

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

What can I do with this degree?

AREAS

EMPLOYERS

STRATEGIES

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

Management
Human Resources
Labor Relations
Banking and Finance
Economics
International Development
Real Estate
Sales
Marketing
Product Management
Healthcare Administration
Agricultural Economics

Domestic and foreign corporations
Multinational service firms
Global small and medium enterprises
Domestic and foreign financial institutions
International marketing firms
International real estate firms
International trade firms
Contracting and consulting firms
Convention and visitors' bureaus
International airlines
Transportation, travel, and hospitality industry

Learn at least one additional language.
Spend a semester studying abroad.
Seek an international internship, even if unpaid.
Obtain volunteer, part-time, or summer experience at related organizations.
Make personal contacts within targeted businesses.
Learn about NAFTA, WTO, and GATT policies.
Develop your skills domestically and begin to develop a network of contacts if you want to pursue a career abroad.
Acquire supervisory skills and experience by taking leadership roles in student organizations.
Learn about geography and international travel regulations.
Sharpen your public speaking skills and communication skills between cultures.
Make a commitment to continuous growth in understanding cultural diversity.
Keep abreast of political, economic, and social changes worldwide.
Increase cultural awareness and sensitivity for foreign markets and people.
Develop an understanding of the international business environment.
Research firms with international interests.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS/GOVERNMENT

International Law
Diplomacy
Foreign Affairs
Public Service
Institutional/Community Development

United Nations
Relief organizations
Religious organizations
Non-profit organizations/corporations
Educational institutions
Consulting firms
Research institutes
Foundations
National Security Council (NSC)

Participate in an overseas mission experience.
Plan to study abroad or participate in an international work experience.
Learn a second or third language.
Demonstrate your depth of dedication, willingness to adapt, and coping mechanisms to combat stress and difficult situations.
Develop skills in the areas of organizing groups, efficiency, and the ability to calm people.

AREAS

EMPLOYERS

STRATEGIES

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS CONTINUED

Develop excellent research, writing, communication, and organizational skills.
Acquire supervisory skills and experience by taking leadership roles in student organizations.
Learn about geography and international travel regulations.
Sharpen your public speaking skills and communication skills between cultures.
Learn to see all sides of a problem, including economic, social, political, and environmental.
Learn to work well on team.
Earn a relevant graduate degree such as international diplomacy, international relations, or law.

NONPROFIT/GOVERNMENT

Human Services Provision
Public Health
Disaster/Disease Relief
Policy Development
Program Administration
Program Evaluation
Volunteer Coordination

Private voluntary organizations
Nonprofit organizations
International organizations
Humanitarian services
Government agencies with an international focus
Relief organizations
Associations, societies, research institutes
National Security Council
United Nations
Defense contractors
U.S. Peace Corps
U.S. Foreign Service
USAID
Armed Services

Study abroad while in school. Learn one or more foreign language.
Develop excellent research, writing, communication, and organizational skills.
Develop networks.
Complete internships in related areas.
Participate in an international service learning experience or go on a mission trip.
Federal international jobs require careful observation of a formal hiring procedure.
Research the international organization/agency's structure and function.
Volunteer at relevant social service agencies to gain experience and demonstrate interest.
Volunteer in health related settings such as the American Red Cross.
Develop good working knowledge of international humanitarian law.
Demonstrate strong analytical and management skills.
Government work in the foreign service requires passage of the Foreign Service Exam, after obtaining a master's degree or significant work experience.

