

Bachelor of Politics and International Relations

(SCB201.2)

Please note these are the 2026 details for this course

Domestic students

Selection rank	65 Note: The selection rank is the minimum ATAR plus adjustment factors required for admission to the program in the previous year. This is an indicative guide only as ranks change each year depending on demand.
Delivery mode	On campus
Location	Bruce, Canberra
Duration	3.0 years
Faculty	Faculty of Business, Government & Law
Discipline	Canberra School of Politics, Economics and Society
UAC code	361663
English language requirements	An IELTS Academic score of 6.0 overall, with no band score below 6.0 (or equivalent). View IELTS equivalences

International students

Academic entry requirements	<p>To study at UC, you'll need to meet our academic entry requirements and any admission requirements specific to your course. Please read your course admission requirements below. To find out whether you meet UC's academic entry requirements, visit our academic entry requirements page.</p> <p>View UC's academic entry requirements</p>
Delivery mode	On campus
Location	Bruce, Canberra
Duration	3.0 years
Faculty	Faculty of Business, Government & Law
Discipline	Canberra School of Politics, Economics and Society
CRICOS code	095939G
English language requirements	<p>An IELTS Academic score of 6.0 overall, with no band score below 6.0 (or equivalent).</p> <p>View IELTS equivalences</p>

About this course

Make a lasting contribution to our global community

With the Bachelor of Politics and International Relations degree you'll gain a solid knowledge of the principles, concepts and issues that are shaping the world around us. Explore present-day issues in politics and policy, including national security, the challenges of modern terrorism, the concept of democratically informed citizenship, and contemporary regional politics in both an Asia Pacific and global context.

During your time on the course, you'll engage in focused discussions of major issues, such as counter-terrorism, human security, global governance, foreign aid, trans-national crime, war, energy security, regionalisation, cybercrime and the rise of populism. You'll graduate able to demonstrate a high-level of theoretical and empirical analysis and interpretation of world events and issues, ready for an exciting future in politics or international relations.

Study a Bachelor of Politics and International Relations at UC and you will:

- study theories, institutions, policies and practices in the disciplines of politics and international relations in both a

contemporary and historical context

- recognise and assess political change at a local, regional and international level
- apply in-depth knowledge of political science and international relations in a rapidly changing geo-political environment
- examine the political pressures and challenges that societies, governments, security forces and businesses currently face
- evaluate and apply a range of research methods and analytical techniques to enhance your critical thinking, communication and problem-solving abilities in an Australian and international context.

Work Integrated Learning

The structure and content of this degree has been informed by the needs of employers and industry specialists, making it relevant to successful employment and career outcomes. It includes Work Integrated Learning (WIL) opportunities in the form of internships, capstone units, workplace simulations and Study Abroad opportunities. The discipline-based professional practice units have been developed in association with the Australian Political Studies Association (APSA), The Australian Sociological Association (TASA) and the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia (ASSA). The degree also has its own dedicated student association – PIRaNaS (Politics, International Relations and National Security).

Past student internship placements been undertaken with the Australian Civil-Military Centre, Australian Border Force, Centre of Defence and Strategic Studies, Australian Institute of International Affairs, Citadel Group Limited and Aspen Medical.

Career opportunities

- Member of parliament
- Public affairs consultant
- Political researcher
- Intelligence officer
- National security adviser
- Foreign policy adviser
- Border control adviser
- Surveillance officer
- Consular officer
- Political adviser
- Diplomatic service officer
- Political journalist
- Program director
- International development worker
- Campaign director

Course-specific information

The Bachelor of Politics and International Relations is a degree that offers flexibility in terms of the subject areas explored. It can be constructed to investigate other disciplines, such as sociology, economics or justice studies, or those further afield, including law, business, commerce or management, while providing a major grounding in politics, international relations and national security.

You can also extend your studies in politics, international relations and national security through an honours year, which includes both course work and thesis components.

