

INTERNATIONAL POLITICS PROGRAM

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND ACADEMIC PLAN (SPAP)

1. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Identify the substantive area of international politics you are specializing in and explain why it is worthwhile to focus your graduate studies in this area. Examples of substantive areas include (but are not limited to) international political economy, international security, human rights, international organization, and transnational crime and corruption.

2. ACADEMIC PLAN

- A. Identify the courses you are taking and plan to take to acquire expertise in the substantive area you have identified above (12 credit hours total, *not including* SIS-601 or SIS-604, ECON-603 or equivalent, methodology requirement, and research requirement). For each course, summarize how it fits into the substantive area. If possible, identify the subject of research papers and describe their contribution to your purpose.
- B. Discuss how your work to fulfill the research requirement (thesis or SRP) contributes to your mastery of the substantive area you have identified.
- C. Discuss how your related field relates to the substantive area you have identified. Related fields may serve to deepen your understanding of your substantive area or may extend your expertise into a related substantive area.

3. RELEVANCE TO CAREER

Discuss your current plans or aspirations for your career beyond the M.A. degree. Show how your course work as outlined in this memorandum furthers those plans.

This memorandum must be approved and signed by your faculty advisor (a full-time member of the IP field faculty) and filed with the SIS graduate office. You may rescind this memorandum and replace it with a new one, with your faculty advisor's approval, at any time up until the completion of your degree.