MASTER OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
WELCOME TO THE PENN STATE SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

As technology, globalization, and the need for cross-cutting knowledge transform our society, our world needs innovative leaders who understand this complexity and can propose new ways forward. The Penn State School of International Affairs is uniquely situated to provide this education for the next generation of leaders.

We offer a highly interdisciplinary and flexible program, which allows you to take courses from across Penn State and design a master’s and concentration that fit your interests and goals. You will learn from an elite, experienced faculty that includes two former U.S. ambassadors, two former U.S. Navy admirals, a former CIA analyst, multiple National Security Council members, a former legal adviser to the United Nations and African Union, an economic consultant to the World Bank, as well as leading scholars of international affairs, all with a record of distinguished scholarship and engagement in the public discourse.

You will have opportunities to learn in our state-of-the-art Lewis Katz Building, with advanced distance-learning technology that allows for virtual education around the world. Our classes emphasize hands-on learning and include a school-wide simulation with the U.S. Army War College. You also will experience the world of international affairs with about 100 special events and guest speakers at SIA each year, plus career exposure trips to nearby Washington, D.C., New York City, Philadelphia, and Pittsburgh. Many students also include a semester abroad in their degree program. As the only international affairs program in the United States co-located with a law school, we provide exciting opportunities for you to connect international affairs and law (and offer a joint J.D./M.I.A. degree).

From the moment you begin at the Penn State School of International Affairs, you join the Penn State community and are helped on your career path by the largest alumni network in the world, more than 700,000 strong all over the globe. The School of International Affairs will help to launch you into careers in government, NGOs, IGOs, and private industry; for each of the past five years, over 92 percent of SIA alumni have secured full-time positions or decided to pursue further education, within 12 months of graduation. Penn State’s University Park campus provides not only the opportunity to access the incredible resources of one of the world’s leading research universities, but also the experience of being part of one of the most globally diverse universities in the world.

At the Penn State School of International Affairs, we are training the next generation of global leaders who will help shape the future of our complex world. We invite you to join our community and explore what the Penn State School of International Affairs and broader University have to offer.

Hari M. Osofsky
Dean

Scott Sigmund Gartner
Director
M.I.A. ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

ADMISSIONS TIMELINE

- **September 1:** Admissions application opens
- **February 15:** Application deadline to be considered for merit-based scholarships
- **March 21:** Final application deadline
- **Mid-March and Beyond:** Decisions released
- **April 15:** Offer Acceptance Deadline

ONLINE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

All applicants to the School of International Affairs must complete the Penn State Graduate School’s online application, which includes:

- Two letters of recommendation
- Current Resume or CV
- Copies of official transcripts from all previous institutions
- Official GRE or GMAT Score Report, school code 2660
  - LSAT acceptable for J.D./M.I.A. applicants; visit sia.psu.edu/jd-mia for more information
- Statement of Purpose
- International applicants must submit English proficiency test scores (TOEFL or IELTS), unless they have received a baccalaureate or a graduate degree from a college/university/institution in any of the following: Australia, Belize, British Caribbean and British West Indies, Canada (except Quebec), England, Guyana, Republic of Ireland, Liberia, New Zealand, Northern Ireland, Scotland, the United States, or Wales.

The School of International Affairs does not set a minimum GPA or GRE score. Each applicant is considered holistically.

For complete admissions requirements, visit: sia.psu.edu/admissions/mia-admissions

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

SIA offers four resident graduate certificate programs designed to allow students to advance their knowledge of international issues without committing to a two-year master’s degree program. Credits earned in the certificate program can then be applied to the M.I.A. degree program, although separate admission to the master’s program is required. Students can choose from four specialized certificate programs:

- International Affairs
- International Security Studies
- International Development Policy
- International Public Policy

IS SIA RIGHT FOR YOU?

