

Information for Incoming Security Studies M.A. Students

Welcome to Security Studies! We hope that you will find your time with us at K-State challenging and rewarding. In an effort to make your study with us as successful as possible, you will find important information below. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Important Contacts:

Andrew Long, Director of Security Studies

785-532-0448

aglong@k-state.edu

Dr. Long is in charge of the Security Studies program. He also serves as the major professor for the majority of the M.A. students. Any questions about specific coursework, approval of transfer credit, and Programs of Study should be directed to him.

Administrative Assistant

785-532-3786 – Institute Main Office

securstu@ksu.edu

The Administrative Assistant can assist with general enrollment questions, room scheduling for committee meetings, and general program questions. She/he maintains all student files, so any paperwork filed with the Graduate School should be run through her (see specific information on Graduate School forms below). It is also important to keep her informed of any changes in your status (such as new contact information, taking a semester off from study, etc.).

Kristin Mulready-Stone, Director of the Institute for Military History

785-532-3786

mulready@ksu.edu

Dr. Mulready-Stone has responsibility for general oversight of the Security Studies program, as opposed to Dr. Long's day-to-day management.

Angie Pfizenmaier, Administrative Specialist, Graduate School

785-532-6191

akt@ksu.edu

Angie works in the Graduate School and processes all paperwork related to M.A. students, such as the program of study and approval forms. If there are any problems with your program of study (such as not taking a course indicated on your form, not passing a required course, etc.) you will hear from her.

On-campus

Scott Schlender, Assistant to the Deans, Graduate School

785-532-6191

scottsch@ksu.edu

Scott handles all matters relating to exceptions, policy or procedure clarifications and problems with graduate study at K-State.

Ft. Leavenworth

Cheryl Polson, Director, K-State-Ft. Leavenworth Graduate Programs and Outreach

Office: 913-684-7342

Cell: 816-830-5846

cpolson@ksu.edu

Dr. Polson is the KSU representative of all academic programs available at Ft. Leavenworth. She is the person to contact with questions/issues related to tuition assistance, GoArmyEd, and other financial/paperwork requirements from the Department of Defense or your branch of service.

Ft. Riley

Dominic Barnes, Military Student Service Coordinator

785-784-5930

dombarnes@ksu.edu

Dominic is the KSU representative for Ft. Riley. He is the person to contact with questions/issues related to tuition assistance, GoArmyEd, and other financial/paperwork requirements from the Department of Defense or your branch of service.

Coursework for your M.A. Degree:

There are 18 hours of core coursework that must be completed by all Master's students. While some courses can be taken at any time during your program, others are best taken either at the start or at the end of your coursework. The core courses are:

HIST 810 or POLSC 810, Security Studies Methodology (2 hours)

This course is most appropriate at the start of your study and will prepare you to complete your major research project in HIST/POLSC 815 by introducing you to important concepts and methods of research in Security Studies along with preparation of a research proposal that will be completed in HIST 815 or POLSC 815. It is a team-taught class, with one professor from the Political Science Department and one professor from the History Department.

POLSC 812, Foundations of Security Studies (3 hours)

This course will introduce you to major themes in Security Studies. You will read key texts on international security, military history, and strategy, as well as works on the theory and research practice of history and political science. The course is delivered online.

POLSC 813, International Security (3 hours)

This course can be taken at any time during your program, and is normally offered during the fall and spring semesters. This course will focus on traditional issues of the causes of war, deterrence, the relevance/role of international institutions, arms proliferation, the politics of international intervention, and conflict resolution.

POLSC 814, Terrorism and Transnational Security (3 hours)

This course can also be taken at any time during your program. It is normally offered during the fall and spring semesters. You will learn about security issues that have been given increasing emphasis over recent years. Examples include the unique context of security problems in the developing world, demographic developments and internal/external conflict, environmental issues and their relation to security, economic globalization and security, post-conflict reconstruction, and humanitarian emergencies.

History and Security of Pivotal Regions (6 hours)

You will need to take at least two courses on the history of regions of central importance to international affairs. Examples are: East Asia (HIST 850), Latin America (HIST 851), the Middle East (HIST 852), Russia and Central Asia (HIST 853), or South Asia (HIST 854). These can be taken at any time in your program. There are usually at least two courses to choose from each semester.

