

# Handbook

**WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY**

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**Applied Behavioral Science (A.B.S.)**

**Master of Arts Program**

**College of Liberal Arts**

**International Relations and  
Comparative Politics Track**

PROGRAM DIRECTOR FOR ABS INTERNATIONAL  
RELATIONS/COMPARATIVE POLITICS

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**The Applied Behavioral Science Program offers two fields of graduate specialization: International Relations/Comparative Politics and Criminal Justice, and is located on the main campus of Wright State University near Dayton, Ohio. The campus sits on 600 wooded acres and is easily accessible from Interstate 675 and other major roads.**

**For admission and financial aid application materials, please contact the ABS Director, Dr. David Orenstein, in 270 Millett, or Susan Schultheis, Program Secretary, 775-2667. Their office can also provide information on the Criminal Justice Specialization in ABS.**

**Wright State University website: [www.cola.wright.edu](http://www.cola.wright.edu)  
Program email: [ABS\\_IR@wright.edu](mailto:ABS_IR@wright.edu)**

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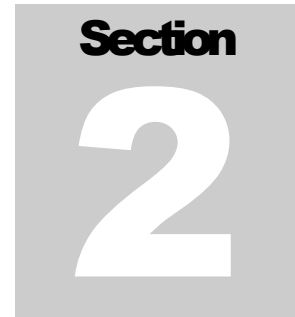
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# Welcome to the Applied Behavioral Science Master of Arts Program International Relations & Comparative Politics Track

*We live in a globalized and increasingly interconnected environment. Wright State is proud to offer a new program in International Relations and Comparative Politics for students who wish to obtain a Master's degree in this expanding field of inquiry. Students have four tracks from which to select a specialization:*

- Peace and Security Studies
- International Organizations
- Developed Area Studies
- Developing Area Studies

*Your program of study will be designed to focus on your specific international interests. Faculty research and teaching interests include terrorism, corruption, weapons of mass destruction, human rights, social movements, international law, and area studies including the Middle East, Africa, Asia, Europe and the Americas.*

A gray rectangular box containing the word "Section" in a bold, black, sans-serif font at the top, and a large, white, bold, sans-serif number "2" centered below it.

### *Purpose*

To provide preparation for students intending to continue their education in a Ph.D. or comparable program, within the political science sub-fields of international relations and comparative politics and to prepare students whose occupations in the military and in other organizations-both public and private sector-require further knowledge about the international arena. There are career opportunities in government, international organizations, international business, and in teaching for students completing this track. For instance, the National Air Intelligence Center and several other units at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, such as in Defense Assistance Management, either deal with events and data outside the U.S. or have regularized contact with foreign military and civilian personnel. Non Governmental Organizations – private foundations and charities – in this region have international interests and contacts and would employ individuals with knowledge of countries whose people would be the recipients their support. Corporations in this area which have widespread international sales and branches abroad – GM, NCR, Mead, and many others – are in need of employees with expertise in the language, culture, society and politics of the countries comprising their international markets. All of the above are potential employers of our graduates.



## Program Requirements

Students will complete a 14 credit hour core consisting of two current courses (ABS 700 and 703) and two new courses specific to this track (which are discussed in this handbook on page 6). Additionally, students must either extend their foreign language competency beyond the second-year level or complete ABS 702 (or demonstrate equivalent competency in statistics).

There are six courses (24 hours) of electives from among our current international/comparative offerings. Of these, at least four courses must be taken within one of four concentration areas: International Organizations, Peace and Security Studies, Area Studies – Developed Nations, and Area Studies – Developing Nations. Other concentration areas may be added in the future, upon approval by the ABS Program Committee.

The last ten credit hours will be spent preparing either a master's thesis or by taking a 4 credit practicum and then preparing a master's project. The requirements are summarized on page 4, there is also a sample four-quarter program on page 5.

