INTERNATIONAL STUDIES, MASTER OF ARTS

Offered at the Hopkins-Nanjing Center (HNC), this two-year program is the only master's degree fully accredited in both China and the United States.

Students complete coursework and a thesis in Chinese, culminating in a degree jointly awarded by Johns Hopkins SAIS and Nanjing University. Intermediate to advanced level proficiency in Mandarin is required prior to beginning study.

Alumni of the Hopkins-Nanjing Center have played key roles in government, business, journalism, NGOs, and academia. As graduates of the only truly joint target-language US-China graduate school of its kind, our alumni are uniquely poised to understand and manage diverse facets of US-China commercial, academic, economic, and political relations.

Degree Requirements

Campus: Nanjing, China

Credits: 39

Duration: Two academic years, Full-time

Course delivery: In-person

Curriculum and Concentrations

Students in the MAIS program elect to concentrate in Chinese Studies, Comparative and International Law, Energy, Resources and Environment, International Economics or International Politics during their two years of study at the Hopkins-Nanjing Center.

The Chinese Studies concentration provides advanced study of Chinese history, culture and society. Many of the courses in the concentration are cross-listed with the four disciplinary concentrations.

The Comparative and International Law concentration presents courses on the legal systems of both China and the United States, as well as courses that look at legal structures and behavior in the transnational arena. Students develop an understanding of the legal basis of international relations and insight into how the legal traditions of China and the United States shape the behavior of the two countries.

The Energy, Resources and Environment concentration provides students the opportunity to examine global concerns in these areas by taking courses on China's Development and the Environment, Environmental Economics, Water Resources, Air Pollution and its Control, and Environmental Risk Assessment and Management.

The International Economics concentration prepares students for international careers that require economic skills and knowledge. The foundation that students develop in international economic theory, applications, systems, and policy also prepares them for the further study of economics.

The International Politics concentration equips students with a thorough understanding of the interaction of nation-states and other actors in the international arena. Contemporary, historical, and cultural factors that influence international behavior are emphasized. Students master basic theories and methods currently used in the field and will gain practice in applying them to policy formulation and analysis.

Degree Program Requirements

Students in the MAIS program typically complete 13 courses over their two-year study at the Hopkins-Nanjing Center in addition to completing a thesis. At least nine of these 13 courses (excluding thesis tutorial courses) must be taken in Chinese and six courses must count towards their area of concentration.

In addition to the specific requirements of their concentration, students in the MAIS program must take at least one course in law, one course in international politics, and two courses in international economics. Many courses are cross-listed between concentrations and may count for multiple requirements.

MAIS Tutorial - This course is designed to provide MAIS students with practical guidance in planning and carrying out their two-year course of study and helps students consider how their own concentration might be linked to larger issues in Sino-international relations.

MAIS Thesis Preparation - This course provides a forum for discussing progress on thesis work, interacting with visiting scholars and faculty, and measuring progress of their theses.