

International Relations

Name of the Educational Programme:	International Relations
Awarded Qualification:	Master of International Relations / საერთაშორისო ურთიერთობების მაგისტრო
Credit Value of the Programme:	120 ECTS
Language of Education:	English
Programme Admission Preconditions:	<p>Student enrollment is conducted according to the Georgian legislation - based on the results of the Unified National Master's Exams (Admission to the educational program without passing Unified National exams may be allowed only in cases considered by the Georgian law). Admission requirements for foreign citizens can be found at the link https://iro.ibsu.edu.ge/en/home</p> <p>A person can become a student of Master program if he/she has a bachelor or equivalent degree. In addition, the applicant should pass the University internal exam in specialty and English language (B2 level).</p> <p>In following cases, the applicants will be exempted from passing the language exam: (1) applicants, who have graduated from English language educational program within the last 3 years and their GPA is at least 75 (out of 100) or 3 (out of 4); (2) if an applicant is a citizen of a country, where first/second official language is English, (3) if an applicant presents one of the international certificate: CEFR, TOEFL iBT, IELTS, YDS, or Cambridge, corresponding to B2 level of English. For detailed information, please see IBSU.R04 Regulation for Master's Education.</p> <p>Exams in English language and specialty are distributed in accordance with the following coefficient: 40% - 60% respectively.</p>
Purpose of the Programme:	<p>The aim of the Master program in International Relations is to train highly qualified specialists who are competitive in the local and international labor markets and satisfy contemporary requirements that enable them to pursue a successful professional path as well as/or proceed with further education goals at the next study cycle. With the view to achieve this, the program envisages three core objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To give students a deep and systematic knowledge of the history of evolution and theory of international relations (IR) as well as equip them with the tools to critically analyze key issues, current processes and challenges in the field;

	<p>2. Based on an acquired comprehensive, substantive and practical knowledge of the field, develop analytical and critical thinking skills, enabling students to create original ideas and solve complex problems in a multidisciplinary environment;</p> <p>3. To develop a sound command of research methods selected and applied in an independent manner, embarking upon the latest methodological approaches and innovative techniques in the field while observing academic and ethical standards.</p> <p>The BA program in International Relations is consistent with the mission and strategic objectives of the International Black Sea University and is in line with labour market requirements.</p>
<p>Learning outcome</p>	<p>Upon completion of the program, the following general and field specific competencies required from graduates will be acquired including knowledge and understanding; skills; responsibility and autonomy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Interprets contemporary scholarly polemics in relation to core ontological, epistemological and methodological issues of the field; applies philosophical paradigms and concepts in own research; 2. Explains, contrasts and interprets in a critical manner the classical theories of international relations as well as modern trends and paradigms; classifies theoretical schools and evaluates them both through the lens of scholarly discourse as well as from the standpoint of behavior determinants for key actors studied by theories of international relations; puts forward a theoretical framework for own research project and interprets empirical data through relevant theoretical arguments; 3. Critically interprets key events in the history of international relations and puts them into the relevant context; Outlines and interprets the important historical processes that have shaped IR as an academic discipline; 4. Interprets and critically analyzes the concept of the modern world order; Demonstrates comprehensive, substantive and practical knowledge in the field when assessing key issues of international relations, modern processes and challenges; 5. Explains the concepts and possibilities of war and peace in international relations while applying the relevant theoretical framework; demonstrates an in-depth understanding of the essence of both interstate and intrastate conflicts; interprets and critically analyzes the challenges to international security; Distinguishes between just and unjust wars at theoretical and practical (case study analysis) levels; Explores normative contradictions of war-related issues;

	<p>6. Defines and critically interprets the latest methodological approaches and innovative techniques in the field and conducts research independently, embarking upon them in compliance with academic and ethical standards; Compiles the analytical framework and methodology for own research; Applies qualitative and quantitative research methods in an independent manner, draws their sampling strategies and data analysis techniques; arranges empirical data from an appropriate theoretical standpoint, synthesizes and evaluates them in an innovative manner, puts forward conclusions based on research findings; critically evaluates the quality of a research paper departing from an author's philosophical perspective as well as epistemological and methodological approaches of paper under discussion;</p> <p>7. Delivers professional communication with researchers and practitioners in the field of international relations in accordance with the standards of academic ethics; presents own opinion during discussions and workshops based upon original analysis of complex data; prepares and submits a research project;</p> <p>8. Analyzes the moral dilemmas that a social science researcher faces while carrying out research, recognizes the utmost importance of ethical behavior and shapes own values system based on the knowledge of modern norms and standards in the field;</p> <p>9. Plans and conducts own study process in an independent manner; Discusses issues that are insufficiently studied in the field of international relations and identifies the need for further research; Independently defines own research interests.</p>
<p>Evaluation Criteria</p>	<p>The goal of evaluation is to determine student's education results qualitatively in relation to academic program goals and parameters.</p> <p>Student 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, sum of which makes up 100 points.</p> <p>The grading system allows:</p> <p>five types of positive grades:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. (A) Excellent – 91-100 points; b. (B)Very good – 81-90 points; c. (C) Good - 71-80 points; d. (D) Satisfactory - 61-70 points; e. (E) Enough - 51-60 points; <p>two types of negative grades:</p>

