

# THE MILANO SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, MANAGEMENT, AND URBAN POLICY

June 2011

Dear New International Affairs Student,

Welcome to The New School's Graduate Program in International Affairs (GPIA). I am delighted you have decided to join our incoming class of Fall 2011. The Admissions staff and I have enjoyed speaking and corresponding with many of you, and you are about to join a dynamic community marked by an impressive diversity of perspectives, with nearly 400 students from 40 countries. They are preparing to make substantial contributions in careers in development, human rights, conflict resolution and peacekeeping, new media, documentary filmmaking, public health and the environment, government, business, urban planning, and in countless other arenas.

As I write, sixty students are engaged in our summer International Field Program in Argentina, Beirut, Hong Kong, Kosovo, Liberia, Nepal, and Uganda. This year, 130 GPIA students have been awarded their master's degree. Our graduates are at work at UNICEF, UNDP, USAID, the World Bank, Amnesty International, the Grameen Foundation, Africare, Human Rights Watch, Doctors Without Borders, Institute of International Education/IIE, and Open Society Institute, among others.

We have just completed another exciting academic year. We hosted major international conferences and our students have worked in Practicum consultancy projects with international organizations that included the International Rescue Committee, NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Center for Economic and Social Rights, United Nations Department of Social and Economic Affairs, Equality Now, and the Islamic Conference Youth Forum for Dialogue and Cooperation.

This letter provides you with important information about advisement and online registration for the Fall 2011 semester as well as the New Student Orientation Meeting, required for all incoming students (Tuesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>).

## **FALL 2011 COURSE ADVISEMENT and ONLINE REGISTRATION**

**Advising for the Fall 2011 semester begins the week of June 27<sup>th</sup> with a combination of online and in-person advising on campus. Online registration opens on July 5<sup>th</sup> and closes August 8<sup>th</sup>.** You will receive an email to your New School address later this month with your registration PIN and further advising and registration details and resources. If you are unable to participate in advising the week of June 27<sup>th</sup>, contact Andrea Kelsey, Program Administrator, at 212.206-3524 ext.2483 or [kelsey@newschool.edu](mailto:kelsey@newschool.edu). You can prepare for the upcoming semester by reviewing the [Fall 2011 Course Offerings](#) and the [Curriculum Guide](#).

When you submitted your deposit to reserve your space in our fall class, you should have received an email from The New School with information about your New School email address. Please make sure to activate your New School email address as soon as possible, and to check it regularly. It is through this address that the University and Department will send you important information about University events and policies, student services, and registration.

## **NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION MEETING:**

This meeting will be held on Tuesday evening, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2011, 6:30-8:30pm, in the Theresa Lang Student Center at 55 West 13<sup>th</sup> Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. At this session, you will:

- Meet the Deans of The New School.
- Hear from faculty about their fall courses.
- Have an opportunity to meet program staff and your fellow GPIA students.
- Participate in a discussion about program plans and expectations.

**Attendance at this session is extremely important. Classes begin on Monday, August 29<sup>th</sup>. Please be sure to contact Nana Kusi, Executive Secretary, at 212.206.3524 or [amoahkun@newschool.edu](mailto:amoahkun@newschool.edu) if for some reason you will not be able to attend.**

With a great deal of anticipation, I look forward to welcoming you on August 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Warm regards,

Michael Cohen  
Director  
Graduate Program in  
International Affairs

# NEW STUDENT FALL SEMESTER 2011 ONLINE and IN-PERSON COURSE ADVISING & ONLINE REGISTRATION

## Fall Semester 2011 Advising Week begins on June 27<sup>th</sup>.

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

Mon. 6/27: On-campus Advisement Session – 6-7pm

Location: 66 West 12<sup>th</sup> Street: room 618

(RSVP to [intaffairs@newschool.edu](mailto:intaffairs@newschool.edu))

Wed. 6/29: Online Advisement Webinar – 12-1:30pm

(Register online: <https://student.gototraining.com/34h47/register/1519621062006715392>)

Thurs. 6/30: On-campus Advisement Session – 4-5pm

Location: 66 West 12<sup>th</sup> Street: room 618

(RSVP to [intaffairs@newschool.edu](mailto:intaffairs@newschool.edu))

[Note: If you are unable to participate in Advising Week, please contact Andrea Kelsey, Program Administrator, at 212-206-3524 ext. 2483 or [kelsey@newschool.edu](mailto:kelsey@newschool.edu)]

## Online registration opens on July 5<sup>th</sup> and closes August 8<sup>th</sup>.

You will receive an email to your New School address later this month with your online registration PIN and registration instructions.

## Preparing for Advising Week.

The following tips and links will help you prepare for advising. Any questions or concerns not covered in the following can be addressed during your advising session.

-Review the GPIA [Fall 2011 Course Offerings](#) and the GPIA [Curriculum Overview](#).

