

International Relations Ph.D.



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Average Time to Completion:

4 years

Class Format:

Online

Application Deadline:

Aug. 1 for Fall Dec. 1 for Spring Apr. 1 for Summer



A Doctorate Designed for the 21st Century

This 48-credit online doctorate program encourages students to think outside the box when studying the different regions of the world, while also inspiring them to consider a single box: the global one. Through comparative study that seeks to expose differences and reveal similarities in a respectful and considered way, our doctoral candidates challenge myths and misconceptions that different cultures have about themselves.

Consistent with the University's mercy and justice mission, our program's mission is to promote humanity and eliminate prejudice. Coursework emphasizes the reality that different regions are part of an integral whole. Our students explore and understand all of the world's regions, then choose a single area of focus for their dissertation.

Building on the success of our master's program in international relations, this terminal degree continues to emphasize justice, with a primary focus on seeking wisdom.



Our instructors are full-time teaching faculty at their respective institutions, including Salve Regina, the University of Rhode Island, the U.S. Naval War College and Roger Williams University. All hold doctorates and are regionally, nationally or internationally known scholars with expertise in a specific area of study.

About Salve Regina University

Salve Regina is an independent coeducational institution. Since our founding by the Sisters of Mercy in 1947, we have grown to a community of more than 2,700 undergraduate and graduate students who proudly carry forward our mission of responsible citizenship and public service in their personal and professional lives. Salve Regina is fully accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE).

Who May Apply

Individuals with a master's degree granted by an English-speaking institution. Must have at least five years of relevant professional experience.

Application Requirements

- Completed online application
- All undergraduate and graduate transcripts from each college or university attended, including proof of an accredited master's degree with a GPA of 3.3 or higher.
- Personal statement.
- Two letters of recommendation from individuals who can attest to your academic ability and motivation to engage in doctoral-level study.
- Current resume or CV.

Applications must be completed within one year of initial submission or individuals may be required to resubmit materials. All application materials become a permanent and confidential part of University records and are not returned.

International Relations Ph.D. ONLINE

Curriculum - 48 credits

Required Curriculum

INR675: Quantitative Methods	3 credits	
INR690: Dissertation Research and Writing	3 credits	
INR695: Dissertation Research	3 credits	
INR699: Dissertation	12 credits	
Students choose 10 courses from the following list based on their area of interest.		
INR602: American Foreign Policy	3 credits	
INR603: American Foreign Policy Decision Making		

INR612: Chinese Foreign Policy	3 credits
INR613: The Korean Peninsula	3 credits
INR622: Russian Foreign Policy	3 credits
INR623: Chinese Politics	3 credits
INR633: Comparative Politics of Russia	3 credits

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INR643: The Middle East in World Affairs	3 credits
INR652: South Asia in World Affairs	3 credits
INR653: Latin America in World Affairs	3 credits
INR662: Europe in World Affairs	3 credits

Additional Requirements

In addition to the required coursework, students must also fulfill a language proficiency requirement, either by passing a test administered by the program or passing two 200-level (or above) courses with a grade of "B" or better. No graduate credit is awarded for language courses. International students whose native language is not English may use their mother language to fulfill the requirement. The requirement must be completed before taking the comprehensive examination.

Upon successful completion of the coursework and the language requirement, students are required to pass a comprehensive written examination, which will be administered through teleconference. Students should plan to travel to campus for the dissertation defense.

Candidates who have completed the coursework (including INR690) and are ABD register for INR695: Dissertation Research, a 3-credit research course at a fixed fee. This course is offered during fall and spring terms and is repeated as long as necessary until approved to defend a dissertation in INR699: Dissertation.



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