

IR & Juris Doctor (IRJD)

Recognizing the expanding role of international law and the increasing interrelationship between law and international affairs, the Pardee School and the BU School of Law offer a JD/MA in International Relations. This course of study provides essential background for those assuming international positions in national governments or international agencies, and it gives the international lawyer an indispensable perspective on the environment in which he or she will operate.

Designed for students planning careers in national governments, international agencies, international negotiation, and human rights organizations, the IRJD enables Law School students to add an IR component to their core JD competency. In three and a half years, students complete the standard JD curriculum plus a set of courses in international law through BU's School of Law and complement their law skills with regional or thematic expertise gained through coursework in the Pardee School.

The MA in International Relations & Juris Doctor requires a total of 92 credits. The JD requires 84 credits and the MA requires 24; however, a portion of the credits count toward both degrees, leading to a total of 92. The credits are divided among Pardee School IR core (12 credits), Pardee School electives (12 credits), International Law classes (12 credits), and required and elective JD coursework at the School of Law (all remaining credits). Students also write and orally defend a capstone MA paper, gain training in statistical analysis, and demonstrate proficiency in a foreign language.

IR Core Courses

One class from 3 of the following 4 categories:

- Theory & Policy
- Political Economy
- Security Studies
- Regional Studies

International Law Coursework

- Introduction to International Law
- At least 3 additional Law classes in the areas of international, foreign, and comparative law