-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

## Looking forward to Fall Orientation the week of August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

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 23rd, 2011, 6:30-8:30pm, in the Lang Center at 55 West 13<sup>th</sup> Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 2012 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 29th), 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.**

Undoubtedly, many questions remain. We encourage you to go to [www.gpia.info](http://www.gpia.info) where you can find answers. 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 strongly 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](mailto: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, concentration courses, 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 who feel they already possess significant research methods skills either through undergraduate or work experience may email Chris London ([londonc@newschool.edu](mailto:londonc@newschool.edu)) and explain their situation, and include any syllabi of relevant courses.

Economics in International Affairs is designed for students who do not enter the program with an economics background. Students who majored in economics or who have taken micro and macro courses may waive the Economics in International Affairs course requirement upon passing a proficiency test, the date and time of which will be announced on the listserv. Proficiency in economics is a prerequisite for Comparative Development Experience, so students should register for this course in their first semester.

### CONCENTRATION COURSES

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: Cities and Urbanization, Conflict and Security, Development, Governance and Rights, 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.

# International Affairs MA Degree Requirements

The 42-credit MA degree is for recent college graduates and career changers, i.e., for people who have not yet established international careers.

## Required courses: 12 credits/4 courses

- Core courses (2):
  - NINT 5001 Global Flows
  - NINT 5000 Comparative Development Experience
- Other required courses (2):
  - NINT 5109 Economics in International Affairs AND NINT 5110 Lab – Economics in International Affairs  
OR  
NINT 5119 Economics in International Affairs Intensive (Recommended for students in the Development concentration)
  - NINT 5005 Research Methods  
OR  
NINT 5006 Research Methods - Quantitative AND NINT 5007 Lab Research Methods - Quantitative (Recommended for students in the Development concentration)

## Electives: 24 credits/8 courses

- Concentration: Students concentrate in a sub-specialization within the international affairs field. The concentration requirements consist of one Foundation course, and three concentration electives.  
Concentrations and their Foundation courses:
  - Cities and Urbanization (CU)- NINT 5191 Urban Century
  - Conflict and Security (CS)- NINT 5142 Critical Security Studies
  - Development (DEV)- NINT 5251 Development Economics
  - Governance and Rights (GR)- NINT 5158 Global Governance
  - Media and Culture (MC)- NINT 5220 News, Media and Culture in International Affairs
- Other Electives include:
  - International Field Program (IFP)
  - Internship
  - Independent Study
  - Electives outside of concentration

## Final Project: 6 credits/2 courses

- Practicum Option:
  - NINT 5004 Program Development and Project Management (PDPM)
  - NINT 5961 Practicum in International Affairs (PIA)
- Thesis Option:
  - NINT 5950 Thesis Workshop
  - NINT 5951 Thesis Supervision

## International Affairs MA – Sample Sequence

(42 Credits, full time study)

Term	Semester 1	Semester 2	Summer	Semester 3	Semester 4
<b>Course 1</b>	Global Flows	Comparative Development	IFP (6 credits)	PDPM <i>or</i> Thesis Workshop	PIA <i>or</i> Thesis Supervision
<b>Course 2</b>	Economics	Research Methods	<i>or</i>	Elective	Elective
<b>Course 3</b>	Elective	Elective	Elective(s)	Elective	Elective
<b>Credits</b>	9	9	6	9	9
<b>Cumulative Credits</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>42</b>

# International Affairs

## MS Degree Requirements

The 30-credit MS degree is for people with at least five years of post-university professional experience in international affairs or a related field.

### Required courses: 12 credits/4 courses

- Core courses (2):
  - NINT 5001 Global Flows
  - NINT 5000 Comparative Development Experience
- Other required courses (2):
  - NINT 5109 Economics in International Affairs AND NINT 5110 Lab – Economics in International Affairs
  - OR
  - NINT 5119 Economics in International Affairs Intensive (Recommended for students in the Development concentration)
  - NINT 5005 Research Methods
  - OR
  - NINT 5006 Research Methods - Quantitative AND NINT 5007 Lab Research Methods - Quantitative (Recommended for students in the Development concentration)

### Electives: 18 credits/6 courses

- Concentration: Students concentrate in a sub-specialization within the international affairs field. The concentration requirements consist of one Foundation course, and three concentration electives.  
Concentrations and their Foundation courses:
  - Cities and Urbanization (CU)- NINT 5191 Urban Century
  - Conflict and Security (CS)- NINT 5142 Critical Security Studies
  - Development (DEV)- NINT 5251 Development Economics
  - Governance and Rights (GR)- NINT 5158 Global Governance
  - Media and Culture (MC)- NINT 5220 News, Media and Culture in International Affairs
- Other Electives include:
  - International Field Program (IFP)
  - Internship
  - Independent Study
  - Electives outside of concentration

## International Affairs MS – Sample Sequence

(30 Credits, full time study)

Term	Semester 1	Semester 2	Summer	Semester 3
<b>Course 1</b>	Global Flows	Comparative Development	IFP (6 credits)	Elective
<b>Course 2</b>	Economics	Research Methods	<i>or</i>	Elective
<b>Course 3</b>	Elective	Elective	Elective(s)	
<b>Credits</b>	9	9	6	6
<b>Cumulative Credits</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>30</b>