Our students come from diverse personal and academic backgrounds—including 70 different undergraduate majors such as aerospace engineering, business administration, computer science, criminal justice, philosophy, urban planning, and many more. At SIA, you will find a master’s program that is interdisciplinary and customizable, with an emphasis on real-world, hands-on training, to help prepare you for a wide range of careers in international affairs and related fields.
THE PENN STATE MASTER OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DEGREE

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS
The Penn State School of International Affairs offers a two-year, 42-credit interdisciplinary master’s degree in international affairs that utilizes the expertise of faculty across numerous academic units at Penn State. With optional concentrations, diverse courses, education and internship abroad opportunities, and experiential learning activities, we help prepare exceptional students for careers and leadership positions in both the private and public sectors of an increasingly interdependent world.

In their first year, SIA students complete the program’s core curriculum, which provides a solid academic grounding in the institutions, traditions, and mechanisms of international exchange. Six core courses cover targeted study of critical analytical tools used in multidimensional problem solving, provide exposure to the most prominent theories of sociocultural interchange, and give students the professional skills necessary to begin working internationally.

CORE CURRICULUM
During their first year, SIA students complete a core curriculum of 18 credits, while most students also take an elective to help fulfill the 42-credit graduation requirement.

Fall Semester Courses
- Foundations of Diplomacy and International Relations Theory
- Global Cultures and Leadership

Spring Semester Courses
- Actors, Institutions, and Legal Frameworks in International Affairs
- Colloquium on Current Policy Challenges
- Multi-Sector and Quantitative Analysis

ELECTIVES AND CAPSTONE
While completing their core curriculum, students may begin working on their 21 elective credits, which allow them to personalize their degrees. Students work with faculty and staff advisers to craft their own curriculum by choosing classes of their interest offered by SIA or by other internationally ranked programs at Penn State, including Penn State Law. Students also complete a three-credit capstone in the form of an internship or master’s paper.

Sample SIA Electives
- Economic Development and the Environment
- Global Health Security
- Grand Strategies of Established and Rising Powers
- Human Rights Culture and Activism
- Science, Technology, and International Policy
- The Role of Intelligence in International Relations
- U.S. Policy in the Middle East
- Weapons of Mass Destruction and International Security

Sample Penn State Electives
- Crisis Informatics
- Energy Markets, Policy, and Regulation
- Gender and Politics
- Immigration, Assimilation, and Inequality
- International Business and National Policies
- National Security Law
- Power, Conflict, and Community Decision Making
- Psychology of Terrorism
Customize Your Degree with **OPTIONAL CONCENTRATIONS**

SIA has 12 optional concentrations that allow students to focus their elective credits in predetermined areas. **Students may also create their own concentrations based on personal interests.**

- African Development
- Data Analytics
- Development Policy
- Dispute Resolution
- Environment and Resources
- Humanitarian Response and Human Rights
- International Business and Economics
- International Cybersecurity
- International Energy Policy
- International Public Policy
- International Security Studies
- Middle East Studies

**LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY**

In order to graduate, all SIA students must have intermediate proficiency in one language other than English. This requirement can be met based on language classes taken at Penn State or another undergraduate institution, a proficiency exam, or native acquisition.
The Penn State School of International Affairs has a distinguished core faculty of internationally recognized scholars and seasoned former government officials who are also engaging and passionate educators. Through their research contributions and frontline global negotiations, they have made, and continue to make, their mark in global affairs. Together, they represent a unique combination of world-class scholars and highly acclaimed practitioners.

SIA students also learn from distinguished faculty from throughout Penn State, including the College of Agricultural Sciences, Smeal College of Business, Bellisario College of Communications, College of Earth and Mineral Sciences, College of Engineering, College of Information Sciences and Technology, Penn State Law, College of the Liberal Arts, and the Eberly College of Science. Their combined strength allows SIA to offer programs unsurpassed in interdisciplinary range and flexibility.

**ELITE, EXPERIENCED FACULTY**

**LARRY CATÁ BACKER**
Professor of Law and International Affairs

Professor Backer is a leading expert in the law and policy of globalization, especially as it relates to issues of sovereign investing and the human rights obligations of enterprises. His most recent book is *Cuba’s Caribbean Marxism: Essays on Ideology, Government, Society, and Economy in the Post Fidel Castro Era* (Little Sir Press, 2018).

