The study of Government and International Relations covers all aspects of power and decisionmaking, locally, nationally and internationally. The Department offers an extraordinary range of units covering many of today’s major issues such as globalisation in business and society, the interdependence of economic and political change, and public sector reform.

Government (‘Politics’ or ‘Political Science’) is one of the most popular subject areas in the University. The study of politics prepares you for careers in business, the public sector, community and non-government organisations. If you are planning a career in international relations, public policy, journalism or management, you should consider Government and International Relations.

Government and International Relations at The University of Sydney is one of the largest and most research-active groupings of scholars in political science, public policy and international studies in Australia.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES
In the Department of Government and International Relations, our areas of expertise cover many aspects of public policy and international relations – the state and economic structures; communist and post-communist systems; public management and policy analysis; political and social change; the environment; human rights; terrorism and security; international political economy; media; parties and elections; democratic theory and the politics of democratisation.

Our graduates are employed in policy and executive roles in the private sector, the media, advertising agencies, lobby groups, international businesses, banking and market research – indeed, in any area where an international perspective and analytical ability is relevant. They have careers in organisations such as the Office of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Premier’s Department, Federal and State Parliaments, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Lowy Institute for International Policy,
the Australian Prudential Regulatory Authority, the Macquarie Bank Risk Desk, SG Securities New York, Amnesty International and the United Nations.

Detailed information about Units of Study is on our website at:
sydney.edu.au/arts/government_international_relations

WHAT OUR STUDENT SAY…
“The excellent subjects available through Government and International Relations at Sydney University have provided me with both theoretical knowledge and practical skills that I regularly apply in my position as Policy Officer (socio-economic assessment) at the Water Planning section of the Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Mines”
– Amelia Loye (Bachelor of Arts)

“I studied Government and International Relations at Sydney and I loved it! More than a decade later, after a stint in Prime Minister Keating’s office and higher degrees in international relations at Oxford, I’m still learning about the subject. But my journey began in the Merewether Building”
– Michael Fullilove (Bachelor of Economics)

“Studying Government opened my eyes to thinking critically about politics and policy. A few years after graduating, I worked as the ALP’s trade adviser, the topic on which I had written my Government Honours thesis.”
– Andrew Leigh (Bachelor of Economics and Bachelor of Law)

THE GOVERNMENT AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES MAJOR
A major in Government and International Relations requires at least 36 elective credit points from senior-intermediate (2000-level) and senior-advanced (3000-level) units of study, including at least 6 credit points from 3000-level units of study.

Honours in Government requires a fourth year of study in which students write a thesis.

UNDERGRADUATE UNITS OFFERED MAY INCLUDE:

Junior Units
– Australian Politics
– Geopolitics
– Introduction to Political Science
– World Politics

Senior Units
– Human Rights and Australian Politics
– South East Asia: Dilemmas of Development
– Policy Analysis
– Modern Political Thought
– The Australian Political Party System
– Politics of International Economic Relations
– International Organisations
– Environmental Politics
– Social Change and Politics
– Politics of China
– Australian Foreign and Defence Policy
– American Politics and Foreign Policy
– Key Concepts in Political Thought
– Introduction to Non-Traditional Security
– Comparative Public Sector Management
– Divided Societies
– Gender, Security and Human Rights
– Globalisation, Governance and the State
– Islam and Democracy in the Muslim World
– Science, Technology and International Security

For more information
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