

# BACHELOR OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES/ BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCE (1807)

**Approved Abbreviation:** BIntlSt/BSocSc  
**Western Sydney University Program Code:** 1807  
**AQF Level:** 7

**CRICOS Code:** 086124K

This program applies to students who commenced in 2020 or later.

Students should follow the program structure for the session start date relevant to the year they commenced.

Commencement Year 2015 to 2019 - 1807.1 Bachelor of International Studies/Bachelor of Social Science (<http://handbook.westernsydney.edu.au/hbook/course.aspx?course=1807.1>)

## Handbook Summary 2023

The Bachelor of International Studies/Bachelor of Social Science degree is a broadly based, inter-disciplinary four-year double degree offering flexibility and choice within a wide range of offerings in the social sciences, as well as studies of International Relations and Asian Studies and an Asian language. The degree seeks to equip all students with the interdisciplinary and specialist skills and knowledge that a new graduate would need on entering the workforce or on proceeding to advanced study. Students choose a major from the social sciences; a major in International Relations and Asian Studies, and a minor in an Asian language. The double degree provides a wide base for understanding issues in the complex, culturally diverse and ever-changing social and international environment of the 21st century both in Australia and Asia.

Students in this double degree also have the opportunity to complete a semester of study overseas and receive advanced standing towards their BA majors and minors subject to WSU limits on advanced standing. Students are encouraged to do so but must discuss this with a BA program advisor first.

- Director of Academic Program - Dr Charles Barbour

## Handbook Summary 2024

The Bachelor of International Studies/Bachelor of Social Science degree is a broadly based, inter-disciplinary four-year double degree offering flexibility and choice within a wide range of offerings in the Social Sciences, as well as studies of International Relations. The program seeks to equip all students with the interdisciplinary and specialist skills and knowledge that a new graduate would need on entering the workforce or on proceeding to advanced study. International Studies develops students' capacity to appreciate the historical development of relations among nation states and to analyse contemporary political, commercial, diplomatic and strategic links and developments. Students complete a major in Global Politics and International Relations and choose a major from Social Science. The double degree provides a wide base for understanding issues in the complex, culturally diverse and ever-changing social and international environment of the 21st century.

Students in this double degree will also have opportunities to enhance their skills and knowledge through internships, volunteering, and international study and travel.

- Director of Academic Program - Dr Charles Barbour

## Study Mode

Four years full-time or eight years part-time

## Program Advice

- Director of Academic Program - Dr Charles Barbour

[enquiriesHCA@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:enquiriesHCA@westernsydney.edu.au)

Prospective students should visit the following websites for general enquiries about this program.

Enquire about this program (<https://enquiry.westernsydney.edu.au/courseenquiry/>) | Local Admission (<https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/future/>) | International Admission (<https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/international/home/apply/admissions/>) |

## Location

Campus	Attendance	Mode	Advice
Bankstown City Campus	Full Time	Internal	See above
Bankstown City Campus	Part Time	Internal	See above
Parramatta Campus - Victoria Road	Full Time	Internal	See above
Parramatta Campus - Victoria Road	Part Time	Internal	See above

## Work Integrated Learning

Western Sydney University seeks to enhance student learning experiences by enabling students to engage in the culture, expectations and practices of their profession or discipline. This program includes a placement or other community-based unpaid practical experience.

There is an optional work component available in this program. Please contact the Program Advisor listed above for information.

International students should be aware that if an elective is a requirement of the program but the work itself was not registered with CRICOS, students can still complete these electives but it would be counted towards the work limitation. For more details, refer to the 'Work Integrated Learning (WIL) for international students' website.

Work Integrated Learning (WIL) for international students ([https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/services\\_and\\_facilities/international\\_student\\_support/working\\_in\\_australia/work\\_integrated\\_learning/](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/services_and_facilities/international_student_support/working_in_australia/work_integrated_learning/))

## Admission

Two units of HSC English OR IELTS (Academic) - 6.5 overall score with a minimum 6.0 in each subtest.

Applications from Australian and New Zealand citizens and holders of permanent resident visas may be made via the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC) or directly through the Western Portal. Use the links below to apply via UAC or Western Sydney University. Applications made directly to Western Sydney do not have an application fee.