**SCOTT SIGMUND GARTNER**

Director and Professor of International Affairs

Professor Gartner is an interdisciplinary scholar of international security, terrorism, conflict mediation, cybersecurity, and war. He is an affiliate professor in the Department of Political Science and Penn State Law, an Institute for CyberScience research associate, and a senior advisor for the Net Assessment of Violent Non-State Actors for a U.S. federal agency.

**ELEANOR MARIE BROWN**

Professor of Law and International Affairs

A leading scholar of property, migration, globalization, development, and the law, Brown has been published in the *University of Chicago Law Review*, the *New York University Law Review*, and the *Yale Law Journal*, among many others, and in media outlets including *The New York Times* and *The New Republic*. She is also a senior scientist at the Penn State Rock Ethics Institute.

**JOSEPH DETHOMAS**

Professor of Practice

Ambassador DeThomas was a member of the U.S. Foreign Service for 29 years and worked at the U.S. Department of State for 32 years. His service abroad included tours in Austria, Ethiopia, Iran, Germany, and Mexico. He was the U.S. ambassador to Estonia from 2001 to 2004.

**JOHANNES W. FEDDERKE**

Professor of International Affairs

Professor Fedderke is a leading economist, with a focus on Africa and especially South Africa, and World Bank consultant whose research interests focus on innovation, macroeconomics, economic development, political economy, institutions, and trade. His recent works include examining the deep roots of economic development and the impact of market structure on economic growth.

**JAMES W. HOUCK**

Distinguished Scholar in Residence

Vice Admiral Houck served as the 41st judge advocate general of the U.S. Navy, where he was the principal military legal counsel to the secretary of the Navy and chief of Naval Operations. His teaching and research interests focus on international law, national security law, and maritime law and policy.
WEI PENG
Assistant Professor of International Affairs and Civil and Environmental Engineering

Professor Peng’s research focuses on the environmental and socioeconomic impacts of decarbonization efforts in both emerging markets and advanced economies, with a particular focus on China. Her research has been published in Nature Energy, Nature Sustainability, and Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, among others.

HARI M. OSOSKY
Dean and Professor of International Affairs

Hari Osofsky is the dean of the Penn State School of International Affairs and Penn State Law. She previously served as the faculty director of the Energy Transition Lab and the director of the Joint Degree Program in Law, Science, and Technology at the University of Minnesota Law School. Dean Osofsky’s research focuses on improving governance and addressing injustice in energy and climate change regulation.

FLYNT L. LEVERETT
Professor of International Affairs and Asian Studies

Professor Leverett joined Penn State after a distinguished career in government, serving as a CIA analyst, State Department official, and White House adviser with the National Security Council. He is an expert on the Middle East, international political economy, and Chinese foreign policy.

ELIZABETH RANSOM
Associate Professor of International Affairs

Professor Ransom’s areas of expertise include globalization and development, with a particular focus on eastern and southern Africa, and the political economy of agriculture and food systems. Her published research includes more than 25 journal articles and book chapters. In addition to her position at SIA, she is a senior research associate in the Rock Ethics Institute.

MARE SARR
Associate Professor of International Affairs

Professor Sarr’s research interests include environmental and natural resource economics and management, institutional change and development, and political economy. Much of his work concentrates on the continent of Africa, including Ethiopia, Somalia, South Africa, and Tunisia. His research has been published in World Bank Economic Review and Environmental and Resource Economics, among others.

DAVID W. TITLEY
Professor of International Affairs

Professor Titley served as a naval officer for 32 years and rose to the rank of rear admiral. He has served as the chief operating officer at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and initiated and led the U.S. Navy’s Task Force on Climate Change. His research and teaching interests focus on climate, the Arctic, and national security.

