Online Degree Programs from American University’s Top-Ranked School of International Service

American University’s School of International Service was ranked as one of the top 10 schools for international affairs by Foreign Policy Magazine in 2018. With a team of expert faculty and a curriculum that combines both theory and practice, the school’s programs equip students with the skills they need to succeed in global service careers. Through the school’s online programs, professionals around the globe can earn their degrees in international relations without relocating.

Master of Arts in International Relations

The Master of Arts in International Relations program provides a foundation in international relations concepts and principles. Students will cultivate the writing, presentation, and analytical skills to effectively serve in global service careers. They will also develop professional expertise in a subfield of international relations.

- 24-month completion time
- 36–39 credit hours
- 1 in-person immersion
- 1 capstone

Executive Master of International Service

The accelerated Executive Master of International Service program is designed for mid-career professionals with 7+ years of experience in the field of international relations. Graduates emerge with the refined expertise and leadership ability to meet the demands of executive-level service.

- 12-month completion time
- 24–30 credit hours
- 1 in-person immersion
- 1 capstone

Concentration Options

With each degree, students can choose from five concentration options to align their studies with their career goals and areas of interest.

**Global Security**
Examine the dynamics of peace, security, and war, and learn to prevent, manage, and mitigate conflicts in communities around the globe.

**International Development**
Learn how politics, public health, sustainability, and economic growth affect development in countries and communities worldwide.

**United States Foreign Policy and National Security**
Study the underpinnings of global policy formation and explore how these strategies are executed.

**International Negotiation and Conflict Resolution**
Develop a deeper understanding of the causes of global conflict, and learn negotiation tactics to end international disputes.

**Social Enterprise**
Take courses in social innovation, project design, and global policy to prepare for careers within businesses that advance a social mission.
Career Paths of Graduates

Graduates of the School of International Service have been hired for leadership roles at top organizations, including:

**Think Tanks and Research Centers**
- Carnegie Endowment for International Peace
- Congressional Research Service
- Council on Foreign Relations

**Defense, Intelligence, and Security**
- CIA
- U.S. Department of Defense
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security

**Human Rights and International Development**
- Amnesty International
- Human Rights Campaign
- FHI 360
- World Bank

**Foreign Policy and Diplomacy**
- U.S. Department of Energy
- U.S. Department of State
- U.S. Global Leadership Coalition

Full Career Support

Online students receive the same career support as students on campus. This includes:

- Career-building guidance, workshops, and resources
- Virtual coaching sessions
- Opportunities to connect with employers
- Connections to a rich alumni community in D.C. and worldwide

The Student Experience

**Online Learning**
- Live, face-to-face virtual class sessions
- Weekly, self-paced course work
- Instruction by the same AU faculty members who teach on campus
- Virtual student support, including academic planning, technical assistance, and one-on-one mentoring from faculty

**On-Campus Immersion**

Online students participate in a weekend visit to the American University campus in Washington, D.C. During the weekend, they network with peers, faculty, and professionals in the international community; participate in career development activities; and build their competencies through skills institutes.

**Study Abroad**

AU organizes a variety of international learning opportunities that include faculty-led programs, courses offered at partner institutions abroad, and internships. Locations have included Brazil, Cuba, Germany, Israel, India, Kenya, Switzerland, and Thailand.