Program Description

Degree Awarded: MA International Affairs and Leadership

The MA in International Affairs and Leadership offered by The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the McCain Institute prepares students for international leadership roles in a dynamic active learning environment led by senior international affairs professionals from the public and private sectors. Drawing on the legacy of values-driven leadership embodied by Senator John McCain, the McCain Institute's access and connectivity in the international community, and ASU’s extensive academic capacity, students will acquire a distinctive edge to succeed in the full spectrum of international affairs professions.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- **Location:** ASU@Washington, D.C.

Degree Requirements

**Required Core (9 credit hours)**
IAL 501 Principles of Character-Driven Leadership (3)
IAL 502 The Making of U.S. National Security Policy (3)
IAL 503 Applied International Leadership: Case Studies (3)

**Electives (21 credit hours)**

**Other Requirement (3 credit hours)**
IAL 584 Internship (3)

**Culminating Experience (3 credit hours)**
IAL 560 Capstone (3)
Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in any field from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of a student's first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

Applicants are required to submit:
1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. letter of intent
4. professional resume
5. writing sample
6. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information
An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency.

Applicants are encouraged to have a foundational understanding of microeconomics and macroeconomics prior to starting the program.

GRE or GMAT results are not required but can be submitted as an additional application material.

Applicants should have a deep-rooted interest in international issues of the future and a desire to influence them through character-driven leadership within the context of an increasingly complicated, globalized world. Ideal candidates are those who have previous leadership experience and who plan to devote their careers to working with other cultures and nations across a variety of sectors. While an ideal candidate has previous experience traveling or living overseas and has previously studied a language other than English, we also welcome candidates with no prior experience in these areas. Both international and domestic students are encouraged to apply.

Using the letter of intent, applicants should narrate their own leadership journeys as well as their motivations for further studies in the areas of international affairs and leadership. The letter of intent should describe applicants’ academic and professional interests to date, their definitions of character-driven leadership, their...
reasons for pursuing a master’s degree in International Affairs and Leadership, and how this advanced degree relates to their specific future goals.

The application review panel will also review the applicant’s writing skills. Successful applicants must be able to tell a concise, coherent story about their past experiences and future goals.

**Application Deadlines**

**Fall**

**Spring**

**Contact Information**

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