International Politics & Foreign Policy Summer Seminar Washington, DC

May 26 – June 13, 2026*

Application deadline: February 16, 2026
Application available now!

About the Program:

Since 1966, students from all UW System campuses and other universities have participated in this program. Students spend the first week at UW-Milwaukee in an intensive study of international relations and foreign policy. (Students are responsible for Milwaukee accommodations, which are NOT included in program fees.) The Seminar then moves to Washington for two weeks. In Washington, students attend regular briefings with diplomats representing countries from around the world, along with experts from international organizations, think-tanks, and mass media outlets. Time is also set aside for student research. 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.

Academic Content:

The program focuses on foreign policymaking within the larger context of ruling regimes and global power relationships. Theories of international conflict and international economic policymaking are the foundation for understanding the core issues of international relations: war, terrorism, arms control, human rights, international economic relations, and environmental conservation.

Students will be graded on an exam and a research paper. Attendance and active participation are mandatory at all program-related, scheduled activities. Emphasis is placed on intensive interaction with approximately 20 real-world experts representing governments, international organizations, think-tanks, and media outlets. Students have two weeks after their return from Washington to submit their research papers.

Course Offering:

Political Science 338 (3 credits) – Contemporary Problems in International Relations. Selected aspects of international politics and foreign policy.

***Please NOTE*: Courses cannot be audited. Students MUST be enrolled for graded credit.**

Upon acceptance into the program, students will be sent registration materials and instructions. Non-UWM students should consult with an advisor at their home campus to determine if credits earned in this program will apply toward graduation or degree requirements at their institution.

Eligibility Requirements:

A minimum 2.5 GPA is required (4.0 scale). All students—freshmen and sophomores as well as juniors and seniors—are encouraged to apply.

*Subject to confirmation of proposed dates by housing provider.

Non-Academic Information:

Students are responsible for arranging their own outgoing and return flights, as well as transportation to and from the airport.

The stay in Washington, DC, is at youth hostel-style accommodations in the downtown area. UWM will handle room reservations for the group.

Estimated Costs of the Program (based on 2025 program fees; may vary based upon UWM tuition, DC housing rates, and enrollment):

Approx. Summer Seminar Program Fee **$ 1750.00**
(includes DC housing and program administration costs)

UW-Milwaukee Summer Tuition - 3 credits (based on Summer 2025 rates)

WI Resident	**$ 1365.92**
Minnesota Reciprocity	**$ 1889.15**
Non-resident	**$ 2865.89**

Miscellaneous (airfare, food, recreation, etc.) approx. **$ 850.00**

Apply and get more information at:

https://uwmilwaukee.studioabroad.com/index.cfm?FuseAction=Programs.ViewProgram&Program_ID=10107

Or go to uwmilwaukee.studioabroad.com, click on "programs" (upper left)
Search for "International Politics & Foreign Policy" under Program Name

IP&FP Seminar applicants must submit an online application, an unofficial transcript, an academic recommendation, and a $100 application fee (refundable if students are not accepted to the program or the program is canceled). All application materials not submitted electronically should be mailed or delivered to Sue Conway at the address below.

Non-UWM Applicants:

Please begin your application at least two weeks prior to the deadline (that is, by February 2), to accommodate the longer time necessary to process non-UWM applications into the on-line system. As soon as you begin your application, please also email your intent to apply to Sue Conway <conways@uwm.edu> and Shale Horowitz <shale@uwm.edu>. This way we will be able to make sure that your application is processed and considered in a timely fashion.

For additional information, please contact:

Sue Conway, Program Logistics Coordinator
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