HERBERT WOLFE
Professor of Practice

Professor Wolfe has had a distinguished career in government and currently serves as director and acting chief of staff of the Office of the Chief Medical Officer at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. He previously served as the director for medical preparedness policy at the White House National Security Council and as a scientist at the CIA. Dr. Wolfe is an expert on national security, global health, and biodefense.
In addition to its core faculty, the School of International Affairs draws on the knowledge and experience of leading faculty members from a wide variety of disciplines across Penn State. Affiliate faculty are an active and essential part of the SIA community. These experts from the fields of communications, engineering, law, political science, technology, and more complement the expertise of the resident SIA faculty and connect the study of international affairs to the myriad disciplines that impact global relations in the real world.

**SIA AFFILIATE FACULTY**

In addition to its core faculty, the School of International Affairs draws on the knowledge and experience of leading faculty members from a wide variety of disciplines across Penn State. Affiliate faculty are an active and essential part of the SIA community. These experts from the fields of communications, engineering, law, political science, technology, and more complement the expertise of the resident SIA faculty and connect the study of international affairs to the myriad disciplines that impact global relations in the real world.

**JESSAMYN ABEL,** Department of Asian Studies, College of the Liberal Arts

**GABEBA BADEROON,** Department of African Studies, College of the Liberal Arts

**DEANNA BEHRING,** College of Agricultural Sciences

**SETH BLUMSACK,** Energy Institute, College of Earth and Mineral Sciences

**LORRAINE DOWLER,** Department of Geography, College of Earth and Mineral Sciences

**GABEBA BADEROON,** Department of African Studies, College of the Liberal Arts

**DEANNA BEHRING,** College of Agricultural Sciences

**SETH BLUMSACK,** Energy Institute, College of Earth and Mineral Sciences

**LORRAINE DOWLER,** Department of Geography, College of Earth and Mineral Sciences

**DARRYL FARBER,** College of Engineering

**SUSAN BETH FARMER,** Penn State Law

**ROGER FINKE,** Department of Sociology and Criminology, College of the Liberal Arts

**PETER FORSTER,** College of Information Sciences and Technology

**CAROLEE MAITLAND,** College of Information Sciences and Technology

**JONATHAN H. MARKS,** Bioethics Program, Rock Ethics Institute

**JUD MATHEWS,** Penn State Law

**STEPHEN A. MATTHEWS,** Department of Sociology and Criminology, College of the Liberal Arts

**ROSA MANUS,** Department of Political Science, College of the Liberal Arts

**SASCHA MEINRATH,** Department of Telecommunications, Bellisario College of Communications

**EDUARDO MENDIETA,** Department of Philosophy, College of the Liberal Arts

**KIDANE MENGISTEAB,** Department of Political Science, College of the Liberal Arts

**PETER MHANDO,** Smeal College of Business

**JAMES PIAZZA,** Department of Political Science, College of the Liberal Arts

**CATHHERINE A. ROGERS,** Penn State Law

**ANDREA TAPIA,** College of Information Sciences and Technology

**PANAGIOTIS TAKIS TRIDIMAS,** Penn State Law

**KENAN ÜNLU,** College of Engineering

**COL. JACOB GRAHAM, USMC (RET.),** College of Information Sciences and Technology

**CAITLIN GRADY,** College of Engineering

**PETER HATEMI,** Department of Political Science, College of the Liberal Arts

**BRIAN KING,** Department of Geography, College of Earth and Mineral Sciences

**DOUGLAS LEMKE,** Department of Political Science, College of the Liberal Arts

**Y AEL WARSHEL,** Bellisario College of Communications

**VINEETA YADAV,** Department of Political Science, College of the Liberal Arts

Kenan Ünlu, professor of nuclear engineering and director of the Radiation Science and Engineering Center (RSEC), hosted SIA students for a tour of the RSEC and Penn State Breazeale Reactor, the nation’s longest continuously operating university research nuclear reactor.

Colonel Jacob Graham, professor of practice in security and risk analysis.
EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

At SIA, Students LEARN BY DOING

Our small classes and experiential learning activities create an active learning environment that replicates real-world experience. The program provides ample opportunities for role-playing simulations, briefings, negotiations, mock trials, writing United Nations memos, drafting project proposals, and more. Through our hands-on programs, students gain expertise in contemporary global issues while learning the fundamentals of international relations that will shape the world in the decades ahead.