<http://www.uac.edu.au/>  
<https://westernsydney.uac.edu.au/ws/>

Applicants who have undertaken studies overseas may have to provide proof of proficiency in English. Local applicants who are applying through the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC) will find details of

minimum English proficiency requirements and acceptable proof on the UAC website. Local applicants applying directly to the University should also use the information provided on the UAC website.

International students currently completing an Australian Year 12 in or outside Australia, an International Baccalaureate in Australia or a New Zealand National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) level 3 must apply via UAC International.

<http://www.uac.edu.au/>

All other International applicants must apply directly to the University via the International Office.

International students applying to the University through the International Office can find details of minimum English proficiency requirements and acceptable proof on their website.

International Office (<http://www.westernsydney.edu.au/international/>)

Overseas qualifications must be deemed by the Australian Education International - National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (AEI-NOOSR) to be equivalent to Australian qualifications in order to be considered by UAC and Western Sydney University.

## Program Structure Current

If you commenced in 2023 please refer to the Structure 2023 tab for details.

Qualification for this award requires the successful completion of 320 credit points as prescribed in the structure below. Students who complete this award will graduate with a Bachelor of International Studies and a Bachelor of Social Science.

Students will complete 160 credit points of Bachelor of International Studies subjects and 160 credit points of Bachelor of Social Science subjects

### International Studies component

All students must enrol in and complete 80 credit points of Bachelor of International Studies Core subjects consisting of four subjects at Level 1, one subject at level 2 and three subjects at Level 3.

### Bachelor of International Studies (BIS) core subjects

Subject	Title	Credit Points
Students must successfully complete:		
HUMN 1052	Australian Politics and Active Citizenship	10
LANG 1029	Foundations of Academic English	10
HUMN 1013	Contextualising Indigenous Australia (Day Mode)	10
CULT 1001	Asia in the World	10
POLI 2008	Transnational Diplomacy	10
LANG 3045	Intercultural Communication	10
POLI 3016	International Relations Project	10
<b>Engaged Learning Pool subjects</b>		
Select one of the following:		10
BEHV 3013	Humanities Internship	
BEHV 3026	Service Learning	
HUMN 3103	Group Project	
HUMN 3106	Study Tours	
HUMN 3108	We Are The University: Students Co-creating Change	
<b>Total Credit Points</b>		<b>80</b>

And

0340 Global Politics and International Relations, Major (<https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/archives/2024-2025/majors-minors/global-politics-international-relations-major/>)

### Social Science component

All students must enrol in and complete 80 credit points of Bachelor of Social Science Core subjects consisting of four subjects at Level 1, two subjects at level 2 and two subjects at Level 3.

### Bachelor of Social Science core subjects

Subject	Title	Credit Points
CULT 1017	Understanding Society	10
BEHV 1021	The Individual in Society	10
HUMN 1041	People, Place and Social Difference	10
HUMN 1060	Introduction to Indigenous Australia: Peoples, Places and Philosophies	10
HUMN 2066	Investigating and Communicating Social Problems	10
CULT 2005	Ethics in the Social Sciences	10
CULT 3001	Applied Social Research	10
CULT 3007	Contemporary Social Issues and Professional Practice	10
<b>Total Credit Points</b>		<b>80</b>

All students must enrol in and complete an 80 credit point Social Science Major

### Bachelor of Social Science Majors

Anthropology, Major (0002) (<https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/archives/2024-2025/majors-minors/anthropology-major/>)

Child and Community, Major (0045) (<https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/archives/2024-2025/majors-minors/child-community-major/>)

Criminology and Criminal Justice, Major (0006) (<https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/archives/2024-2025/majors-minors/criminology-criminal-justice-major/>)

Disability Studies, Major (0252) (<https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/archives/2024-2025/majors-minors/disability-studies-major/>)

Geography and Urban Studies, Major (0010) (<https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/archives/2024-2025/majors-minors/geography-urban-studies-major/>)

Heritage and Tourism, Major (0012) (<https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/archives/2024-2025/majors-minors/heritage-tourism-major/>)

Peace and Development Studies, Major (0027) (<https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/archives/2024-2025/majors-minors/peace-development-studies-major/>)

Sociology, Major (0030) (<https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/archives/2024-2025/majors-minors/sociology-major/>)

### Equivalent Subject

The subjects listed below count towards completion of this program for students who passed these subjects in 2023 or earlier.

