Washington DC

US Capitol

Since 1966, students from all UW System campuses and other universities have participated in this program, which includes one week in Milwaukee and two weeks in Washington, DC. The time in Washington, DC, includes meetings with around 20 diplomats and experts representing governments, international organizations, think tanks, and mass media outlets. Speakers' presentations are followed by a question-and-answer period, in which student interests guide discussion.

Country meetings are held with diplomats representing traditional and emerging great powers, states involved in international and internal military conflicts, and a broad sample of other countries drawn from all of the world's regions. Meetings cover all major issues—not just international and internal conflicts, but also domestic politics, foreign policy, international terrorism, human rights, international trade and finance, economic development, and environmental conservation.

Academic Content

Library of Congress

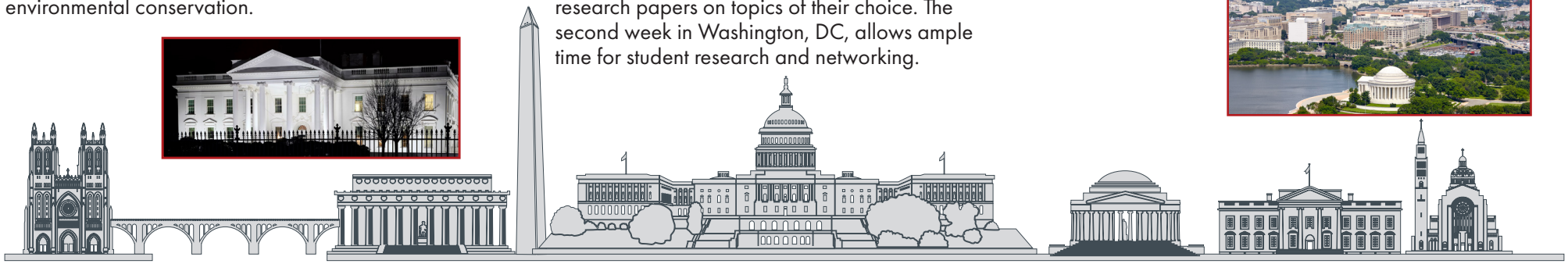
The program investigates the fundamental influences on foreign policies and how foreign policies interact to influence international politics. How do regime types, leaders, and other factors influence political goals and foreign policy strategies? How do governments seek to influence and navigate international politics in pursuit of their goals? What are the influences of regional and global alliances and power relationships? We then analyze the most important areas of policy activity and international politics: war, conflict resolution, terrorism, weapons of mass destruction, human rights, international trade and finance, economic development, and environmental conservation.

The program's first week at UW-Milwaukee provides an intensive academic introduction to these issues. The two weeks in Washington, DC, are spent in more detailed discussions with real-world practitioners—diplomats, international organization representatives, and other experts. Students write research papers on topics of their choice. The second week in Washington, DC, allows ample time for student research and networking.

In The City

National Mall

In Washington, DC, students stay in the city center—a short distance from the National Mall's monuments and museums and the nightlife of the Adams-Morgan and Georgetown neighborhoods. Washington, DC, is not just the center of national politics, but one of the most important centers for international diplomacy, international organizations, and internationally-oriented non-governmental organizations. Interested students use their time in Washington to make connections, find internships, and look for jobs.



Program Dates

3 weeks beginning around Memorial Day, mostly in June; dates vary slightly each year.

University Credits

Political Science 338:
Contemporary Problems in International Relations
3 Credits

Program Costs

Include regular university fees for three course credits, plus a program fee that covers the student housing in Washington and other costs. Students must arrange their own housing during the Milwaukee portion and pay for transportation to and from Washington.

Eligibility: A minimum 2.5 GPA is required (4.0 scale).

center for international education
University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

Electronic Application:
Log on to uwmilwaukee.studioabroad.com
Search for "International Politics"

Questions about applications, program arrangements, and financial aid:

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Professor Shale Horowitz - shale@uwm.edu
Department of Political Science

Summer Seminar

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