Join our Politics webinar

Get the inside scoop on Politics at UC, at an upcoming course information webinar. Connect with faculty staff, chat with a current student and learn how the program can pave the way to a range of rewarding and exciting careers.

Register now

Admission requirements

Admission to this course is based on an entrance rank. A rank can be achieved by the following means:

- Year 12 ATAR
- other Australian Qualification
- work experience
- overseas qualification

We also offer a number of entry initiatives that give you the opportunity to gain entry to the University via alternate pathway programs and admissions schemes.

More information is available on our Alternative Entry page: <http://www.canberra.edu.au/future-students/applications/apply-now/alternative-entry>

Assumed knowledge

None.

Periods course is open for new admissions

Year	Location	Teaching period	Teaching start date	Domestic	International
2026	Bruce, Canberra	Semester 1	16 February 2026	✓	✓
2026	Bruce, Canberra	Semester 2	10 August 2026	✓	✓
2027	Bruce, Canberra	Semester 1	15 February 2027	✓	✓
2027	Bruce, Canberra	Semester 2	09 August 2027	✓	✓

Credit arrangements

There are currently no formal credit transfer arrangements for entry to this course. Any previous study or work experience will only be considered as part of the application process in accordance with current [course rules](#) and [university policy](#).

Course requirements

Bachelor of Politics and International Relations (SCB201) | 72 credit points

Open Electives - 24 credit points as follows

[Expand All](#) | [Collapse All](#)

- - Must pass 24 credit points from anywhere in the University, as a breadth major, a breadth minor and/or as individual units.

Required - 48 credit points as follows

Core Major in Government and Policy (CM0008) | 24 credit points

Required - Must pass 18 credit points as follows

Professional Orientation (Government and Policy) (11012) | 3 credit points – Level 1

Introduction to Economics (11175) | 3 credit points – Level 1

Introduction to Politics and Government (11235) | 3 credit points – Level 1

Investigating and Explaining Society (11236) | 3 credit points – Level 1

Professional Evidence (Government and Policy) (11237) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Introduction to Public Policy (11378) | 3 credit points – Level 1

Restricted Choice - Must pass 6 credit points from the following

International Business Study Tour (9628) | 3 credit points – Level 2

Business, Government & Law Extended Internship (10158) | 6 credit points – Level 3

Business, Government & Law Professional Internship (10236) | 12 credit points – Level 3

BGL Internship (Commerce) (11166) | 3 credit points – Level 3

BGL Internship (Business and Management) (11167) | 3 credit points – Level 3

BGL Internship (Government and Policy) (11168) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Organisational Communications, Culture and Change (11169) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Business Communication (11170) | 3 credit points – Level 2

Social Enterprise (11379) | 3 credit points – Level 2

BGL Research Internship (11571) | 3 credit points – Level 3

Note:

- Credit Points: Students who want to do more than 6 credit points from this list may count them towards Open Electives.
- International Exchange: Students may also choose to undertake units at an international institution, subject to approval by the Program Director.

Specialist Major in Politics and International Relations (SM0030) | 24 credit points

Required - Must pass 21 credit points as follows

[Introduction to International Relations \(11238\) | 3 credit points — Level 1](#)

[Politics and Democracy \(11239\) | 3 credit points — Level 1](#)

[National Security \(11242\) | 3 credit points — Level 3](#)

[Politics and Security in the Asia-Pacific \(11250\) | 3 credit points — Level 3](#)

[Anthropology of Power: Lands, Peoples and Knowledges \(12213\) | 3 credit points — Level 2](#)

[Foreign Policy \(12214\) | 3 credit points — Level 3](#)

[Geopolitics \(12215\) | 3 credit points — Level 3](#)

Restricted Choice - Must pass 3 credit points from the following

[International Economics \(11207\) | 3 credit points — Level 3](#)

[The Challenge of Modern Terrorism \(11245\) | 3 credit points — Level 3](#)

In addition to course requirements, in order to successfully complete your course you must meet the inherent requirements. Please refer to the [inherent requirements statement](#) applicable to your course

Typical study pattern

Course information

Course duration

Standard 3 years full time or part-time equivalent. Maximum 10 years from date of enrolment to date of course completion.