	<p>a. (FX) Fail – 41-50 points, meaning that a student requires some more work before passing and is given a chance to sit an additional examination after independent work;</p> <p>b. (F) Fail – 40 points and less, meaning that the work of a student isn't acceptable and he/she has to study the subject anew.</p> <p>For the midterm and final evaluations minimal passing grade is set. The final evaluation minimal passing grade must not exceed 60% 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> <p>a) Obtaining minimal competence levels set for midterm and final evaluations;</p> <p>b) Obtaining minimum 51 points out of 100 points of final grade.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Considering its specification, the format and the assessment criteria of mid-term and final evaluations can be determined in the specific module/course syllabus.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Specific components and criteria for the evaluation of the research component are given in the syllabus of the Master thesis.</p>
<p>Field of Employment:</p>	<p>MA students of International Relations and Politics will be able to work at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, State structures responsible for foreign policy and national security issues, namely, Office of National Security Council, Ministry of Defense, foreign relations departments of various Ministries, NGOs working on international relations and national security issues, research centers, universities etc.</p> <p>Besides, MA graduate can continue studies in Ph.D. program to increase his/her competence and qualification.</p>

#	Course / Module / Internship / Research Component	Status	Credit Number	Credit distribution teaching					Distribution of hours						Number of contact hours per week
				I year		II year		Lecture / Consultation	Workshop / Group Work / Practical work	midterm exam (s)	Final exam	Total contact	Independent work	Total hours	
				I semester	II semester	III semester	IV semester								
I	Mandatory Study Courses		58	22	22	14								1450	
1	IRP001 Philosophy of Social Sciences	Mandatory	6	6			13	15	2	2	32	118	150	2	
2	IRP005 Analysis of the Evolution of International Relations	Mandatory	8	8			15	13	2	2	32	168	200	2	
3	IRP004 Theory of International Relations	Mandatory	8	8			14	14	-	2	30	170	200	2	
4	IRP003 Qualitative Research Methods	Mandatory	6		6		14	28	-	2	44	106	150	3	
5	IRP007 World Politics – Patterns and Trends	Mandatory	8		8		14	14	-	-	28	172	200	2	
6	IRP197 War and Peace in International Relations	Mandatory	8		8		11	17	2	2	32	168	200	2	
7	IRP002 Quantitative Research Methods	Mandatory	6			6	29	13	2	2	46	104	150	3	
8	IRP015 Georgia's Foreign Policy Analysis	Mandatory	8			8	14	14	2	2	32	168	200	2	
II	Research Component		30			30	29.5		-	0.5	30	720	750		
1	INT308 Master Thesis	Mandatory	30			30	29.5		-	0.5	30	720	750	1	

III	Elective Study Courses		32	8	8	16								800	
1	IRP014 Decision-Making in International Relations	Elective	8					9	19	2	2	32	168	200	2
2	IRP510 Contemporary International Law	Elective	8					14	14	2	2	32	168	200	2
3	IRP519 Global Governance	Elective	8					14	14	-	2	30	170	200	2
4	IRP103 International Security	Elective	8					11	17	2	2	32	168	200	2
5	IRP006 European Union in International Relations	Elective	8					15	13	2	2	32	168	200	2
6	IRP104 History of the US Foreign Policy Since 1900	Elective	8					15	13	2	2	32	168	200	2
7	IRP008 Contemporary Issues in the US Foreign Policy	Elective	8					15	13	2	2	32	168	200	2
8	IRP009 Russia in International Affairs	Elective	8					14	14	2	-	30	170	200	2
9	IRP010 Political Ideology and Practice in the Middle East	Elective	8					14	14	2	-	30	170	200	2
10	IRP105 Transition in Post-Communist Eastern Europe and Former Soviet Union	Elective	8					14	14	-	-	28	172	200	2
11	IRP101 Comparative Government and Politics	Elective	8					14	14	2	2	32	168	200	2
12	IRP196 International Political Economy	Elective	8					14	14	2	2	32	168	200	2
13	IRP011 Conflict Studies	Elective	8					11	17	2	2	32	168	200	2
14	IRP013 Diplomacy: From Traditional Practices to Digital Age	Elective	8					14	14	2	2	32	168	200	2
15	IRP018 Contemporary East Asia	Elective	8					14	14	2	2	32	168	200	2
Total numbers:			120					-	-	-	-	-	-	3000	
			ECTS												