

## U.S. Foreign Affairs

<b>Name of the Educational Programme:</b>	<b>U.S. Foreign Affairs</b>
<b>Awarded Qualification:</b>	Master of American Studies//ამერიკისმცოდნეობის მაგისტრო
<b>Credit Value of the Programme:</b>	120 ECTS
<b>Language of Education:</b>	English
<b>Programme Admission Preconditions:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A person with a bachelor's degree or an equivalent academic degree who will be enrolled on the basis of the results of the Unified Master's examinations.</li> <li>• Student enrollment is conducted according to the Georgian legislation - based on the results of the Unified Master's Exams (Admission to the educational program without passing Unified National exams may be allowed only in cases considered by the Georgian law), for foreign applicants admission criteria is available at – <a href="https://iro.ibsu.edu.ge/en/home">https://iro.ibsu.edu.ge/en/home</a>)</li> <li>• In addition, the applicant should pass the University internal exam in specialty and English language (B2 level) or/and interview with the candidate.</li> <li>• Candidate who has an English language B2 level international certificate is exempted from passing the language exam. Also, a candidate who has graduated from the English Language Educational Program will be exempt from English Language Requirement.</li> <li>• The order of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia №10 / N (4.02.2010) on the “Rules for Transfer from the Higher Education Institution to Other Higher Education Institutions and Approval of Fees” students shall be enrolled in accordance with the mobility rules.</li> </ul>

**Purpose of the Programme:**

The Master program in the U.S. Foreign Affairs is the continuation of the Bachelor American Studies Humanitarian Interdisciplinary program opened first time in Georgia at the International Black Sea University (IBSU) in cooperation with the U.S Embassy. Specificity and uniqueness of the Studies program involving wide scope of diverse disciplines, like: American History, American Literature, American Multicultural Studies, American Culture & Society, American Geography, American Women's History, American Media, American Politics, etc. and the students' great interest towards American History and Foreign Policy encouraged us to create the module of the Bachelor program – Master program: U.S. Foreign Affairs, the aim of which is to deepen the student's knowledge of Bachelor degree American History oriented disciplines, like: American History, Politics, American Culture and Society, American Multicultural Studies, as the United States was created with the help of its unique immigration historic past.

1. The program will outline the students' knowledge and vision on the U.S. Foreign policy and its challenges that involve two stages: the first until September 10, 2001. The first stage involved the transnational historic period of the end of the Cold War despite the on-going Bosnia, Rwanda and many other deadly conflicts; the challenges of globalization sweeping the world, bringing their own combination of progress and problems; enhancing the scope of democracy, facing challenges of consolidation and institutionalization. And the second stage starting from 9/11, implying the transformation of U.S. foreign policy agenda by announcing war to terrorism; The program will equip graduates with strategies, which will help them to correctly accentuate the importance of Georgia's relations with Euro-Atlantic partners and organizations;
2. the courses of the program will introduce MA students U.S. foreign policy core issues: what the U.S. national interest is and which policies serve it best; which institutions, actors, presidents within the American political system, play what roles and have how much influence in relations to Georgia as well; dynamics of the U.S. history, peculiarities of the region, multiculturalism in American political system based on American experts.
3. Through the program, students will thoroughly research the processes of shaping US foreign policy strategies, which aim to make the right plans and find the optimal ways to implement them; Foreign policy as a "process of choice", that means the formation of foreign policy through political institutions and the social influence of the American political system, at the same time understands the need to deepen his/her learning process.

**Learning outcome**

Student:

	<p><b>Knowledge and understanding</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The graduate identifies and recognizes the role of United States foreign policy in shaping political institutions and public influence;</li> <li>2. recognizes and understands the basic principles of American democracy; understands the necessity of expanding Georgia’s bilateral relations with leading members of NATO, to build a stronger relationship with the Alliance;</li> </ol>
	<p><b>Skills</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Explores and critically describes the contradictions between equality and freedom based on democratic principles; The influence of the peculiarities of the development of individual regions of the United States on the diverse culture of the United States;</li> <li>4. Studies in a complex way the dynamics of Georgian-American relations; The influence of the peculiarities of the history of the Institute of Presidency on US foreign relations; Explains in details the need of deepening and strengthening cooperation on regional issues within Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (EAPC);</li> <li>5. Reconciles foreign relations, US history, principles of democracy, culture, and diverse regional characteristics from an interdisciplinary perspective and interprets the obtained data, compares and formulates conclusions;</li> <li>6. Argues his / her opinion, illustrates theoretical provisions with practical examples;</li> <li>7. Argues and present problem-solving ways with the American experts, academic and professional community; can communicate effectively with foreign specialists; is able to listen to an American conversation and respond adequately, regardless of the pace, intonation or subject matter of the conversation; Responds appropriately to heard impulses and performs complex tasks; Listens to audio material on everyday topics as well as economic, political, social, cultural issues;</li> <li>8. Writes essays correctly orthographically and intellectually; Can express his / her opinion clearly in writing, critical analysis, innovative synthesis of the information, evaluation and formulating conclusions during verbal communication and in analytical essays; compose works / essays equipped with vocabulary of field and high literary style (synonyms, antonyms, phraseological units);</li> <li>9. Prepares analytical papers on US Foreign Affairs keeping the standards of academic honesty; can formulate new, original ways in a foreign or multicultural environment</li> </ol>

