International Relations
Major Advisor Guide

International Relations majors are required to select a faculty member to serve as their IR major advisor. Your advisor works with you to plan your coursework and develop your research and career interests and serves as a valuable informational resource throughout your undergraduate career. IR major advisors need not be IR affiliated faculty and may be tenure-line faculty, Senior Fellows, or lecturers who plan to be in residence through your senior year.

We recommend the following strategies as a general guide to selecting your IR major advisor. Strategy 1 or 2 most often succeeds in connecting a student with their IR major advisor.

1. Reflect on classes you’ve taken in which you’ve felt inspired. Has one of those classes cultivated your interest in certain IR specializations, a research project, or a career path? Schedule a meeting with the instructor of that class, either during office hours or by appointment. Prior to your meeting, visit during drop-in office hours with an IR peer advisor, together with whom you can sharpen your thoughts on IR specializations and prepare a preliminary IR study plan, both of which would make more productive your meeting with your potential IR major advisor.

2. In consultation with an IR peer advisor, sharpen your thoughts on IR specializations, prepare your preliminary IR study plan, and then peruse our list of Suggested Major Advisors below to identify a faculty member whose academic and research interests align most closely with your own. Schedule a meeting with that faculty member, either during office hours or by appointment.

3. Schedule a meeting with the IR Faculty Director, who will assist you in sharpening the focus of your interests and help connect you with a potential IR major advisor.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to stop by the IR Office anytime; we are located in Encina Hall West, Room 214. You can also email us with questions at intlrelations@stanford.edu.
Key to IR specialization codes:
A – Africa
CIG – Comparative International Governance
ESA – East and South Asia
EDWE – Economic Development/ World Economy
EENR – Environment, Energy, and Natural Resources
E&R – Europe (East and West) and Russia
IHC – International History and Culture
IS – International Security
LAIS – Latin American and Iberian Studies
MECA – Middle East and Central Asia
SDHWB – Social Development and Human Well-Being

Professor Lisa Blaydes (CIG, MECA)
- Department: Political Science
- Affiliations: FSI
- Research Interests: Middle Eastern Politics
- Courses: POLISCI 149T, POLISCI 246A, Summer Research College

Professor David Cohen (SDHWB)
- Department: Classics Department
- Affiliations: WSD Handa Center for Human Rights,
- Courses: HUMRTS 103, HUMRTS 106, HUMRTS 109

Professor Martha Crenshaw (IS)
- Department: Political Science
- Affiliations: CISAC, FSI
- Research Interests: Armed Groups, Terrorism
- Courses: Summer Research College

Professor Larry Diamond (CIG)
- Department: Political Science and Sociology
- Affiliations: FSI, CDDRL, Hoover Institution
- Research Interests: Comparative Democracy
- Courses: POLISCI 147

Professor James Fearon (IS)
- Department: Political Science, Economics
- Affiliations: FSI
- Research Interests: Civil and Interstate Wars
- Courses: POLISCI 101

Professor Judith Goldstein (EDWE)
- Department: Political Science
- Affiliations: Professor of International Communications
- Research Interests: International Trade
- Courses: POLISCI 110C

Dr. Erica Gould, Lecturer (EDWE)
- Department: International Relations
- Research Interests: International Organizations
- Courses: INTNLREL 63Q, Summer Research College

Professor Anna Gryzmala-Busse (CIG, E&R)
- Department: Political Science
- Affiliations: FSI
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Suggested Major Advisors

- Research Interests: Populism, Religious Movements
- Courses: POLISCI 140P

Professor Stephen Haber (CIG, EDWE, LAIS)
- Department: Political Science, History, Economics
- Research Interests: Development, Mexico
- Courses: N/A

Dr. Laura Hubbard (A)
- Department: Anthropology
- Affiliations: Center for African Studies
- Research Interests: Youth and Popular Culture in Southern Africa
- Courses: AFRICAST 195

Professor Katherine Jolluck (E&R, IHC, SDHWB)
- Department: History
- Courses: HISTORY 105C, HISTORY 201, HISTORY 208B, HISTORY 221B

Professor Colin Kahl (IS)
- Department: Political Science
- Affiliations: CISAC, FSI
- Research Interests: U.S. Foreign Policy, Middle East

- Courses: POLISCI 114S, Summer Research College

Professor Phillip Lipsy (ESA, EDWE, EENR)
- Department: Political Science
- Affiliations: FSI
- Research Interests: Japan, Energy Politics, International Organizations
- Courses: POLISCI 10N, POLISCI 115E