Learning outcomes

Learning outcomes

Related graduate attributes

<p>Evaluate and apply a range of research methods and analytical techniques to enhance their critical thinking, communication and problem solving abilities in an Australian and international context.</p>	<p>1.3 UC graduates are professional: use creativity, critical thinking, analysis and research skills to solve theoretical and real-world problems;</p> <p>2.4 UC graduates are global citizens: communicate effectively in diverse cultural and social settings; and</p> <p>2.6 UC graduates are global citizens: behave ethically and sustainably in their professional and personal lives.</p>
<p>Be able to recognise key contemporary issues in politics and international relations including territorial and human security, global governance, national and international political institutions, democratization and citizenship, national security and border control, development and foreign aid, transnational crime, regionalisation, and the rise of populism in the twenty first century.</p>	<p>1.2 UC graduates are professional: communicate effectively;</p> <p>2.2 UC graduates are global citizens: adopt an informed and balanced approach across professional and international boundaries; and</p> <p>3.3 UC graduates are lifelong learners: adapt to complexity, ambiguity and change by being flexible and keen to engage with new ideas.</p>
<p>Study theories, institutions, policies and practices in the disciplines of politics and international relations in contemporary and historical context and be able to utilise these to recognise and assess political change at a local, regional and international level.</p>	<p>1.1 UC graduates are professional: employ up-to-date and relevant knowledge and skills;</p> <p>1.6 UC graduates are professional: take pride in their professional and personal integrity; and</p> <p>2.1 UC graduates are global citizens: think globally about issues in their profession.</p>
<p>Apply in depth knowledge of Political Science and International Relations in a rapidly changing geo-political environment and examine the political pressures and</p>	<p>1.3 UC graduates are professional: use</p>

challenges that societies, governments, security forces and businesses currently face.

creativity, critical thinking, analysis and research skills to solve theoretical and real-world problems;

1.4 UC graduates are professional: work collaboratively as part of a team, negotiate, and resolve conflict; and

2.3 UC graduates are global citizens: understand issues in their profession from the perspective of other cultures.

Reflect and communicate their learning and skill development throughout their course, consider their ongoing development and its contribution to their future goals and aspirations.

2.5 UC graduate are global citizens: make creative use of technology in their learning and professional lives;

3.1 UC graduates are lifelong learners: reflect on their own practice, updating and adapting their knowledge and skills for continual professional and academic development; and

3.2 UC graduates are lifelong learners: be self-aware.

Majors

- [Specialist Major in Politics and International Relations \(SM0030\)](#)
- [Core Major in Government and Policy \(CM0008\)](#)

Awards

Award	Official abbreviation
Bachelor of Politics and International Relations	B Politics&IntlRel

Enquiries

Student category	Contact details
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Current and Commencing Students	In person, Student Centre Building 1 (take a BGL Faculty course advice ticket) or Email bglstudent@canberra.edu.au
Prospective Domestic Students	Email study@canberra.edu.au or Phone 1800 UNI CAN (1800 864 226)
Prospective International Students:	Email international@canberra.edu.au or Phone +61 2 6201 5342

Download your course guide



Scholarships

Find the scholarship that's the right fit for you

Explore Scholarships

University of Canberra, Bruce ACT 2617 Australia

+61 2 6201 5111

ABN 81 633 873 422

CRICOS 00212K

TEQSA Provider ID: PRV12003 (Australian University)

UC acknowledges the Ngunnawal people, traditional custodians of the lands where Bruce campus is situated. We wish to acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of Canberra and the region. We also acknowledge all other First Nations Peoples on whose lands we gather.