POLI 2006 Politics of Australia and Asia Relations , replaced by POLI 2008 Transnational Diplomacy

## Recommended Sequence Current

If you commenced in 2023 please refer to the Sequence 2023 tab for details.

Qualification for this award requires the successful completion of 320 credit points as per the recommended sequence below.

Course	Title	Credit Points
<b>Year 1</b>		
<b>Autumn session</b>		
LANG 1029	Foundations of Academic English	10
Select one BIS Core level 1 subject		10
POLI 1007	World Politics and International Relations	10
CULT 1017	Understanding Society	10
<b>Credit Points</b>		<b>40</b>
<b>Spring session</b>		
Select one BIS Core level 1 subject		10
Select one BIS Core level 1 subject		10
HUMN 1041	People, Place and Social Difference	10
Select one Social Science Major level 1 subject		10
<b>Credit Points</b>		<b>40</b>
<b>Year 2</b>		
<b>Autumn session</b>		
POLI 2008	Transnational Diplomacy	10
Select one BIS Major level 1/2 subject		10
HUMN 2066	Investigating and Communicating Social Problems	10
BEHV 1021	The Individual in Society	10
<b>Credit Points</b>		<b>40</b>
<b>Spring session</b>		
Select one BIS Major level 1/2 subject		10
Select one Social Science Major level 1 subject		10
HUMN 1060	Introduction to Indigenous Australia: Peoples, Places and Philosophies	10
CULT 2005	Ethics in the Social Sciences	10
<b>Credit Points</b>		<b>40</b>
<b>Year 3</b>		
<b>Autumn session</b>		
Select one BIS Major level 3 subject		10
LANG 3045	Intercultural Communication	10
Select one Social Science Major level 2/3 subject		10
Select one Social Science Major level 2/3 subject		10
<b>Credit Points</b>		<b>40</b>
<b>Spring session</b>		
HUMN 3079	The Asian Century	10
Select one BIS Major level 3 subject		10
Select one Social Science Major level 2/3 subject		10
Select one Social Science Major level 2/3 subject		10
<b>Credit Points</b>		<b>40</b>
<b>Year 4</b>		
<b>Autumn session</b>		
Select one BIS Engaged Learning subject		10
Select one BIS Major level 3 subject		10
Select one Social Science Major Level 2/3 subject		10
CULT 3001	Applied Social Research	10
<b>Credit Points</b>		<b>40</b>

### Spring session

POLI 3016	International Relations Project	10
Select one BIS Major level 3 subject		10
CULT 3007	Contemporary Social Issues and Professional Practice	10
Select one Social Science Major level 2/3 subject		10
<b>Credit Points</b>		<b>40</b>
<b>Total Credit Points</b>		<b>320</b>

### Equivalent Subject

The subjects listed below count towards completion of this program for students who passed these subjects in 2023 or earlier.

POLI 2006 Politics of Australia and Asia Relations , replaced by POLI 2008 Transnational Diplomacy

## Program Structure 2023

If you commenced in 2024 or later please refer to the Structure Current tab for details.

Qualification for this award requires the successful completion of 320 credit points as per the recommended sequence.

Students must also complete the International Relations and Asian Studies major, a minor in Arabic, Chinese, Immersion Language, Indonesian, International English or Japanese language and a Social Science major.

### B Arts Core Subjects

Subject	Title	Credit Points
HUMN 1052	Australian Politics and Active Citizenship	10
LANG 1030	Thinking Critically About Texts and Society	10
HUMN 1053	Diversity, Language and Culture	10
LANG 1029	Foundations of Academic English	10
<b>Total Credit Points</b>		<b>40</b>

### B Social Science Core Subjects

Subject	Title	Credit Points
CULT 3001	Applied Social Research	10
CULT 2005	Ethics in the Social Sciences	10
CULT 3007	Contemporary Social Issues and Professional Practice	10
HUMN 1041	People, Place and Social Difference	10
HUMN 2066	Investigating and Communicating Social Problems	10
BEHV 1021	The Individual in Society	10
CULT 1017	Understanding Society	10
HUMN 1060	Introduction to Indigenous Australia: Peoples, Places and Philosophies	10
<b>Total Credit Points</b>		<b>80</b>

