The Program in International Politics & Economics at Middlebury College provides students with the opportunity to study two disciplines as well as areas that cut across traditional departmental and disciplinary lines. Through courses developed and taught by economics and political science faculty, students examine the globalizing world through a variety of conceptual lenses supplied by the social sciences; they learn multiple ways of solving problems; and they explore areas of inquiry that intersect traditional disciplines. This approach, in combination with the study of languages and immersion in another culture during study abroad, prepares students for a wide array of opportunities after college, including further study in graduate and professional schools. Alumni of the program are engaged in careers ranging from investment banking to the Peace Corps, from teaching to government service, journalism, public policy and management consulting.

You Might Choose This Major if . . .

You have an interest in politics, economics, and globalization, and want to approach the disciplines from both an interdisciplinary and international perspective. You’re deeply interested in the rapidly changing world and how governments interact with the global economy. Your interest in politics extends far beyond the borders of your own background, and you are keen to understand the global nature of it. You’re looking to build a solid foundation for any number of career paths and graduate education.
Applying Your Learning through Internships

Students pursue internships and research in a variety of fields, enabling them to apply their liberal arts learning in real-world settings during Winter Term or over the summer. Internships, research, and self-directed projects enrich your academic experience and help you prepare for life after Middlebury. Students of studio art and other arts have interned or done research at:

- The White House
- Emerging Asia
- FINCA International
- Goldman Sachs
- Analysis Group
- Banco Popular
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- Rural Education Action Program (REAP) China
- The Peace Alliance
- Intern-American Development Bank
- Vermont Sail Freight Project
- Washington Office on Latin America
- Undergraduate Summer Research at Middlebury

Interning at REAP was an amazing experience that broadened my perspective on the world and on China. If you’re an IP&E major with any interest in developmental economics, this is the internship for you!

—Reid Manheim ’17 (International Politics & Economics)

For more information on student organizations, check out Student Activities at go.middlebury.edu/activities

Making the Most of It While on Campus

You have a wide range of options to connect your learning to your interests during your time at Middlebury. You can find on- and off-campus opportunities, support, and experiences through:

- 180 Degrees Consulting (180DC): Student-run consulting group that provides high-quality services to nonprofits and social enterprises to create greater social impact.
- American Enterprise Institute on Campus: Seeks to promote free market values and principles including the importance of free enterprise and a limited federal government through events and discussion.
- Baseball Analytics Club: A forum to discuss baseball through a variety of lenses that include analytics, fantasy, trade analysis, favorite teams, and economics.
- The Campus: Middlebury’s only student weekly. The Campus has a 105-year-old tradition of providing timely reporting to the College community.
- Center for Social Entrepreneurship: Helps students learn to be effective agents of social change by reflecting on who they are, connecting with others, analyzing systematic challenges, and engaging the world around them.
- Midd Entrepreneurs: A student-taught winter term course for students who wish to start their own business or non-profit organization.
- Middlebury Economics Society: Works to hold a platform for students to initiate, to develop, and to pursue their interests in economics through exposure to a variety of economic-related spheres and engagement in a wide range of activities.

Applying Your Learning: Professional Competencies

Throughout your time at Middlebury, you will develop and enhance the following core professional competencies—skills and dispositions highly valued by employers that will prepare you for leadership and success in any given field.

- Cross-Cultural Skills:
  - Greater understanding and appreciation of others’ cultural, social, political, and religious behaviors and beliefs;
  - Appreciation and understanding commonality and connectedness across and within cultures and contexts;
  - Awareness of and an ability to contextualize how past and present events influence and affect individual attitudes and behaviors;
  - Reaching across one’s own beliefs in solidarity with others;
  - Adapting well to a new environment, working in a diverse cultural setting, and sensibility to other cultures and values.

- Communication Skills:
  - Demonstrating skill and sophistication in oral and written expression;
  - Using various forms and styles of written communication;
  - Formulating and defending an argument;
  - Protecting written synthesis or summarization;
  - Employing language and tone that leads to creative understanding;
  - Using effective idioms and tools to be more persuasive (honor, passion, etc.);
  - Listening for understanding.

*Model United Nations: An academic simulation of the UN that aims to educate participants about civic, globalization, and multilateral diplomacy.*

- Critical Thinking Skills:
  - Identifying the scope and attributes of a problem;
  - Formulating a question to appropriate scope and scale;
  - Understanding and evaluating research methodology;
  - Designing appropriate methods and approaches;
  - Finding and identifying most relevant sources;
  - Conducting and analyzing research using required tools and technology to conduct research and sort data.

- Research Skills:
  - Ability to conceptualize the question;
  - Formulating a question to appropriate scope and scale;
  - Understanding and evaluating research methodology;
  - Designing appropriate methods and approaches;
  - Finding and identifying most relevant sources;
  - Conducting and analyzing research using required tools and technology to conduct research and sort data.

- Analytical Skills:
  - Evaluating and sorting data;
  - Synthesizing facts, concepts, and principles;
  - Identifying themes and patterns;
  - Formulating an independent construction;
  - Synthesizing findings;
  - Presenting and defending one’s analysis of data and literature.

- Interpersonal Skills:
  - Collaborating effectively with people from varying perspectives and cultures toward a common goal;
  - Sensitivity to socio-economic backgrounds;
  - Taking initiative at times, and following instructions at others;
  - Being an effective team player, comfortable in the shoes of others, and imagining perspectives other than their own;
  - Emotional and social intelligence: Ability to connect with others and building strong relationships.

- Personal Skills:
  - Ability to prioritize and meet deadlines and manage success projects simultaneously;
  - Be open to feedback and build on strengths;
  - Taking responsibility and being accountable;
  - Persistence, passion, and hard work—the relentless drive to achieve goals;
  - Effective planning and time-management skills;
  - Ability to produce independent work;
  - Be self-reflection for personal and professional growth.

*Privilege & Poverty/Shepherd Internships: A curricular initiative that brings together faculty, students, and staff interested in studying economic inequality and features an experiential component through the paid, summer Shepherd internship program (national and local).*

*Roosevelt Campus Network: A student-led think tank that provides a means for students with great ideas to impact their communities.*

*Rohatyn Center for Global Affairs: Promotes lectures and other co-curricular programs on global affairs; students can apply for funding for lectures and research.*

*SGA Finance Committee: The financial arm of the student body charged with allocating the Student Activities Fee (SAF) to all student organizations.*

*Student Investment Committee: Middlebury’s only student weekly, student-driven investment committee for students interested in finance with varied opportunities to expand their knowledge and network.*

*Undergraduate Summer Research at Middlebury: An academic simulation that broadened my perspective on the world and on China. If you’re an IP&E major with any interest in developmental economics, this is the internship for you!*

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