## Section

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## Degree Requirements for IR/Comparative Track in the ABS Program

### CORE COURSES:

- ABS 700-02 Electronic Scholarship
- ABS 703-04 Applied (i.e. Qualitative) Methods
- ABS 730-04 Theories of International and Comparative Politics
- ABS 731-04 Graduate Seminar in Comparative and International Politics

Select one of the following:

Completion of at least one course in a foreign language beyond the first two undergraduate years or demonstrated proficiency at that level, **or**

Completion of ABS 702 or equivalent or passage of a placement examination in Statistics.

### ELECTIVES:

Six courses (24 hours) of advisor approved graduate level courses having international/comparative content, with at least four courses being in one of the following areas of concentration.

- International Organizations
- Peace and Security Studies
- Area Studies – Developed Nations
- Area Studies – Developing Nations

### THESIS/PROJECT:

Ten credit hours, **either**

a formal master's thesis, **or**

a 4 credit practicum with the remaining 6 credit hours preparing a master's project.

**TOTAL**

**48 HOURS**



## Core Course Descriptions

(For additional course descriptions, see the Wright State University Graduate Catalogue or go to [wright.edu](http://wright.edu) on the web for the most up to date information.)

**ABS 700-02 Electronic Scholarship.** Emphasis is on computer software and technologies available to assist in the assembling and communication of information relevant to social research, such as e-mail, the Internet, and bibliographic databases.

**ABS 703-04 Applied Methodology.** Addresses issues pertaining to the collection and analysis of data in various settings, for the purpose of program evaluation, policy analysis, and other applied objectives. Prerequisite: ABS 701, 702.

**ABS 730-04 Theories of International Relations and Comparative Politics.** This course introduces graduate students to the range of theories and concepts employed in modern political analysis. It aims to increase students' familiarity with the major concepts, theories and debates within the study of international relations and comparative politics. It will serve as a "gateway" course for this track.

**ABS 731-04 Graduate Seminar in International Relations and Comparative Politics.** The subtitle for this course will vary by topic. Examples include, U.S. Responses to Humanitarian Crises in Africa, International Terrorism, The Middle East Peace Process, China and the Status of Taiwan, or Party Politics in Europe.

## Electives in International Organizations

Students must select six courses (24 credit hours) and obtain advisor approval. At least four courses must fall in one of the following areas of concentration:

Course Number	Credit Hours	Course Name
___PLS 560	4	Politics of Developing Nations
___PLS 572	4	International Organizations
___PLS 574	4	International Human Rights
___PLS 576	4	Peace Studies
___PLS 581	4	National Security Politics
___PLS 606	4	Theories of International Political Economy
___PLS 660	4	Seminar on Comparative Politics
___PLS 661	4	Social Movements and Protests
___PLS 670	4	Seminar on International Relations
___PLS 671	4	International Law
___PLS 672	4	International Terrorism
___PLS 673	4	American Foreign Policy
___PLS 686	4	Model United Nations
___PLS 687	4	History & Politics of Intelligence Gathering
___COM 646	4	Organizational Communication
___COM 647	4	Organizational Communication: Applications
___COM 648	4	Case Studies in Organizational Communication
___COM 653	4	Communication and Conflict
___COM 657	4	Intercultural Communication
___SOC 540	4	Social Organization
___SOC 545	4	Social Change
___SOC 599	4	Studies in Selected Subjects
___EC 644	4	Economic Development and World Poverty

Other courses may be approved by the program advisor when appropriate to the student's program.

