLI UD	4	GE	4			
GE	4	GE	4					
				Apply in April*				Yearly Total:
Unit Total	16	Unit Total	16	Unit Total	12	Unit Total	0	44

4th Year

FALL 20 ²¹	Units	WINTER 20 ²²	Units	SPRING 20 ²²	Units	SUMMER 20 ²²	Units	Transfer Total:
GPCO 401	4	GPCO 400	4	GPCO 403	4			
GPCO 412	4	GPCO 415	4	GPCO 410	4	Summer		
GPCO 453	4	GPCO 454	4	Elective	4	Internship		
GE	4				0			
				Graduate with BA				Yearly Total:
Unit Total	16	Unit Total	12	Unit Total	12	Unit Total	0	40

5th/Graduate Year

FALL 20 ²²	Units	WINTER 20 ²³	Units	SPRING 20 ²³	Units	Notes	Transfer Total:
Graduate Year		Graduate Year		Graduate Year			
Career Track		MIA Capstone		Career Track			
Career Track		Career Track		Career Track			
Regional Course		Regional Course		Regional Course			
Language/Elective		Language/Elective		Language/Elective		Graduate with MIA	Yearly Total:
Unit Total	0	Unit Total	0	Unit Total	0	Additional Units	0

Cumulative Units 180

4th Year Note: GPCO courses must be taken in quarters indicated. Students must attend in FA, WI & SP.

Apply in April of Junior Year

Graduate with B.A.

Graduate with M.I.A.

Sample 3-Year Academic Plan

Transfer Student

3rd
Year

FALL 20 ²⁰	Units	WINTER 20 ²⁰	Units	SPRING 20 ²¹	Units	SUMMER 20__	Units	
POLI UD	4	POLI UD	4	POLI UD	4	POLI UD	4	
POLI UD	4	POLI UD	4	POLI UD	4			
POLI UD	4	POLI UD	4	GE	4			
		GE	4					
				Apply in April!				Yearly Total:
Unit Total	12	Unit Total	16	Unit Total	12	Unit Total	4	44

Apply in
April of
Junior
Year

4th
Year

FALL 20 ²¹	Units	WINTER 20 ²²	Units	SPRING 20 ²²	Units	SUMMER 20 ²²	Units	
GPCO 401	4	GPCO 400	4	GPCO 403	4			
GPCO 412	4	GPCO 415	4	GPCO 410	4	Summer		
GPCO 453	4	GPCO 454	4	GE/DEI	4	Internship		
					0			
								Yearly Total:
Unit Total	12	Unit Total	12	Unit Total	12	Unit Total	0	36

Graduate
with B.A.

5th/
Graduate
Year

FALL 20 ²²	Units	WINTER 20 ²³	Units	SPRING 20 ²³	Units	Notes	
Career Track		Career Track		Career Track			
Career Track		MIA Capstone		Career Track			
Regional Course		Regional Course		Regional Course			
Language/Elective		Language/Elective		Language/Elective			
							Yearly Total:
Unit Total	0	Unit Total	0	Unit Total	0	Additional Units	0
Cumulative Units							181

Graduate
with M.I.A.



BA/MIA Application Information

- Application Deadline: **April of each year - Next: April 10th, 2021**
- Application
 - UCSD online application system – Grad Apply (<https://connect.grad.ucsd.edu/apply/>)
 - International Affairs- (IR75)
- Essays
 - **Required:** Statement of purpose: professional objectives in international affairs and/or research interests, how your background has prepared you to pursue these objectives, how the GPS program will help you achieve these objectives
 - **Optional:** Supplemental essay to allow for additional matters you want to address
- Resume
- Transcripts
- Two Recommendations

Admissions Requirements

- Advising appointment and confirmed eligibility by Director of Degree Programs, Dr. Nancy Gilson, or Political Science advisor
- **Completion of the following by the end of spring quarter of junior year:**
 - POLI 5/5D, POLI11/11D, POLI 12/12D, and POLI 30/30D
 - All GE requirements for your college
 - Substantial progress in UD major requirements
 - Demonstrate ability to make 6th quarter proficiency by the end of the graduate year
- **Major GPA:** 3.4 or above
- **Cumulative GPA:** 3.0 or above

What is GPS Admissions Looking For?

- Strong GPA
- Demonstrated interest in international affairs through, for example, course work, study abroad
- Relevant Internship/Work/Volunteer/Research/Leadership Experience
- Coherent and organized statement of purpose
- Strong recommendations

Financial Aid

- Undergraduate Financial Aid applies to the first year of the program while still in undergraduate standing (senior year)
- For graduate year, students apply for graduate financial aid using many of the same forms
- Students who perform well in their first year GPS Core courses, are usually invited to TA in their graduate year, which pays for tuition and fees.
- There are also opportunities to TA in other departments on campus, for example Rady, the colleges, your major department



Career Outcomes at GPS

GPS prepares students for careers in the public, private, nonprofit, and multilateral sectors throughout the world. We have alumni working in over 100 countries in jobs such as:

- Supply chain manager at global technology companies
- Foreign Service Officers
- International investment consultant
- Research assistants at global think tanks
- Policy analysts in environmental policy
- Intelligence analyst
- Management consultant
- Nonprofit consultant
- UNHCR Development



GPS Career Support

- BA/MIA Students are required to obtain a professional internship after their senior year
- Career Development Program (Orientation)
- Sector-focused Career Coaching and Workshops
- Resume review and mock interviews
- Alumni Career Talks and Quarter Connections
- Outreach events in San Diego, LA, San Francisco, Sacramento, New York, and DC
- Internship and Professional Development Funding



Contact Us!

To Schedule an Appointment:

School of Global Policy & Strategy

Email Dr. Nancy Gilson at ngilson@ucsd.edu

Department of Political Science

Virtual Advising Center (VAC)

<http://vac.ucsd.edu>

School of Global Policy & Strategy Joint Programs Application Workshop

Join us for an interactive workshop to learn about all the components of the joint programs application, how to complete the application, who to ask for recommendations, and how to start your personal statement.

Your advisors, the GPS Director of Degree Programs and a GPS Admissions officer will be available to answer all of your questions!



Application Deadline
April 10, 2021

WORKSHOP DATE

Wednesday, Feb. 3 at 3:30 p.m. (PST)

REGISTER

<http://bit.ly/3rTXrSe>

Save the Dates!

Application Workshop

Wed, February 3 at 3:30pm PST

Register: <http://bit.ly/3rTXrSe>

Personal Statement Workshop

Tues, March 2 at 3:45pm PST

Registration link coming soon!