

IPS

**Carnegie
Mellon
University**
Institute
for Politics
and Strategy

Master of Science
in International
Relations and Politics





“ We give students the methodological tools they’re going to need to tackle these difficult problems—quantitative and statistical training as well as a full range of methods that will help them be competitive on the job market and successful in their careers.”

- Dr. Daniel Silverman, Assistant Professor,
Institute for Politics and Strategy



RATIONALE

The Institute for Politics and Strategy (IPS) seeks to train the next generation of political scientists who can examine and understand domestic and international government institutions and processes in the twenty-first century's continuously changing global political structure. War has been a constant in our students' lives, and that unfortunately does not look like it will change soon.

But what is changing is the political landscape of war – from wars between nations to non-state actors like ISIS and al-Qaeda. Coupled with an increasingly global society, international relations and politics are extremely important for preparing students to analyze and manage uncertainty and transformation in many pursuits and places.

THE MS IRP FOUR ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL GOALS

1 *To allow students to specialize in one of four conventional areas of political science.*

- International security
- International relations
- American politics
- Comparative politics

2 *Guide students in the production of a significant and publishable thesis.*

Produced during the final year of study, the thesis allows students to apply their learned quantitative and qualitative methodological skillset to a practical, field-relevant problem of their choice.

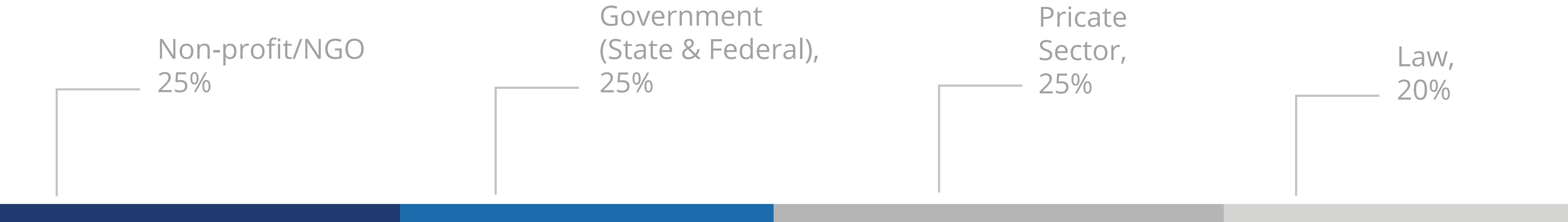
3 *Equip students with strong methodological skills.*

IPS courses Regression Analysis for Political Science I&II and Process Tracing, Counterfactuals, Archival Analysis, and Interviews, are part of the core curriculum.

4 *To prepare students to enter the job market, whether their interests are in academia or the professional world.*

MS IRP students come from all backgrounds, and typically pursue careers in government, private sector, law, and non-profit organizations.

WHERE ARE THE MS IRP ALUMNI NOW?



MS IRP CURRICULUM

The MS IRP is a two-year full-time program with publishable thesis and summer internship requirements. To the right is a sample of courses offered in the [MS IRP curriculum](#). Visit our website for a complete course list and sample schedule.

MS IRP students also enroll each semester in the Policy Seminar course, which brings diplomats, scholars, policymakers, journalists, and other thought leaders to the university through the IPS Policy Forum to address major issues facing the United States and the world.

Core Courses

- Graduate Seminars
 - International Security
 - International Relations
 - American Politics
 - Comparative Political Institutions
- Regression Analysis for Political Science
- Qualitative Methods in Social Science Research



Concentration Courses

- International Security
 - The Future of Warfare
 - Social Media, Technology & Conflict
 - Terrorism and Insurgency
- International Relations
 - International Organizations and International Law
 - The Politics of Fake News and Misinformation
 - Diplomacy and Statecraft
- American Politics
 - Civil-Military Relations
 - US Grand Strategy
 - Judicial Politics and Behavior
- Comparative Politics
 - Latin American Politics
 - Politics of Developing Nations
 - The Future of Democracy

MS IRP ADMISSIONS

IPS welcomes applicants from diverse academic, professional, and personal backgrounds, and seeks those dedicated to making an impact in our everchanging political world. Our admissions process is holistic in that we consider all aspects of the application equally to determine an overall fit with your background and goals to IPS's culture, curriculum, and community.

To that end, applicants to the MS IRP program also should demonstrate academic and/or professional excellence and preparedness for the rigors of the program. Minimum qualification for admission to the MS IRP program includes previous coursework, demonstrated ability, or equivalent work experience in the following areas:

Applications open annually on November 1 and are due by February 1.

Please note that the GRE is not required for MS IRP admissions.

Find out more about the [application requirements](#) and process.

Analytical skills

An ideal applicant should demonstrate problem-solving and critical-thinking skills. Introductory courses in statistics, economics, and data analysis (STATA/R) are recommended.

Team skills

An ideal applicant can work effectively with others in leadership, cooperative, and subordinate roles.

Other skills

An ideal applicant will demonstrate experience or interest in international relations and political science.



FUNDING

The Institute for Politics and Strategy offers up to half tuition fellowships for select MS IRP students. In exchange for the fellowship, students are assigned a role as a teaching assistant/grader (TA) in an IPS course or as a research assistant (RA).

Privately funded and institutional fellowships/financial aid are also available for underrepresented groups and those demonstrating financial need. Please see our website for more information.

Veterans

The CMU Institute for Politics and Strategy welcomes applications from veterans and those currently serving in the US Military. The University Registrar's Office provides services to veterans and their dependents who are eligible for Veterans Education Benefits under the Montgomery G.I. Bill, Post-9/11 G.I. Bill. In addition, CMU participates in the Yellow Ribbon Program for those who are 100% eligible for benefits under the Post-9/11 G.I. Bill.



FOR MORE INFORMATION



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