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**Electives in Peace and Security Studies**

Students must select six courses (24 credit hours) and obtain advisor approval. At least four courses must fall in one of the following areas of concentration:

<b>Course Number</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>	<b>Course Name</b>
___PLS 551	4	West European Politics
___PLS 554	4	Governments of Eastern Europe
___PLS 558	4	Latin American Politics
___PLS 560	4	Politics of Developing Nations
___PLS 564	4	Contemporary African Politics
___PLS 566	4	Politics: The Middle East
___PLS 567	4	Political System of China
___PLS 574	4	International Human Rights
___PLS 576	4	Peace Studies
___PLS 581	4	National Security Politics
___PLS 606	4	Theories of International Political Economy
___PLS 649	4	International Politics of Gender Violence
___PLS 653	4	Soviet Successor States
___PLS 661	4	Social Movements and Protests
___PLS 671	4	International Law
___PLS 672	4	International Terrorism
___PLS 673	4	American Foreign Policy
___PLS 685	4	Chinese Foreign Policy
___PLS 686	4	Model United Nations
___PLS 687	4	History & Politics of Intelligence Gathering
___COM 653	4	Communication and Conflict
___HST 625	4	Modern European History
___HST 635	4	Modern British History
___HST 655	4	Latin American History
___HST 665	4	East Asian History
___EC 644	4	Economic Development and World Poverty

Other courses may be approved by the program advisor when appropriate to the student's program.

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**Electives in Area Studies – Developed Nations**

Students must select six courses (24 credit hours) and obtain advisor approval. At least four courses must fall in one of the following areas of concentration:

Course Number	Credit Hours	Course Name
___PLS 551	4	West European Politics
___PLS 554	4	Governments of Eastern Europe
___PLS 574	4	International Human Rights
___PLS 576	4	Peace Studies
___PLS 581	4	National Security Politics
___PLS 582	4	US-Japan Foreign Relations
___PLS 606	4	Theories of International Political Economy
___PLS 653	4	Soviet Successor States
___PLS 671	4	International Law
___PLS 672	4	International Terrorism
___PLS 673	4	American Foreign Policy
___PLS 686	4	Model United Nations
___PLS 687	4	History & Politics of Intelligence Gathering
___HST 625	4	Modern European History
___HST 635	4	Modern British History
___HST 665	4	East Asian History-Japan
___EC 641	4	International Trade and the Economy
___EC 644	4	International Monetary Theory
___EC 645	4	Economic Development and World Poverty

Other courses may be approved by the program advisor when appropriate to the student's program.

**Electives in Area Studies – Developing Nations**

Students must select six courses (24 credit hours) and obtain advisor approval. At least four courses must fall in one of the following areas of concentration:

<b>Course Number</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>	<b>Course Name</b>
___PLS 558	4	Latin American Politics
___PLS 560	4	Politics of Developing Nations
___PLS 564	4	Contemporary African Politics
___PLS 566	4	Politics: The Middle East
___PLS 567	4	Political System of China
___PLS 574	4	International Human Rights
___PLS 576	4	Peace Studies
___PLS 606	4	Theories of International Political Economy
___PLS 649	4	International Politics of Gender Violence
___PLS 653	4	Soviet Successor States
___PLS 671	4	International Law
___PLS 672	4	International Terrorism
___PLS 685	4	Chinese Foreign Policy
___PLS 686	4	Model United Nations
___PLS 687	4	History & Politics of Intelligence Gathering
___HST 655	4	Latin American History
___HST 665	4	East Asian History-Japan/China/India
___EC 641	4	International Trade and Development
___EC 644	4	International Trade and Monetary Theory
___EC 645	4	Economic Development and World Poverty
___ATH 646	4	People and Cultures of South Asia
___ATH 647	4	Peoples and Cultures of Africa

Other courses may be approved by the program advisor when appropriate to the student's program.

**Faculty****Liam Anderson, Ph.D., Assistant Professor**

B.A., 1987, University of Nottingham (U.K.); M.P., 1990, University of Cambridge (U.K.); Ph.D., 2000, University of Georgia.

Teaching Areas: Comparative Politics, International Relations, American Government, Western Europe and The Former Soviet Union.

**Edward A. Fitzgerald, Ph.D., Professor**

B.A., 1971, Holy Cross College; M.A., 1976, Northeastern University; J.D., 1974, Boston College; Ph.D., 1983, Boston University.

Teaching Areas: American Government, Environmental Law, Law & Society, Administrative Law, Constitutional Law and International Law.