HIST 815 or POLSC 815, Research Methods in Security Studies (1 hour)

This is the capstone research course, and should be taken in the final semester of your study. It is team taught by one professor from the Political Science Department and one professor from the History Department. This course will allow you to synthesize knowledge acquired during the core and other M.A. courses. You will complete this course with the production of a publishable quality research paper of roughly 30-35 pages in length.

The remaining 12 hours will be elective courses, chosen by the student and approved by the supervisory committee. It is advisable to discuss potential electives with your major professor before enrollment, to ensure that your electives will be approved by your committee. Examples of electives taken by previous students are below (although this list is not exhaustive by any means):

HIST 922, Seminar in American Diplomatic History: The Cold War
HIST 928, Seminar in American History (precise subject varies by semester)
HIST 983, Topics in Military History (precise subject varies by semester)
HIST 984, Topics in American History (precise subject varies by semester)
HIST 985, Readings in History
HIST 993, History of Military Thought

POLSC 621, Western European Politics
POLSC 624, Middle East Politics
POLSC 649, International Defense Strategies
POLSC 651, International Organization
POLSC 710, Policy Analysis and Evaluation
POLSC 731, Comparative Civil Military Relations
POLSC 742, International Conflict
POLSC 754, Professional Diplomat and Foreign Policy
POLSC 791, Global Human Rights
POLSC 791, Game Theory
POLSC 811, Seminar in International Politics
POLSC 985, Readings in Security Studies
POLSC 991, Topics in Political Science (precise subject varies by semester)

ECON 681, International Economics
ECON 890, Topics in Develop International Economy
SOCIO 701, Topics in Post-Communist Societies
SOCIO 853, Political Sociology in a Developing Society

Students may also use transfer credit to fulfill the electives requirement (and students going through ILE routinely do this). In order to obtain credit for these transfer classes, please take a copy of the course syllabus to your major professor for review. He, along with your committee, will approve any coursework for transfer.

Forms Required by the Graduate School:

Program of Study

The Program of Study form lists all of the courses that a student intends to take to complete his/her graduate program. This form should be filed with the Graduate School during the second semester of study, or after 9 hours of coursework has been completed. Most importantly, this form should be filed prior to submitting the Approval to Schedule Final Examination form. If

there are transfer credits on the form, all official transcripts for that credit must be submitted to the Graduate School.

Once filled out, the Program of Study must be signed by the student, the major professor, all committee members, and the Director of Security Studies. For most students their major professor will be Dr. Long and the remaining two members will be the professors of HIST/POLSC 815. A copy of this form should be submitted to the Security Studies so it can be placed in your file.

For on-campus students: It is your responsibility to obtain the signatures of your committee members (and your major professor, if Dr. Long is not serving in that capacity for you). The form can then be taken to Administrative Assistant. She/he will obtain the Director's signature, make a copy of the form for your student file, and submit the form to the Graduate School.

For off-campus students: After you sign the form you should see that it is delivered to Administrative Assistant **either** by mail with original signature to:

Institute of Military History and 20th Century Studies

Attn: Director of Security Studies – KSU

221 Eisenhower Hall

Manhattan, KS 66506

or by e-mail to securstu@ksu.edu with a scanned copy. She/he will obtain the signatures of the on-campus committee members, major professor and the Director, make a copy of the form for your student file, and submit the form to the Graduate School.

Approval to Schedule Final Exam

Our M.A. program does not have a final examination, only a final report that is written during your enrollment in HIST/POLSC 815. The Approval to Schedule Final Exam form still needs to be submitted to the Graduate School, however. This form, and the ballot that is produced upon submission of this form, are the documents that alert the Graduate School to the fact that you plan to graduate in a specified semester. You must be enrolled in at least one credit hour the semester you graduate.

In the space where it asks for the exam date and time, indicate “N/A”

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For off-campus students: E-mail a copy to Administrative Assistant – securstu@ksu.edu. She/he will obtain the signatures of the on-campus committee members, major professor and the Director, make a copy of the form for your student file, and submit the form to the Graduate School.

For additional information on Graduate School requirements, please visit their website:
<http://www.k-state.edu/grad/>