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Master of Arts in **International Relations**

USIU-Africa is accredited in Kenya by the Commission for University Education (CUE) & the United States of America by WASC Senior College and University Commission respectively.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Master of Arts in International Relations equips students with the analytical skills needed to understand the complexities of global politics and international affairs. The program covers key subfields, including globalization, human rights, humanitarian action, conflicts, foreign policy, and economic development.

Through a multidisciplinary approach, students gain insights into the forces shaping global interactions and policy decisions. Graduates are prepared for careers in diplomacy, international organizations, government agencies, NGOs, and global business, where they can contribute to addressing critical international challenges.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the program, students will be able to:

1. Evaluate contending concepts and theories in International Relations.
2. Conduct empirical research in International Relations and formulate evidence-based policies.
3. Devise problem-solving intervention strategies and programs for dealing with national and international situations.
4. Employ an integrated multi-disciplinary approach to the management of international affairs.
5. Assess issues in International Relations within the context of a complex multi-cultural and interconnected world.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

42 UNITS

PREREQUISITE COURSES

6 UNITS

(Only for students without adequate background in the field of International Relations)

IRL 2000	Foundation of International Relations	3 units
POL 2201	Introduction to Political Science	3 units

CORE COURSES

27 UNITS

IRL 6004	Foundations of International Relations	3 units
IRL 6006	Contemporary International Relations Theory	3 units
IRL 6007	International Law	3 units
IRL 6008	Qualitative Research Methods	3 units
IRL 6200	International Organizations	3 units
IRL 6234	International Political Economy	3 units
IRL 6009	Quantitative Research Methods	3 units
IRL 6901	Thesis I (Must have a GPA of 3.0)	3 units
IRL 6902	Thesis II	3 units

CONCENTRATIONS

15 UNITS

Development Studies

Core Courses

IRL 6054	Theories of Development	3 units
IRL 6031	Politics of International Development	3 units
IRL 6033	Global Environmental Politics	3 units

Electives (Select 2 courses)

IRL 6032	Sustainable Development: Theories, Policy, and Practice	3 units
IRL 6034	Public Policy	3 units
IRL 6240	Post Coloniality in Africa	3 units
IRL 6050	Project Management	3 units

Diplomacy & Foreign Policy

Core Courses

IRL 6210	Foundations of Diplomacy	3 units
IRL 6211	Geopolitics and Diplomacy	3 units
IRL 6260	Foreign Policy Analysis	3 units

Electives (Select 2 courses)

IRL 6250	Africa in International Affairs	3 units
IRL 6251	Diplomatic Practices	3 units
IRL 6252	Diplomatic and Consular Law	3 units

Peace & Conflict Studies

Core Courses

IRL 6011	Theories of Peace, Conflict, and Security Studies	3 units
IRL 6012	Conflict Analysis and Resolution	3 units
IRL 6013	Conflict and Human Security	3 units

Electives (Select 2 courses)

IRL 6241	Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding	3 units
IRL 6242	Emerging Issues in Peace and Conflict World Politics	3 units
ILR 6215	International Humanitarian Law	3 units

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

A Master of Arts in International Relations program opens up a wide range of career opportunities, examples include:

1. Diplomat
2. Foreign Policy Analyst
3. International Development Specialist
4. Intelligence Analyst
5. Humanitarian Aid Worker
6. Political Risk Analyst
7. International Trade Specialist
8. Global Communications Consultant
9. Conflict Resolution Specialist
10. NGO Program Manager
11. Government Affairs Specialist

CONTACTS

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