STRATEGIC CRISIS NEGOTIATION SIMULATION

Each year, SIA holds a school-wide simulation with the U.S. Army War College, in which students and faculty spend two days negotiating an international crisis. The event hones students’ diplomacy skills as they negotiate territorial disputes and broker peace between feuding nations in a mock United Nations meeting.
Each master’s degree candidate in the School of International Affairs chooses a capstone experience that is either a master’s paper or a supervised internship placement. By authoring a master’s paper, the student integrates and illustrates mastery of the subject matter of the student’s curricular emphasis and may undertake original research.

Internships are supervised professional placements in which students experience the integration of their curricular studies in a professional environment. Penn State’s School of International Affairs has placed interns on several continents and in many professional environments including the following:

- Business Council for Sustainable Energy
- Center for Strategic and International Studies
- Chemonics
- Climate Institute
- Exiger Diligence
- Fundacion el Otro
- Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency of D.C.
- International Organization for Migration
- Permanent Mission of Indonesia to the United Nations
- UNESCO
- UN Human Rights Council
- U.S. Army War College
- U.S. Department of State
- U.S. Export Assistance Centers
- Woodrow Wilson Institute
- World Health Organization

This training, combined with more traditional forms of academic study, prepares our students for a wide range of careers in international affairs.

WHERE OUR STUDENTS HAVE WORKED AND STUDIED WHILE AT SIA

Ahmedabad, India  Carlisle, Pennsylvania  Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany  Rome, Italy
Ann Arbor, Michigan  Chengdu, China  Guangzhou, China  Salt Lake City, Utah
Arusha, Tanzania  Chiang Mai, Thailand  Jerusalem, Israel  San Pedro Sula, Honduras
Astan, Kazakhstan  Chicago, Illinois  Johannesburg, South Africa  Santiago, Chile
Atlanta, Georgia  Chogoria, Kenya  London, United Kingdom  Seoul, South Korea
Austin, Texas  Cochabamba, Bolivia  Moline, Illinois  Shanghai, China
Bangkok, Thailand  College Park, Maryland  Lima, Peru  Shymkent, Kazakhstan
Barcelona, Spain  Coral Gables, Florida  London, United Kingdom  St. Petersburg, Russia
Beijing, China  Costa Mesa, California  Moline, Illinois  State College, Pennsylvania
Berlin, Germany  Des Moines, Iowa  New York, New York  Thimphu, Bhutan
Boston, Massachusetts  Detroit, Michigan  Nyeri, Kenya  Turin, Italy
Brussels, Belgium  Doha, Qatar  Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  Udaipur, India
Budapest, Hungary  Dublin, Ireland  Raleigh, North Carolina  Valletta, Malta
Buenos Aires, Argentina  Fort Leavenworth, Kansas  Sevilla, Spain  Vientiane, Laos
Cape Town, South Africa  Geneva, Switzerland  Shymkent, Kazakhstan  Washington, D.C.
INTERNSHIPS IN NEW YORK CITY & WASHINGTON, D.C.

The School of International Affairs has established two internship programs to facilitate opportunities for SIA students to gain professional experience in New York City and Washington, D.C., while fulfilling the degree program’s capstone requirement. SIA’s Office of Career Services works with students to determine their interests and relevant skills, critique application materials, and assist in securing high-quality, engaging internships closely related to their SIA studies. Offered in the fall, spring, and summer semesters, the programs also provide housing options, networking opportunities, and additional educational programming related to the field of international affairs.

NEW YORK CITY PROGRAM

The SIA in New York City Program provides SIA students with the opportunity to intern in the country’s top international marketplace. Opportunities include positions with United Nations-affiliated agencies, NGOs working across a range of global issues, and agencies engaged in global finance, immigration, international business, and trade.