**S. Charles Funderburk, Ph.D., Professor**

B.A., 1965; M.A., 1967, University of Florida; Ph.D., 1973, University of Iowa.

Teaching Areas: Presidency, Elections and American Politics.

**December, Green, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Director of International Studies**

B.A., 1982; M.A., 1983; Ph.D., 1988, University of South Carolina.

Teaching Areas: African Politics, Human Rights and International Politics of Gender Violence.

**Laura M. Luehrmann, Ph.D., Assistant Professor**

B.A., 1992, University of Dayton; M.A., 1995; Ph.D., 1999, The Ohio State University.

Teaching Areas: East Asian Studies with an Emphasis on China, Comparative Politics, Regional Studies: China, Political Systems of China, Modern Political Ideologies, Seminar on Social Movements & Protests, Comparative Democratization.

**Douglas Nord, Ph.D., Professor**

B.A., 1974, University of Redlands; M.A., 1976; Ph.D., 1979, Duke University.

Teaching Areas: International Relations, American Foreign Policy, Canadian-American Relations, International Law/Human Rights, Migration Studies, Regional Development, Scandinavian Politics, and Russia.

**Donna M. Schlagheck, Ph.D., Professor, Chair of Political Science**

B.A., 1979; Ph.D., 1985, University of Minnesota.

Teaching Areas: U.S. Foreign Policy, Terrorism, International Politics, Politics of Intelligence Gathering, Foreign Relations, American Foreign Policy and Model UN Seminar.

**R. Mark Sirkin, Ph.D., Associate Professor**

B.A., 1965, University of Maryland; M.A., 1967; Ph.D., 1971, Pennsylvania State University.  
Teaching Areas: Contemporary Middle East, especially Arab-Israeli relations, Politics of The Middle East, Statistics and Methodology.

**Tracy Snipe, Ph.D., Associate Professor**

B.A., 1985, University of South Carolina; M.A., 1987, Syracuse University; Ph.D., 1994, Indiana University.  
Teaching Areas: African American Politics, African Politics, Politics and the Arts, Politics and the Cinema and International Relations.

## Summary of Program

Core Requirements.....	8
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ABS 730 Theories in International and Comparative Politics .....	4
ABS 731 Seminar in International and Comparative Politics .....	4
Research Methods .....	6
<hr/>	
ABS 700 Electronic Research .....	2
ABS 703 Applied Methodology .....	4
Language Skills/Alternative.....	0-8
<hr/>	
(Students who do not have sufficient foreign language skills may substitute the following two research methods courses)	
ABS 701 Methodology I .....	4
ABS 702 Methodology II.....	4
Specialized Track.....	24
(Select one in consultation with adviser)	
<hr/>	
Courses related to Peace and Security Studies	
Courses related to International Organizations	
Courses related to Developed Nations	
Courses related to Developing Nations	
Thesis or Project (Student selects either in consultation with adviser) .....	10
<hr/>	
ABS 799 Thesis Research or ABS 798 Graduate Project.....	10
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>48-56</b>

## Program of Study

### Applied Behavioral Science

### International Relations and Comparative Politics

#### The Core (14 hours)

Course	Credit Hours	Quarter
ABS 700_____	2	_____
ABS 703_____	4	_____
ABS 730_____	4	_____
ABS 731_____	4	_____

#### Foreign Language or ABS 702

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Electives (24 hours)

##### International Organizations

\_\_\_\_\_

See page 7.

\_\_\_\_\_

##### Peace and Security Studies

\_\_\_\_\_

See page 8.

\_\_\_\_\_

##### Area Studies – Developed Nations

\_\_\_\_\_

See page 9.

\_\_\_\_\_

##### Area Studies – Developing Nations

\_\_\_\_\_

See page 10.

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Thesis/Project: (10 hours)

Either a formal master's thesis, \_\_\_\_\_

or

A 4 credit practicum with the remaining 6 credit hours preparing a master's project \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL**

**48 Hours**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date