

REGIONAL & FOREIGN LANGUAGE SPECIALIZATIONS

Regional specialization offers students courses on Africa, East Asia, East Central Europe, Europe, Latin America, Middle East, Russia and the Former Soviet States, South Asia, or the United States. Students in the Master of International Affairs (MIA) program may also choose a Foreign Language Specialization, which requires completion of two Intermediate-level language courses and one approved regional course in a matching region.

Foreign Language Regional Specialization

Students in the Master of International Affairs (MIA) program may choose either Regional Specializations, which require completion of three approved regional courses, or the Foreign Language Specialization, which requires completion of two Intermediate-level language courses and one approved regional course in a matching region – e.g., Foreign Language Specialization in Latin American Studies could be fulfilled by completing Intermediate I & II Spanish and one course approved by Latin American Specialization (this is just an example, there are other language possibilities for Latin America). Students must earn minimum grades required by the specific foreign language program in order to receive credit for each course. For further information about which languages fulfill each Specialization's foreign language requirement, please consult the relevant regional Specialization curriculum director. MIA students will continue to declare a specific region for their specialization, and then consult with the director of that program about pursuing the Foreign Language Specialization before proceeding with coursework. In addition, all MIA students are required to submit a foreign language proficiency plan during their first semester – for more information, consult the Office of Student Affairs.

Africa

The regional specialization in Africa is hosted by Columbia University's **Institute of African Studies (IAS)**. Students must take a total of three courses (9 points): one 3-credit course on INAF U6163 African Development Strategies or a comparable course approved by the **Institute of African Studies (IAS)** and two 3-credit courses from the Social Sciences, Humanities, or Public Health that IAS approves.

[Click here for the IAS course listing.](#)

Contact

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East Asia

The regional specialization in East Asia is hosted by Columbia University's **Weatherhead East Asian Institute (WEAI)**. Students must take a total of three courses (9 points). Courses must be drawn from at least two different social science disciplines and cover at least two East Asian countries.

[Click here for the WEAI course listing.](#)

Contact

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East Central Europe

The regional specialization in East Central Europe is hosted by Columbia University's **East Central European Center**. Students must take a total of three courses (9 points). Courses must be drawn from at least two different disciplines. (Note: INAF & REGN courses are part of the same discipline.)

[Click here for the East Central European Center course listing.](#)

Contact

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Europe

The regional specialization in Europe is hosted by Columbia University's **European Institute**. Students must take a total of three courses (9 points). Courses must be drawn from at least two different disciplines.

[Click here for the European Institute course listing.](#)

Contact

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Latin America

The regional specialization in Latin America is hosted by Columbia University's **Institute of Latin America Studies (ILAS)**. Students must take a total of three courses (9 points). Courses must be drawn from any area studies discipline of 4000-level or above. For more information and a list of approved courses, visit the [Institute of Latin America Studies](#)

(ILAS); courses not listed must be approved by the ILAS Student Affairs Coordinator.

[Click here for the Institute of Latin America Studies course listing.](#)

Contact

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Middle East

The regional specialization in the Middle East is hosted by Columbia University's **Middle East Institute**. Students must take a total of three courses (9 points). Courses must be drawn from at least two different disciplines.

[Click here for the Middle East Institute course listing.](#)

Contact

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Russia and the Former Soviet States

The regional specialization in Russia and the Former Soviet States is hosted by Columbia University's **Harriman Institute**. Students must take a total of three courses (9 points). Courses must be drawn from at least two different disciplines. (Note: INAF & REGN courses are part of the same discipline.)

[Click here for the Harriman course listing.](#)

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South Asia

The regional specialization in South Asia is hosted by Columbia University's **South Asia Institute**. Students must take a total of three courses (9 points). Courses must be drawn from at least two different disciplines.

[Click here for the SAI course listing.](#)

Contact

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United States

The regional specialization in United States is hosted by SIPA. Students must take a total of three courses (9 points).

[Click here for the United States specialization course listing.](#)

Contact

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Degree Audit Report

Matriculated students in this program can view their degree audit report on [Stellic](#).

Justin Burke, Lecturer of International and Public Affairs (part-time)

Irina Busygina, Adjunct Professor of International and Public Affairs

John Coatsworth, John Mitchell Mason Professor of the University; Provost Emeritus

Jonathan Corrado, Lecturer of International and Public Affairs (part-time)

Murillo de Aragao, Adjunct Professor of International and Public Affairs

Tanya Domi, Adjunct Professor of International and Public Affairs

Ester Fuchs, Professor of International and Public Affairs and Political Science; Director of the Urban and Social Policy Concentration; Director of the United States Specialization

Julie George, Visiting Associate Professor of International and Public Affairs (part-time)

Carlo Invernizzi Accetti, Visiting Associate Professor of International and Public Affairs (part-time)

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Thomas Kent, Adjunct Associate Professor of International and Public Affairs

Valerii Kuchynskyi, Adjunct Professor of International and Public Affairs

Lawrence Markowitz, Adjunct Associate Professor of International and Public Affairs

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Sanjay Sethi, Adjunct Associate Professor of International and Public Affairs

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Natasha Udensiva, Lecturer of International and Public Affairs (part-time)

Pierre Vimont, Visiting Professor of International and Public Affairs (part-time)

Veronica Zubillaga, Edward Larocque Tinker Visiting Professor

Visit our SIPA Faculty Directory to view bios