WASHINGTON, D.C., PROGRAM

The SIA in Washington Program offers SIA students full-time internships with governmental and nongovernmental organizations in the nation’s capital. Opportunities cover the spectrum of U.S. government agencies and departments involved with foreign, defense, and trade policy, advocacy groups and lobbyists seeking to influence U.S. policy, think tanks engaged in research across the range of global issues, international monetary and finance institutions, foreign embassies, and global NGOs.
EDUCATION ABROAD OPPORTUNITIES

SIA students have the opportunity to participate in formal education abroad programs offered through Penn State’s Office of Global Programs. Depending on the location, students may participate in the summer semester after their first year or in the fall or spring semester of their second year.

Each program provides SIA students the opportunity to live and study overseas while obtaining academic credit that fulfills M.I.A. degree requirements. Students enroll in classes that are relevant to their area of concentration within SIA. Select programs offer internship or research opportunities which may count toward the SIA capstone requirement. Some programs offer language coursework to help meet (or further build on) the SIA language requirement.

PROGRAMS OFFERING CLASSROOM-BASED STUDY

• Amman, Jordan
• Buenos Aires, Argentina
• Leeds, United Kingdom
• Maastricht, Netherlands
• Rabat, Morocco
• Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
• Seoul, South Korea
• Tel Aviv, Israel
• Warsaw, Poland

PROGRAMS OFFERING THE OPTION OF PART-TIME INTERNSHIPS OR INDEPENDENT RESEARCH IN ADDITION TO CLASSROOM-BASED STUDY

• Dakar, Senegal
• Nairobi, Kenya
• Shanghai, China

PROGRAMS OFFERING FULL-TIME INTERNSHIPS

• Cape Town, South Africa
• Dublin, Ireland
• Hong Kong
• London, United Kingdom
• Melbourne, Australia
• Paris, France
• Rome, Italy
• Santiago, Chile
• Shanghai, China
• Shingi Mavima ’11

SIA students (Ollantaytambo, Peru)

Dublin, Ireland
Taimoor Choudry '13
Petra, Jordan.

Anngelica Peters '19
Buenos Aires, Argentina

SIA students
Nairobi, Kenya

Erick Jenkins '20
Machu Picchu, Peru

Warsaw, Poland
CAREER SERVICES

With professional placement having the highest priority at the Penn State School of International Affairs, students from their first semester are encouraged to engage with SIA’s Office of Career Services to identify their individual professional goals and develop a plan for attaining them. Career Services will connect students to the strongest possible network of opportunities prior to, and upon, graduation through the resources offered by Penn State, its faculty, and its alumni worldwide, as well as a range of multinational organizations, institutions, and enterprises.

The Office of Career Services coordinates a set of professional development workshops, visits by recruiters, career exposure trips to major employers, and presentations, all organized around helping students make the transition from academic studies to professional opportunities. Embedded in the academic objectives and outcomes of the school’s curriculum, professional development at SIA is designed to help students think concretely and deeply about their internship and career objectives, strategies for achieving those objectives, and specific steps toward success in that process.

Our graduates find placement in a variety of venues:

- Community-based service organizations
- Consulting firms
- Cultural and educational exchange organizations
- Development assistance programs
- Federal, state, and local government agencies and departments
- Foundations
- Health organizations
- Higher education institutions
- International organizations (IGOs/NGOs)
- Media organizations
- Multinational corporations
- National security, foreign policy, and intelligence agencies
- Policy advocacy organizations
- Policy research centers

ALUMNI INSIGHT

“Throughout my studies at SIA, I enjoyed the challenge of applying new knowledge to the discussion of contemporary global issues. The experience has allowed me to hone the critical skills necessary for a successful career at the OSCE Mission in Kosovo and the flexibility to pursue different projects and roles in international development.”

Kaltrina Hoxha ’16
National Programme Officer, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Mission in Kosovo

ALUMNI INSIGHT

“The amount of support and guidance that I have received from this community is unmatched anywhere else. From the first day of the application process to graduation and beyond, I have seen firsthand how much support this community puts into its students and their future goals.”

