

Faculty of Social Sciences and International Relations (FSSIR)

Master of Arts in International Relations: Diplomacy (MA in IR: Diplomacy)

I. Why Choose this Program?

The Master of Arts in International Relations: Diplomacy (MA in IR: Diplomacy) program was designed to:

- Develop advanced expertise in diplomatic theory, practice, and protocol, with specialized knowledge in negotiation, multilateral diplomacy, and the conduct of international relations across bilateral and multilateral settings.
- Engage with current scholarship and policy debates in international law, political economy, regional security, and global governance, with sustained attention to the diplomatic priorities and institutional landscape of Southeast Asia.
- Build advanced research and analytical competencies through rigorous training in IR methods, equipping graduates to assess diplomatic environments, evaluate foreign policy outcomes, and contribute original, evidence-based insights to scholarship and professional practice.
- Strengthen practical diplomatic skills — including negotiation, protocol, cross-cultural communication, and institutional leadership — applicable to foreign service, international organizations, and high-level private sector engagement.
- Gain a sophisticated understanding of how diplomacy operates at the intersection of power, law, and institutions, through coursework that connects theoretical frameworks to the realities of contemporary foreign policy and international negotiation.
- Access strong pathways to careers in the foreign service, international organizations, the private sector, and civil society, with a program that prepares graduates for leadership roles in Cambodia and across the international community.

II. Future Career Prospects

Graduates from this program will be able to pursue careers such as:

1. **Diplomat, foreign service officer, or ambassador** representing national interests abroad through bilateral and multilateral engagement, negotiation, and protocol in embassies, consulates, and permanent missions.
2. **Foreign policy analyst, political advisor, or intergovernmental affairs officer** in government ministries, national security agencies, and state institutions engaged in the formulation and implementation of foreign policy and international strategy.
3. **Program officer, multilateral negotiator, or regional representative** in international organizations including the United Nations, ASEAN Secretariat, World Bank, and regional diplomatic bodies, contributing to multilateral dialogue, treaty processes, and institutional governance.
4. **Advocacy officer, diplomatic liaison, or international program coordinator** in NGOs, civil society organizations, and foundations engaged in human rights, conflict prevention, and international advocacy, leveraging

diplomatic skills to build coalitions and engage with state and non-state actors.

5. **Government relations director, public affairs manager, or geopolitical risk consultant** in corporations, financial institutions, and consulting firms that operate across borders and require professionals with advanced skills in stakeholder engagement, regulatory navigation, and international negotiation.
6. **Senior business strategist, regional director, or market entry advisor** in private enterprises and international firms expanding into Southeast Asia and other complex markets, applying expertise in political economy, cross-cultural leadership, and institutional dynamics to drive strategic growth.
7. **Executive leader, operations director, or team management specialist** in private sector organizations with international operations, drawing on the program's emphasis on governance, leadership development, and institutional strategy to manage high-performing, cross-cultural teams.
8. **Foreign policy researcher, diplomatic studies lecturer, or doctoral candidate** contributing original scholarship on diplomacy, negotiation, and international affairs, with strong pathways to doctoral study at leading universities in Cambodia and internationally.

III. Course Structure

This two-year program comprises **45 credits** and provides students with a well-structured curriculum that includes basic, core, major, and research courses. To complete the program, students are required to fulfill the following coursework requirements:

Course Title		Credit	Priority
1	Fundamental Theories of International Relations	3	Required
2	Peacebuilding and Human Rights	3	Required
3	International Political Economy - I	3	Required
4	International Law	3	Required
5	Governance, Management and Leadership Dynamics	3	Required
6	International Political Economy - II	3	Required
7	Research Methods and Analysis in IR	3	Required
8	Regional Security: Architecture and Issues in Southeast Asia	3	Required
9	Diplomacy: Types, Practice, and Protocols	3	Required
10	Project Management and Policy Analysis	3	Required
11	The United Nations: Mission and Achievement	3	Required

12	Trends and Topics in the Study of War	3	Required
13	Organization Development, Institution Building, Change, and Innovation	3	Required
GRADUATION PATH			
Option I: Research Report		6	Required
Option II: Project Report/Thesis		12	Required
Option III: Research Thesis Presentation, Defend and publication at a recognized journal		33	Required

The program offers **Three** graduation path:

- (i) **Coursework and Research Report Path** (39 credits for coursework + 6 credits for research report).
- (ii) **Coursework and Project Report Path** (33 credits for coursework + 12 credits for project report/thesis).
- (iii) **Coursework and Research Thesis Path** (12 credits for coursework + 33 credits for research thesis presentation, defend and publication at a recognized journal)