### Major - International Relations and Asian Studies (IRAS)

International Relations and Asian Studies, Major (0019) (<https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/archives/2024-2025/majors-minors/international-relations-asian-studies-major/>)

## Minors

Note: The following minors have inherent requirements Chinese and Japanese. Please see the link below:

Inherent requirements ([https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/ir/inherent\\_requirements/inherent\\_requirements\\_for\\_languages\\_courses/](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/ir/inherent_requirements/inherent_requirements_for_languages_courses/))

Arabic, Minor (0003) (<https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/archives/2024-2025/majors-minors/arabic-minor/>)

Chinese, Minor (0004) (<https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/archives/2024-2025/majors-minors/chinese-minor/>)

Indonesian, Minor (0309) (<https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/archives/2024-2025/majors-minors/indonesian-minor/>)

International English, Minor (0018) (<https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/archives/2024-2025/majors-minors/international-english-minor/>)

Japanese, Minor (0021) (<https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/archives/2024-2025/majors-minors/japanese-minor/>)

Students may complete the Immersion Language minor which covers languages that are not taught at Western Sydney University. Details of this minor are available via the link below:

Immersion Language, Minor (0014) (<https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/archives/2024-2025/majors-minors/immersion-language-minor/>)

## Social Science majors

Anthropology, Major (0002) (<https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/archives/2024-2025/majors-minors/anthropology-major/>)

Child and Community, Major (0045) (<https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/archives/2024-2025/majors-minors/child-community-major/>)

Criminology and Criminal Justice, Major (0006) (<https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/archives/2024-2025/majors-minors/criminology-criminal-justice-major/>)

Disability Studies, Major (0252) (<https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/archives/2024-2025/majors-minors/disability-studies-major/>)

Geography and Urban Studies, Major (0010) (<https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/archives/2024-2025/majors-minors/geography-urban-studies-major/>)

Heritage and Tourism, Major (0012) (<https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/archives/2024-2025/majors-minors/heritage-tourism-major/>)

Peace and Development Studies, Major (0027) (<https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/archives/2024-2025/majors-minors/peace-development-studies-major/>)

Sociology, Major (0030) (<https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/archives/2024-2025/majors-minors/sociology-major/>)

Students should seek academic program advice as the Social Science major subjects are all compulsory and only available in particular semesters.

## Recommended Sequence 2023

If you commenced in 2024 or later please refer to the Sequence Current tab for details.

The recommended sequence below applies to students at Level 1 Language. Students should seek program advice in relation to the level 2/3 language sequences.

## Recommended Sequence - Bankstown Campus

Course	Title	Credit Points
<b>Year 1</b>		
<b>Autumn session</b>		
HUMN 1052	Australian Politics and Active Citizenship	10
LANG 1029	Foundations of Academic English	10
CULT 1017	Understanding Society	10
BEHV 1021	The Individual in Society	10
<b>Credit Points</b>		<b>40</b>
<b>Spring session</b>		
HUMN 1041	People, Place and Social Difference	10
HUMN 1060	Introduction to Indigenous Australia: Peoples, Places and Philosophies	10
HUMN 1053	Diversity, Language and Culture	10
POLI 1007	World Politics and International Relations	10
<b>Credit Points</b>		<b>40</b>
<b>Year 2</b>		
<b>Autumn session</b>		
CULT 1001	Asia in the World	10
HUMN 2066	Investigating and Communicating Social Problems	10
LANG 1030	Thinking Critically About Texts and Society	10
Select one Level 1 Language subject		10
<b>Credit Points</b>		<b>40</b>
<b>Spring session</b>		
CULT 2005	Ethics in the Social Sciences	10
Select one Level 1 Language subject		10
Select one Level 1 Social Science Major subject		10
Select one Level 1 Social Science Major subject Or one Level 2/3 IRAS subject		10
<b>Credit Points</b>		<b>40</b>
<b>Year 3</b>		
<b>Autumn session</b>		
POLI 2006	Politics of Australia and Asia Relations	10
Select one Level 2 Language subject		10
Select one Level 2 Language subject		10
Select one Level 1 Social Science Major subject Or one Level 2/3 Social Science major subject		10
<b>Credit Points</b>		<b>40</b>
<b>Spring session</b>		
HUMN 3079	The Asian Century	10
Select one Level 2/3 IRAS subject		10
Select one Level 2/3 Social Science Major subject		10
Select one Level 2/3 Social Science Major subject Or one Level 2/3 IRAS subject		10
<b>Credit Points</b>		<b>40</b>
<b>Year 4</b>		
<b>Autumn session</b>		
CULT 3001	Applied Social Research	10
Select one Level 2/3 IRAS subject		10
Select one Level 2/3 Social Science Major subject		10
Select one Level 2/3 Social Science Major subject Or one Level 2/3 IRAS subject		10
<b>Credit Points</b>		<b>40</b>