Tony Hudson Jr. ’19
Foreign Service Officer, U.S. Department of State
Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Graduate Fellow ’17
**CAREER OUTCOMES**

92% For each of the past five years, over 92 percent of SIA alumni have secured full-time positions or decided to pursue further education, within 12 months of graduation.

Recent SIA alumni found post-graduate positions with:

- African Development Bank
- American Enterprise Institute
- Bloomberg
- Defense Intelligence Agency
- Goldman Sachs
- Japanese Foreign Ministry
- Lockheed Martin
- National Institutes of Health
- Peace Corps
- Raytheon
- Royal Kingdom of Bhutan
- United Nations
- USAID Global Development Lab
- U.S. Department of State
- Washington Business Dynamics
- World Health Organization, and many more

**ALUMNI INSIGHT**

“"My degree from SIA assembled my work experiences into a career in international public policy and national security while networking with experienced practitioners in the field. While at SIA, I conducted research for the Peacekeeping and Stability Operations Institute at the U.S. Army War College and eventually moved to New York for my capstone experience at the Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs.”

Scott Hillkirk '11
Senior Program Director of Strategic Communications, Miracle Systems, LLC
Washington, D.C.

**ALUMNI INSIGHT**

“The most integral part of my experience with Penn State’s School of International Affairs was the professors. Not only do they have a wealth of knowledge, but they genuinely care about each of their students. After graduation, I reached out to them to ask for guidance and advice as I was starting my first job and they were still incredibly supportive.”

Megan Egan '17
Analyst, U.S. Department of Defense
GATEWAY TO A GREAT UNIVERSITY

Penn State School of International Affairs students are part of a small, hands-on program with access to all of the educational and cultural opportunities, social activities, and amenities of one of the world’s great research universities.

Penn State’s 13-square-mile University Park campus in State College, Pennsylvania, offers internationally recognized academic programs, an endless array of campus groups, student activities, and athletic and cultural events, and built-in networking opportunities with the University’s massive and dedicated alumni base.

AS PART OF PENN STATE, THE SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS OFFERS

- Access to graduate courses across Penn State, with more than 190 graduate major programs
- The Big Ten library system
- Global corporate recruiters visiting campus
- An individualized and supportive program at an internationally visible school
- Opportunities to get involved on campus with nearly 1,000 student clubs and organizations
GLOBAL COMMUNITY, CENTRAL LOCATION

Penn State’s modern and cosmopolitan community of students, faculty, scholars, and researchers share the common goals of enhancing international understanding, knowledge, and discourse as well as serving the public interest.

The University Park campus is home to a diverse population of about 46,000 graduate, undergraduate, and professional students, including approximately 7,500 international students from 130 different countries. The SIA program alone has been enriched by the contributions and perspectives over the years of students from countries including Bangladesh, Bhutan, Canada, Chile, China, Ethiopia, Germany, Ghana, India, Iran, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Panama, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Turkey, Taiwan, Venezuela, and Zimbabwe, among others.

STATE COLLEGE, PENNSYLVANIA

Perhaps better known as Happy Valley, State College is a quintessential college town that offers students many of the amenities of a larger urban environment in a welcoming setting. Thanks to its highly educated population made up largely of Penn State faculty and staff, State College is consistently ranked among the nation’s smartest, safest, and most livable cities by a variety of organizations and publications.

State College is within a three-hour drive of Pittsburgh and Baltimore, and about four hours from New York, Washington, D.C., and Philadelphia. The University Park airport, located 10 minutes from SIA’s Lewis Katz Building, offers direct flights to Chicago, Detroit, Philadelphia, and Washington, D.C., with convenient connections to other major cities.

