



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF ARMENIA

A U.S.-ACCREDITED GRADUATE INSTITUTION AFFILIATED WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

SCHOOL OF POLITICAL SCIENCE & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

MISSION

The School of Political Science and International Affairs offers students a comprehensive set of courses dealing with the political environment of the 21st Century. The School's primary focus is to provide students with analytical and problem solving skills through the study of international, comparative, and domestic institutions in governance and of political systems and processes.

The School offers a two-year program leading to the Master of Political Science and International Affairs degree. The program focuses on encouraging students to think critically about policy issues and politics from a global perspective. Students graduating with this degree pursue careers in politics, government, non-government organizations, journalism and communications, personnel management, policy analysis and research, and teaching.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- To be considered for admission, an applicant must meet the AUA general admission requirements. These are detailed in the AUA website at <http://www.aua.am/admissions/requirements.html>
- Additionally students wishing to enroll in the Master of Political Science and International Affairs must meeting the following:
 - An undergraduate degree from a four/five-year program
 - High scores in the TOEFL exam
 - Competitive quantitative GRE scores
 - A high undergraduate Grade Point Average
 - Excellent letters of recommendation
 - A concise and informative personal statement

Work and volunteer experience is taken into consideration. PSIA reserves the right to conduct interviews with applicants.

ABOUT AUA

Deciding to pursue an American master's degree is a big decision, but choosing the best school to meet your needs is even harder. AUA offers excellent U.S.-accredited graduate programs and provides several unique advantages.

- A safe, welcoming environment. Armenia offers a warm and hospitable social environment where all cultures are welcome and appreciated.
- Motivated students. Students from the U.S., China, Iran, Syria, Georgia, Russia, India and around the world join Armenian students for an increasingly international student body.
- Accommodating facilities and services. Facilities, including the new, state-of-the-art Paramaz Avedisian Building, with services such as wireless Internet and the latest software, the open-stack Papazian library, a cafeteria and health center.



CURRICULUM

Students are provided with "total immersion" in western political science methods and theory. Students are introduced also to an educational approach based on merit and student-centered learning modeled on graduate education in the United States.

The curriculum is comprised of courses in the following subfields of the discipline: Political theory and methods, international relations, comparative politics, public administration, public policy, Armenian government, and economics. All courses have a strong emphasis on comparative analyses and on bringing practical applications of theory into the classroom. The curriculum is divided into first and second year studies with some courses requiring prerequisites.

Each student must complete a capstone experience of their choice: the Master's Essay, The Policy Internship Project or the Policy Paper. The goal of all three options is to provide the student with the opportunity to reflect on the learning through their course work. The Essay is a more theoretical approach that reflects on the state of the literature and contributes to our understanding of a particular aspect of the field of study. The Internship offers students the opportunity to participate in the functions of a government or no-governmental agency and to write a policy based upon the project undertaken in the internship. The Policy Paper asks students to look at current policy areas, identify problems in implementation and develop solutions through recommendations developed in their research and analysis. Students then present their papers in an open forum at the end of the final term.

FORMAL AFFILIATIONS

The Graduate School of Political Science and International Affairs and the Turpanjian Center for Policy Analysis



became a full member of the Network of Institutions and School of Public Administration in Central and Eastern Europe in 2005. TCPA is a member of the Transition Policy Network, a consortium of research institutes in Eastern Europe and the CIS that collaborate on policy reform projects.

TCPA and PSIA have a formal working relationship with the Armenian International Policy Group, a think tank based in Washington, DC, founded by economists from the World Bank and the IMF. PSIA has a close working relationship with the Caucasus Research Resource Center, administered by the Eurasia Foundation and funded by the Carnegie Corporation.

TURPANJIAN CENTER FOR POLICY ANALYSIS (TCPA)

The Turpanjian Center for Policy Analysis (TCPA) was established in 1995 by the AUA School of Political Science and International Affairs to promote knowledge and understanding through objective and independent research and policy analysis. TCPA provides students and graduates with opportunities to be employed in multi-disciplinary applied research in a broad spectrum of contemporary social, political, and legal fields

The Center has become known as a resource for



a variety of policy issues. In its various projects, the Center is able to draw on expertise from the Graduate School of Political Science and International Affairs' permanent and visiting faculty. In addition to its regular staff of researchers, the Center hosts research fellows and visiting scholars who conduct research in areas such as nuclear energy policy and conflict resolution.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS



To graduate with a Master of Political Science and International Affairs, students must:

- Complete all course work
- Finalize and defend their capstone experience and paper.
- Maintain a cumulative 3.0 Grade Point Average

The American University of Armenia is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, 985 Atlantic Avenue, #100, Alameda, CA 94501, 510-748-9001.

To learn more about the School of Political Science & International Affairs contact:
Phone: (374 10) 51 26 77
FAX: (374 10) 51 25 12
Email: psiainfo@aua.am
Or come by and visit

For additional information contact:
AUA Office of the Registrar
Phone: (374 10) 51 27 91
Email: admission@aua.am
40 Marshal Baghramian Avenue
Yerevan 0019, Republic of Armenia