**Spring session**

CULT 3007	Contemporary Social Issues and Professional Practice	10
Select one Level 2/3 IRAS subject		10
Select one Level 2/3 Social Science Major subject		10
Select one Level 2/3 Social Science Major subject Or one Level 2/3 IRAS subject		10
<b>Credit Points</b>		<b>40</b>
<b>Total Credit Points</b>		<b>320</b>

**Recommended Sequence - Parramatta Campus**

Course	Title	Credit Points
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**Year 1****Autumn session**

HUMN 1053	Diversity, Language and Culture	10
LANG 1029	Foundations of Academic English	10
BEHV 1021	The Individual in Society	10
CULT 1017	Understanding Society	10
<b>Credit Points</b>		<b>40</b>

**Spring session**

HUMN 1041	People, Place and Social Difference	10
HUMN 1060	Introduction to Indigenous Australia: Peoples, Places and Philosophies	10
LANG 1030	Thinking Critically About Texts and Society	10
HUMN 1052	Australian Politics and Active Citizenship	10
<b>Credit Points</b>		<b>40</b>

**Year 2****Autumn session**

CULT 1001	Asia in the World	10
HUMN 2066	Investigating and Communicating Social Problems	10
Select one Level 1 Language subject		10
Select one Level 1 Social Science Major subject		10
<b>Credit Points</b>		<b>40</b>

**Spring session**

CULT 2005	Ethics in the Social Sciences	10
POLI 1007	World Politics and International Relations	10
Select one Level 1 Language subject		10
Select one Level 1 Social Science Major subject		10
<b>Credit Points</b>		<b>40</b>

**Year 3****Autumn session**

POLI 2006	Politics of Australia and Asia Relations	10
Select one Level 2 Language subject		10
Select one Level 2 Language subject		10
Select one Level 2/3 Social Science Major subject		10
<b>Credit Points</b>		<b>40</b>

**Spring session**

HUMN 3079	The Asian Century	10
Select one Level 2/3 IRAS subject		10
Select one Level 2/3 Social Science Major subject		10
Select one Level 2/3 Social Science Major subject Or one Level 2/3 IRAS subject		10
<b>Credit Points</b>		<b>40</b>

**Year 4****Autumn session**

CULT 3001	Applied Social Research	10
Select one Level 2/3 IRAS subject		10
Select one Level 2/3 Social Science Major subject		10
Select one Level 2/3 Social Science Major subject Or one Level 2/3 IRAS subject		10
<b>Credit Points</b>		<b>40</b>

**Spring session**

CULT 3007	Contemporary Social Issues and Professional Practice	10
Select one Level 2/3 IRAS subject		10
Select one Level 2/3 Social Science Major subject		10
Select one Level 2/3 Social Science Major subject Or one Level 2/3 IRAS subject		10
<b>Credit Points</b>		<b>40</b>
<b>Total Credit Points</b>		<b>320</b>

**Equivalent Core Subjects**

The Core subject listed below count towards completion of this program for students this subject in 2022 or earlier.

POLI 1002 Introduction to International Relations, replaced by  
POLI 1007 World Politics and International Relations

The Core subjects listed below count towards completion of this program for students who passed these units in 2020 or earlier.

CULT 1020 Working with Communities, replaced by HUMN 1060 (<https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/archives/2024-2025/subject-details/humn1060/>) Introduction to Indigenous Australia: Peoples, Places and Philosophies

HUMN 2049 Social Research Methods, replaced by HUMN 2066 (<https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/archives/2024-2025/subject-details/humn2066/>) Investigating and Communicating Social Problems