

June 14, 2010

GPIA New Students

FALL SEMESTER 2010 ONLINE and IN-PERSON COURSE ADVISING and ONLINE REGISTRATION

Fall Semester 2010 Advising Week begins on June 28th.

There is a combination of online and on-campus in-person advising. You should attend one on-campus group session or participate in one online session, as given below:

Mon. 6/28: On-campus Advisement Session – 6:00-7:30pm
(*location: 66 West 12th Street: room 518*)

Tues. 6/29: Online Advisement Chat – 2:00-3:30pm

Wed. 6/30: On-campus Advisement Session – 2:00-3:30pm
(*location: 66 West 12th Street: room 601*)

Thurs. 7/1: Online Advisement Chat – 5:00-6:30pm

[Note: If you are unable to participate in Advising Week, contact Philip Akre, Assistant Director, at 212.206-3524 or akrep@newschool.edu]

Click [below](#) to register for one of the online Advising Chats:

[Tues. 6/29, 2-3:30pm](#)

[Thurs. 7/1, 5-6:30pm](#)

Click [here](#) for the Accepted Students webpage

Please prepare for Advising Week by reviewing the GPIA [Fall 2010 Course Offerings](#) and the GPIA **Curriculum Overview** in the attached document. Here are some key points to consider:

As you plan your Fall courses, please note that a full time load is ordinarily three courses per semester; part-time is ordinarily two courses.

Below is the typical full-time first year curriculum. Note that Economics and Global Flows must be taken before registration in Comparative Development.

- **Fall:** - Economics in International Affairs, Global Flows, General Elective
- **Spring:** - Comparative Development, Research Methods, General Elective or Foundation Course in a Concentration

Online registration opens on July 6th and closes August 9th.

You will receive an email to your New School address later this month with your online registration PIN and registration instructions. However, we have provided these instructions at the end of this information packet.

When you arrive on campus in August, you will be able to:

..... *participate* in New Student Orientation Week.

(The first and most important session of Orientation Week is Tuesday evening, August 24th, 2010, 6:30-8:30pm, in the Lang Center at 55 West 13th Street, 2nd floor.)

..... *meet* with a faculty advisor who will assist you in the semester and in future registration periods.

..... *register* for a non-credit language class (paper form in GPIA Office, with tuition paid by GPIA).

..... *attend* Information Sessions to learn about the 2011 International Field Program.

..... *join* student interest groups.

VERY IMPORTANT NOTE: You will be able to drop or add classes online once you arrive on campus. However, *on or after* the first day of the semester (Monday August 30th), if you drop a class and if it is not replaced with another class of equivalent credit value, A LATE DROP FEE WILL BE CHARGED, even if you do not attend the class: 10% of the course tuition in week one, 20% in week two, 30% in week three, 40% in week four, and 100% thereafter.

We encourage you to go to www.gpia.info where you can find more information. You will find [course descriptions](#), [faculty biographies](#), the [Student Handbook](#), [student organizations](#), information on [internships](#), the [International Field Program](#), current [news](#), and upcoming [events](#).

We encourage you to join the GPIA listserv immediately as this is our primary communication tool within the program. To subscribe to the [GPIA listserv](#) send an email, from the address that you want subscribed, to majordomo@listserv.newschool.edu. Leave the subject line blank and type "subscribe GPIA" into the body of the message.

Curriculum Overview

GPIA offers a 42 credit Master of Arts and a 30 credit Master of Science degree. Candidates for the MS degree must have at least 5 years of relevant experience in the international affairs field as determined by the program. The curriculum is organized into core courses, skills courses, concentrations, elective courses, and final projects. A full time load is ordinarily three courses per semester; part-time is ordinarily two courses. Full time students can complete the M.A. program in two years.

CORE COURSES

There are two core courses that all students must complete: Global Flows and Comparative Development Experience. Global Flows is a critical introduction to globalization, tracing the emergence of logics of encounter and international interaction from the colonial era through the present. Comparative Development examines the core concepts of development and introduces students to the comparative framework of analysis.

SKILLS COURSES

All students are required to complete two skills courses: Research Methods and Economics in International Affairs.

Research Methods presents a basic engagement with quantitative and qualitative social science methodology. Students can fulfill the research methods requirement by taking an approved statistics or methods courses through other New School departments.

Economics in International Affairs is designed for students who do not enter the program with an economics background. Upon approval by their advisor, students may waive the Economics course requirement if they have taken a course in macro or micro economics in which they received a B or better within the last five years. Proficiency in economics is a prerequisite for Comparative Development Experience.

CONCENTRATIONS

The curriculum is further divided into concentrations, the heart of intellectual engagement and innovation within the program. Each concentration consists of a faculty chair, other faculty members, and students. The concentrations sponsor guest lectures, organize workshops and events, create working groups and serve as the key locus for curricular planning at the concentration level.

All students choose a concentration in one of five approved areas: Development, Governance and Rights, Conflict and Security, Cities and Urbanization, and Media and Culture. Students usually declare a concentration at the end of their second semester. To complete a concentration students must take the respective "foundation course" followed by three additional electives within the concentration. Concentrations are offered in:

Cities and Urbanization focuses on the respatialization of economy and community, cities as incubators for new forms of social life, and urbanization as the context of new challenges for environmental and economic management and poverty reduction.

