What are some things to consider if I'm new to the International Affairs major?

Choosing your first classes

Take PSCI 2223 as early as possible: this course explores foundational international relations theory and will serve as an indicator of interest.

Another consideration is IAFS 1000, which explores global issues within political, economic, social, and military frameworks.

Foreign language proficiency

If beginning a language, the sooner the better: most languages require 6 semesters.

If significantly struggling with language(s), consider switching language or major early rather than later...PSCI and ECON majors are typical alternatives.

Choosing among the IAFS upper division options

The determination process should be what courses most interest you. We strongly suggest meeting with your IAFS academic advisor to help select courses that meet your personal interests and fulfill your academic plan. If you plan to study abroad, most study abroad coursework typically falls under geographic concentration, and your advisor will help you select course options (and pre-approve courses) to meet your needs.

Planning to do Study Abroad?

Focus more on IAFS functional areas than geographic concentration classes beforehand: functional area classes are broader and more theoretical, and so are typically harder to get in a study abroad program.

Think ahead about relevant foreign language: will you have proficiency before going abroad, or will you get/move toward proficiency while abroad?

Thinking about pre-requisites

Review upper division courses for potential prerequisites at the lower division level. Note that some history courses for IAFS geographic concentration have prerequisites (for example, HIST 1308 for Middle East and HIST 1038 for Latin America).

By agreement with IAFS, Leeds Business School allows IAFS students to use ECON 2010 and 2020 as prerequisites for INBU 4200, INBU 4300, and MKTG 4400; HOWEVER, note the listed prerequisites for these classes, as professors may expect one to know the basic information contained in these prerequisite courses.