MAIS Core Concentration Overview and Descriptions
*begins fall 2018

General Description of the Purpose of Concentrations
All MAIS Students will select a Core Concentration. This Core will provide a more in-depth level of expertise in a sub-field within International Studies that is of particular interest to you and in line with your future career goals. The Core Concentration will allow you to develop closer working relationships with faculty whose work is in areas of primary interest, as well as fellow students interested in similar topics and careers. The completion of the Core Concentration requires one four-unit required course, taken in the fall semester the first year, and then an additional eight units of electives courses available within the concentration. You will select one of the following Core Concentrations.

Core Concentration Descriptions

Human Rights, Governance, and Global Justice: This concentration focuses on an understanding of the norms, processes, and institutions that make up the international system, and the relationship between these global entities and local efforts to promote and protect human rights and justice. Questions of governance, the role of international institutions, the meaning of justice and best practices for enforcement, and the relationship between universal ideas and local beliefs about rights are central to this concentration.

Required Course: Human Rights, Governance, and Global Justice

Sample Elective Courses: Comparative Law & Judicial Systems; Politics of Conflict & Peace; International Humanitarian Action & Transitional Justice; International Law & Organizations; Refugees & Forced Migration

Development, Sustainability, and the Environment: This concentration examines issues of development and sustainability from an interdisciplinary perspective and evaluates the kinds of programs pursued by governments, agencies and practitioners in the pursuit economic growth, poverty reduction, and environmental protections. Within this concentration, students examine the relationship between development and environmentalism, as well as how development impacts people on the ground and the ways in which local strategies, beliefs, and movements can shape development priorities and interventions.

Required Course: Development, Sustainability, and the Environment

Sample Elective Courses: Global Food & Water Security; Race & Environmental Politics; Global Cities & Urban Inequalities; Climate Change and Migration; Infrastructure as Ethics
**Culture, Identities, and Social Change:** This concentration focuses on the role of culture in shaping contemporary global processes, the meaning of identity and belonging in our globalized world, and theories of social change. Students in this concentration will gain an in-depth theoretical foundation to analyze diverse social and political movements, how they are constituted through race, class, gender, religion and other forms of difference, as well as their effectiveness in addressing some of the most critical issues facing our world today.

Required Course: Culture, Identities, and Social Change

Sample Elective Courses: Refugees & Forced Migration; Black & Indigenous Social Movements; Transnational Communication; Infrastructure as Ethics; Globalization

**Frequently Asked Questions**

*Can I choose more than one concentration?* It might be possible, but it is discouraged. The purpose of the concentrations is to help you develop a concentrated level of expertise in an area that interests you and is related to your future career goals. If you wish to do more than one concentration, you will have to take, at a minimum, eight additional units of coursework.

*Can I change my concentration?* You can change your concentration, but you will have to take the core concentration course in the new concentration, which means taking additional units. You should speak to your advisor if you wish to change concentrations.

*Can I take electives outside my concentration?* Each semester a list will be provided of electives that count for each concentration. There may be some classes that count for more than one concentration. If you elect to take a course that is not an elective for your chosen concentration, you may do so, but it will not count towards the completion of program requirements. Students are eligible to take up to 6 units outside of the MAIS program, with the approval of their advisor.