Conflict and Security is designed for students who wish to develop a professional or academic interest in the areas of conflict, conflict prevention, and security. The course offerings, the selection of speakers, the research of associated faculty, and the practical work by students conducted in the concentration reflect a number of core beliefs. We share a sense that the fields of conflict and security are changing quickly; that it is crucial to explore the relationship of conflict and security to other areas such as socioeconomic development, social welfare, and humanitarianism; and that emerging professionals in this area must combine both conceptual understanding and practical tools.

Development is designed for students who wish to develop a professional or academic interest in the global challenges of development, inequality and poverty. The concentration focuses on concepts, measurement tools, and policies alternatives. The course offerings, the research of associated faculty, and the work of students reflect a number of core motivations. We share a commitment to development as a process that is fundamentally about improving human well being, and securing greater social justice. We believe that the challenges of economic growth, social development, political freedoms, cultural diversity and security are inter-related and that the analysis of development requires an inter-disciplinary approach. Courses offered address issues such as economic globalization, human rights and development ethics, gender, sustainability, human security, and social policy.

Governance and Rights focuses on the relation between order, freedom, and responsibility in the global political and legal context. Governance is the ensemble of practices and institutions concerned with the formal ordering of society. This includes local and national government, international organizations, and civil society. Rights are claims by individuals and groups for specific entitlements that invoke obligations. The concentration explores how governance structures secure, maintain, or constrain rights, and how rights claims serve to construct, create, and challenge practices of government. Within the concentration there is currently a special emphasis on human rights, international law and refugee issues, and migration.

Media and Culture examines the complex relationship between media and democracy around the world. It explores theory and practice in the intersection of politics, economics, media and entertainment, public and state policy, and international and domestic cultural conditions. Courses are offered on documentary filmmaking, political discourse, propaganda, and the global reach and impacts of U.S. media.

ELECTIVE COURSES

Elective courses offered by the GPIA or other New School graduate programs focus on specific areas of academic and professional interest. They may be taken to fulfill a concentration requirement, a specific skill need, or simply for intellectual curiosity. The exact number of electives a student takes depends on the particular program of study. We offer a range of courses from surveys to advanced research seminars.

In addition to classroom-based instruction, there are two other types of elective courses: internships and independent studies. Internships are local or, in the case of the Summer Field Program, international. These summer programs provide hands-on field placements in local organizations, coordinated by an in country faculty advisor. The International Field Program is one of the most unique aspects of our program. To date we have sent students to India, Kunming, Ghana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Argentina, Hong Kong, Colombia, Senegal, Brazil, Nepal, Kosovo, and many other locations.

FINAL PROJECT

In addition to the coursework outlined above, Master of Arts students must also complete a final project consisting either of an independent research project (Thesis Option) or a team-based project (Practicum Option).

Thesis Option

The thesis is an independent project based on field work, institutional research, and/or theoretical research involving primary and secondary sources. Media-based theses are possible, as are custom-designed projects that meet Program approval. Theses must conform to academic standards. In the semester before writing the thesis a student registers for Thesis Workshop, which focuses on designing the research project and writing a proposal.

Practicum Option

The Practicum in International Affairs is a semester-long project assigned by a client from the not-for-profit, public and private sectors, and multilateral agencies such as the United Nations, Human Rights Watch, and the International Rescue Committee. In consultation with the client, students clarify project Terms of Reference, design an approach to the project, conduct data collection and analysis, write an analytical report, or produce some other product (e.g. brochure, manual, film). Finally, the team makes a formal presentation to the client and The New School community.

As the Practicum is the equivalent of a Master's thesis, the project itself is substantial and significant. The course is treated as a "consultancy" rather than an internship in that we ask organizations for a specific project with an end deliverable. The projects are rigorous, challenging and difficult. To the extent possible, the course simulates a professional experience, including an emphasis on deadlines and professional standards. Projects are done by teams of four to six students, depending on the project and client. The course Program Development and Project Management is a prerequisite for the Practicum.

Registration Instructions

Step 1 – Log In

Log in to MyNewSchool. Use N-number to look up Net ID. Your initial password is your 6-digit password DOB (i.e. March 25, 1990 = 032590). After logging in for the first time, you will then set your own personal password.

Step 2 – Advising

Your advising office will provide you with your alternate (ALT) pin. The ALT pin is *required* for online registration. Determine your class schedule & get your CRNs (Course Reference Number) from your advisor.

Step 3 – Register

Register online. View the Web Registration Tutorial for instructions on how to register online.

Step 4 – Determine what you owe

An e-bill will be e-mailed to your New School e-mail account in mid-August. To determine your charges in advance, look at Tuition & Fees Schedule. View your financial aid awards in your MyNewSchool account. Go to the Student tab, and the first option under Student Financial Services is *Access your financial aid information*. You can also view the Student Financial Services website for more information.

Step 5 – Payment

Payment is due by the first day of the semester, Monday, August 30th. Online payments can be made using credit card (VISA, Master Card, and American Express) and/or your checking or savings account. Checks can be mailed to: The New School, Attn: Cashiering, 65 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10003; all forms of payment, including cash, can also be made in person at this location.

Step 6 – Congratulations!

You have successfully registered. Enjoy your summer and we'll see you in the fall!

Related New School Web links

[MyNewSchool](#)

[Web Registration Tutorial](#)

[Tuition & Fees Schedule](#)

[Student Financial Services](#)

[New Student Information](#)
