Carnegie Mellon University's Institute for Politics and Strategy (IPS) seeks to train the next generation of political scientists to examine and understand domestic and international government institutions and processes in the twenty-first century’s continuously changing global political structure. The Master of Science in International Relations and Politics (MS IRP) preserves and expands CMU’s interdisciplinary tradition in political science, while at the same time, taps into and contributes to CMU’s strengths in other sciences that combine analytical and empirical methods. IPS also employs an innovative approach incorporating decision science in political science. The MS IRP is a two-year full-time program with a required internship in the summer between the first and second years.

The MS IRP serves 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, and comparative politics.

2. To equip students with strong methodological skills.

3. To guide students in the production of a significant and publishable thesis.

4. To prepare students to enter the job market, whether their interests are in academia or the professional world. Students are guided through the internship and job application process by our faculty and staff on campus and Washington, DC.

Information on graduate financial aid is available through CMU student financial services. The preferred deadline for financial aid applications is February 15, 2020.

IPS also offers paid research assistant and teaching assistant positions.

Application deadline: February 7, 2020