Dr. Pawel Lutomski, Lecturer (E&R, SDHWB)
- Department: International Relations
- Research Interests: International Law, Forced Migrations, German-Polish Relations

Professor Beatriz Magaloni (CIG, LAIS, SDHWB)
- Department: Political Science
- Affiliations: FSI, Stanford Poverty, Violence and Governance Lab, CDDRL
- Research Interests: Governance, Poverty Education, Authoritarian Regimes and Democratization

Professor Abbas Milani (MECA)
- Department: Global Studies Division, Iranian Studies
- Affiliations: CDDRL, FSI
- Research Interests: Iranian Politics
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Suggested Major Advisors

- Courses: POLISCI 118P, POLISCI 149S, POLISCI 245R

Professor Norman Naimark (E&R, IHC)
- Department: History, German Studies, East European Studies
- Affiliations: FSI, SGS
- Research Interests: Eastern Europe, Genocide, Soviet Union
- Courses: HISTORY 23N, HISTORY 102, HISTORY 202S, HISTORY 210, Summer Research College

Professor Rosamond Naylor (EDWE, EENR)
- Department: Earth Systems, Economics
- Affiliations: FSI, Center on Food Security and the Environment
- Research Interests: Food Security
- Courses: Econ 106

Professor Jean Oi (CIG, ESA)
- Department: Political Science, Chinese Politics
- Affiliations: FSI
- Research Interests: Chinese Politics
- Courses: POLISCI 248C

Dr. Bertrand Patenaude, Lecturer (IHC, IS, SDHWB)
- Department: History, International Relations
- Affiliations: CIGH, SCBE

- Courses: History 226E, PEDS 226, History 224C, IntlRel 145

Dr. Robert Rakove, Lecturer (IHC, IS)
- Department: International Relations
- Affiliations: CISAC
- Research Interests: Cold War, U.S. Foreign Policy
- Courses: IntlRel168, Global 101, IntlRel 174, IntlRel 154

Professor Scott Sagan (IS)
- Department: Political Science
- Affiliations: FSI, CISAC
- Research Interests: Ethics, Nuclear Weapons
- Courses: Summer Research College

Professor Kenneth Scheve (EDWE, E&R)
- Department: Political Science
- Affiliations: FSI, The Europe Center
- Research Interests: International and Comparative political economy, comparative political behavior

Professor Kenneth Schultz (IS)
- Department: Political Science
- Affiliations: CISAC, FSI
- Research Interests: Impact of Domestic Politics on IR, U.S. Foreign Policy
- Courses: POLISCI 1, POLISCI 110D
Professor Stephen Stedman (CIG, IS, SDHWB)
  - Department: Political Science
  - Affiliations: FSI, CDDRL, CISAC
  - Research Interests: Civil Wars, Mediation
  - Courses: INTLPOL 307

Professor Michael Tomz (CIG, EDWE)
  - Department: Political Science
  - Affiliations: Center for International Development, Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research
  - Research Interests: International Political Economy, Research Methods
  - Courses: Summer Research College

Dr. Harold Trinkunas, Deputy Director at CISAC (IS, LAIS)
  - Department: FSI-CISAC
  - Research Interests: Armed Groups, Venezuela
  - Courses: POLISCI 114S

Dr. Gil-li Vardi, Lecturer (IHC, IS)
  - Department: History, International Relations
  - Affiliations: CISAC, Hoover
  - Research Interests: Military History
  - Courses: HISTORY 220G, HISTORY 103F, INTNREL 183

Allen Weiner, Senior Lecturer at Law School (IS)
  - Department: Law

Professor Jeremy Weinstein (A, CIG, EDWE, IS)
  - Department: Political Science
  - Affiliation: FSI, Global Studies
  - Research Interests: Civil War, Ethnic Politics, Political Economy and Development, Africa
  - Courses: Summer Research College

Professor Paul Wise (SDHWB)
  - Department: Pediatrics
  - Research Interests: Children’s Health, Health-Outcome Disparities
  - Courses: HUMBIO 129S

Professor Amy Zegart (IS)
  - Department: Political Science
  - Affiliations: CISAC, FSI
  - Research Interests: Cybersecurity, U.S. Foreign Policy, Intelligence Agencies, National Security
  - Courses: IIS 199