ACCOLADES FOR PENN STATE AND ITS HOMETOWN

- No. 51 among all universities worldwide (Times Higher Education World University Reputation Rankings)
- No. 14 among U.S. institutions for international student enrollment (IIE Open Doors)
- No. 14 among “SafeTowns in America” (SafeWise)
- 8th best college town in the United States (Best College Reviews)
- Top 10 “Healthiest Cities in America” (24/7 Wall St)
Graduates of the Penn State School of International Affairs instantly join a powerful network of more than 700,000 Penn State alumni around the world. With alumni working and living in all 50 states and more than 160 countries, you can find Penn Staters everywhere. Our alumni share cherished memories of their student experience, extraordinary loyalty to their alma mater and each other, and an unrivaled commitment to expanding opportunities for their fellow graduates and current students.

The School of International Affairs Office of Career Services connects alumni and current students through a variety of programming, including career information meetings, networking receptions, career exposure trips, and webinars.

**ALUMNI**

*Penn State Graduates ARE EVERYWHERE*

Penn State Graduates are everywhere around the world:

**SIA ALUMNI around the world:**
OUR BUILDING

The Lewis Katz Building

The 114,000-square-foot Lewis Katz Building is the home of the Penn State School of International Affairs. Completed in 2009, the structure features a glass-walled library with spectacular views of the Penn State Arboretum, Beaver Stadium, and Mount Nittany, a Panera Bread bakery-café, comfortable classrooms, indoor and outdoor student meeting and study spaces, and adjacent parking for students. SIA classrooms are equipped with high-definition audio-visual equipment that allows real-time audio and video connection to programs and speakers around the globe as well as lecture recording so students can review later what happened in class. The sustainably designed Katz Building is accessible and LEED-certified with a number of green features, including a vegetated green roof, bike racks, abundant use of natural light, and locally sourced materials.

CONTACT US

Email the School of International Affairs Admissions Office at admissions@sia.psu.edu or call 814-867-2242.

@pennstatesia
Photos provided by Michelle Bixby, Ian Bradshaw Photography, Ana J. Castellanos, Andy Colwell, Eric Forberger, Richard Garcia, Michael Garrett, Google Maps, Danielle J. Harvey, Patrick Mansell, Timothy McCarthy, Vanessa McLaughlin, Annemarie Mountz, Peter Olson Photography, Angelica Peters, Dyanna Stupar, Mary Szmolko, Ann Taylor-Schmidt, University Marketing, Albert Vecerka/ESTO, Nick Veres, and Liyiran (Shelly) Xia.

This publication is available in alternative media on request.

The University is committed to equal access to programs, facilities, admission and employment for all persons. It is the policy of the University to maintain an environment free of harassment and free of discrimination against any person because of age, race, color, ancestry, national origin, religion, creed, service in the uniformed services (as defined in state and federal law), veteran status, sex, sexual orientation, marital or family status, pregnancy, pregnancy-related conditions, physical or mental disability, gender, perceived gender, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information or political ideas. Discriminatory conduct and harassment, as well as sexual misconduct and relationship violence, violates the dignity of individuals, impedes the realization of the University’s educational mission, and will not be tolerated.

Gender-based and sexual harassment, including sexual violence, are forms of gender discrimination in that they deny or limit an individual’s ability to participate in or benefit from University programs or activities.

Direct all inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policy to Rebecca Ciani, Human Resources Coordinator, Penn State Law, Pennsylvania State University, Lewis Katz Building, University Park, PA 16802-1017; Tel (814) 863-0125.

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CAMPUS SECURITY CRIME STATISTICS: The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act and Pennsylvania Act of 1988 require that crime statistics for Pennsylvania colleges and universities be made available to applicants upon request. Penn State’s combined Annual Security and Annual Fire Safety Report includes statistics for the previous three years concerning reported crimes that occurred on campus, in certain off-campus buildings owned or controlled by the University, and on public property within or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus. The report also includes institutional policies concerning campus security, such as those concerning alcohol and drug use, crime prevention, the reporting of crimes, sexual assault, and other matters. You may obtain this information for the Penn State campus to which you are applying by accessing the website at www.police.psu.edu/clery. A printed copy of the report may be obtained by writing to University Police & Public Safety, The Pennsylvania State University, Eisenhower Parking Deck, University Park PA 16802-6703 or by calling 814-863-0125.