		to solve complex problems/ conduct research independently keeping academic honesty.
	<b>Responsibility and autonomy</b>	10. Identifies the needs for further learning, in particular, understands the need for continuous enhancement in the field of learning and development and conducts his/her learning process independently; develops his/her interest towards further research in the field of US Foreign Affairs, respects knowledge/learning, tendency for novelty, academic honesty.
<b>Evaluation Criteria</b>	<p>The goal of evaluation is to determine student's education results qualitatively in relation to academic program goals and parameters.</p> <p>Students may be assessed orally and/or in a written way. A student's knowledge and skills are assessed through 100 points grading system. It consists of midterm and final evaluations, the sum of which makes up 100 points. Grading system allows:</p> <p>a) Five types of positive grades</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) (A) Excellent – 91 – 100:</li> <li>2) (B) Very good – 81-90.</li> <li>3) (C) Good – 71-80:</li> <li>4) (D) Satisfactory – 61-70.</li> <li>5) (E) Sufficient – 51-60.</li> </ol> <p>b) Two types of negative grades</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) (FX) Fail – 41-50 , meaning that a student requires some more work before passing and is given a chance to sit an additional examination after independent work;</li> <li>2) (F) Fail – 40 and less , meaning that the work of a student is not acceptable and he/she has to study the subject anew.</li> </ol> <p>For the midterm and final evaluations minimal passing grade is set. The final evaluation minimal passing grade is 51% of final evaluation grade.</p> <p>Midterm and final evaluation grade distribution, their minimal competence levels and assessment criteria are described in the corresponding syllabus.</p> <p>A credit can be awarded only after the attainment of learning outcomes, envisaged by the course syllabus and following requirements:</p>	

a) Obtaining minimal competence levels set for midterm and final evaluations;  
 b) Obtaining minimum 51 points out of 100 points of final grade.

A student is allowed to take an additional (make-up) exam in case he/she scored 41-50 points of final grade or minimum 51 points, but did not obtain minimal competence level set for final evaluation.

Considering its specification, the format and the assessment criteria of mid-term and final evaluations can be determined in the specific module/course syllabus.

The evaluation system of the research component (Master thesis) is similar to the above, except for the following cases: in case of (FX) assessment, the student is allowed to submit the re-considered master's thesis during the following semester, and in case of receiving (F), loses the right to submit the same thesis.

Also, specific components and criteria for the evaluation of the research component are given in the syllabus of the Master thesis. The minimum competence level for the master's thesis assessment is not less than 51% of the maximum score of the corresponding evaluation.

**Field of Employment:**

After successful graduation of the program, the Master can continue studies to earn the doctoral degree. Besides, the Master can be employed as an expert in Embassies, American organizations, offices of Public Relations, Ministry of Foreign affairs (American Department), Ministry of Defence (NATO Department), International Organization (USAID, UN), in Organizations abroad (USA, Turkey, Dubai, United Arab Emirates), department of culture, non-governmental organizations.

#	code	Course / Module / Internship / Research Component	Prerequisite	Credit number	Distribution of credits per courses and semesters		Distribution of Hours		
					I Year	II Year	Contact Hours		

			Status			I Semester	II Semester	III Semester	IV Semester	Lecture	Seminar / Group Work / Laboratory Work / Practical work	Midterm exam(s)	Final exam	Total number of contact hours	Independent work	Total number of hours
I	<b>Compulsory Courses of main field</b>					<b>60 ECTS</b>										
	USFA501	U.S. Domestic Policy	Compulsory	Without Preconditions		10				15	13	2	2	32	218	250
	USFA510	Research Methods	Compulsory	US Domestic Policy; US Foreign Policy; History of American Presidency		10				15	13	2	2	32	218	250
	USFA503	U.S. Foreign Policy	Compulsory	Without Preconditions			10			29	13	2	2	46	203	250
	USFA505	International Organizations and the Future Role of NATO	Compulsory	Without Preconditions			10			15	13	2	2	32	218	250
	USFA509	Georgian-American Relations	Compulsory	US Domestic Policy; US Foreign Policy				10		29	13	2	2	46	202	250

	USFA506	History of American Presidency	Compulsory	Without Preconditions				10		15	13	2	2	32	218	250
<b>II</b>	<b>Research component</b>				<b>30 ECTS</b>											
	AMS512	Master Thesis	Compulsory	All core courses				30		30				30	720	750
<b>III</b>	<b>Elective Courses of the main Field</b>				<b>30 ECTS</b>											
	USFA511	International Economic Relations	Elective	Without Preconditions				10		15	13	2	2	32	218	250
	USFA502	American Democracy	Elective	Without Preconditions		10				15	13	2	2	32	218	250
	USFA517	New Media and American Society	Elective	Without Preconditions		10				15	13	2	2	32	218	250
	AMS510	Foreign Policy Analysis	Elective	Without Preconditions		10				15	13	2	2	32	218	250
	USFA518	The US Assistance to Georgia through the United States Agency for International Development	Elective	Without Preconditions		10				15	13	2	2	32	218	250
	USFA504	American Studies and Globalization	Elective	Without Preconditions		10				15	13	2	2	32	218	250
	USFA507	International Security Studies	Elective	Without Preconditions		10				15	13	2	2	32	218	250
<b>total</b>					<b>120</b>	30	30	30	30							