AREAS

EMPLOYERS

STRATEGIES

LANGUAGE SERVICES/EDUCATION

Teaching
Curriculum Development
Interpreting
Translating
Research and Writing
International Student Support Services
Study Abroad Programming

Public and private schools abroad
Community organizations
Federal government agencies
English language institutes
Overseas dependents' schools
Religious and volunteer organizations
Colleges and universities

Gain practical domestic teaching experience and necessary training or certificate to teach abroad. Research certification options (TESOL, CELTA, CELTC, TEFL)
Obtain certificates from schools whose graduates are hired in the international marketplace.
Teaching training should include supervised classroom experience.
Consider obtaining intensive TELS (Teaching English and a Second Language) training.
Volunteer to tutor children and adults in English.
Learn other languages to help understand how languages work.
Sharpen intercultural competency, sensitivity, and tolerance.
Develop superior written and oral communication skills in the English language including proper sentence structure and comprehensive vocabulary.
Notify local hospitals, schools, and chambers of commerce of your availability to translate or interpret for international visitors.
Minor or double major in another subject that you could also teach.
Earn a master's degree in College Student Affairs to work with study abroad programs or with international student services.

JOURNALISM

Foreign News Correspondence
International Broadcasting
Reporting
Editorial/Column writing
Investigative Journalism
Research
Photography
Freelance Work

Foreign news agencies
TV networks
Large circulation newspapers
Wire services
Trade newspapers
Online publishers
Labor unions
Academic journals
International newspapers
Magazines
Museums
Self employed

Obtain a summer job or internship with a newspaper.
Demonstrate curiosity, high energy level, ability to produce under pressure, and withstand criticism.
Develop excellent grammar and writing skills.
Create a portfolio of writing samples, especially those that have been published.
Join a professional journalism organization.
Research international newspapers.
Gain experience with campus newspaper or media.
Travel or study abroad.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Entry-level positions are generally in the U.S., with mid-level positions involving some international travel. Corporations hire employees with the most experience or skills set for overseas work.
- Target larger firms that may be more likely to employ contracting services.
- Develop linguistic skills. Learn a second and third language.
- Demonstrate intercultural competency, sensitivity, and tolerance.
- Gain experience in communications with people from other countries. Get to know international students on your campus.
- Live and/or work abroad while in school.
- Commit to a continuous study of host country's language.
- Develop a good understanding of etiquette and business practices in country of target.
- Look for temporary positions abroad.
- Obtain daily papers in target city to determine international and national news, business features, real estate markets, and community calendars.
- Work domestically with an international firm as a contract representative.
- Develop traits such as creativity, initiative, tenacity, a willingness to take risks and an adventurous spirit, and a sense of humor.

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INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

International Studies Links:

General

[One Small Planet](#)

[Overseas Employment Information](#)

[Overseas Jobs](#)

[Bilingual Jobs](#)

[Riley Guide International Resources](#)

[Monster Work Abroad](#)

Education

[ESL/EFL Career Guide](#)

[Transitions Abroad](#)

[English International](#)

[American Institute for Foreign Study](#)

[Fulbright Scholars Program](#)

[The International Educator](#)

[International School Services](#)

[Association of International Educators](#)

[Council on International Educational Exchange](#)

Journalism

[International News Links](#)

[International Journalists Network](#)

[International Center for Journalists](#)

[American Translators Association](#)

Humanitarian/Volunteering

[Public Citizen](#)

[Cultural Survival](#)

[Humanitarian Info.org](#)

[Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs](#)

[UNICEF](#)

[Amnesty International](#)

[Voluntary Service Overseas](#)

[Volunteers Abroad](#)

[World Wide Volunteering](#)

[Save the Children](#)

[International Committee of the Red Cross](#)

[Idealist](#)

International Trade/Economics

[Foreign Policy Association Students Corner](#)

[United Nations](#)

[Center for International Private Enterprise](#)

[Center for Strategic and International Studies](#)

[Foreign Relations](#)

[Export.Gov](#)

[World Trade Organization](#)

[Export-Import Bank of the United States](#)

[World Bank](#)

[World Economic Forum](#)

[United States International Trade Commission](#)

[International Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Academy of International Business](#)

[Euro Pages](#)

Government

[USA Jobs](#)

[Central Intelligence Agency](#)

[Defense Intelligence Agency](#)

[US Department of State](#)

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Prepared by the Career Planning staff of Career Services at The University of Tennessee, Knoxville. (2005) UTK is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA /ADEA Employer