University of Pittsburgh | School of Public and International Affairs

Master of Public & International Affairs: Required Coursework

Concentration: Security & Intelligence Studies

(For students admitted before fall 2025)

SPIA Core (12 Credits)

Number	Title	Pre-requisites	Term Completed	Can be waived?
PIA 2022	Quantitative Methods	None		Yes. If waived, must take additional elective
PIA 2027 or PIA 2025	Macroeconomics Microeconomics	None		No
PIA 2028	Public Policy Analysis	PIA 2022		No
PIA 2096 or PIA 2099	Capstone Seminar Thesis	24 credits 24 credits + PIA 2003 + approval		No
Internship Requirement: All students must complete an approved internship of at least 300 hours while enrolled at GSPIA. The internship must be approved by the student's career advisor in advance. Students with at least three years of relevant full-time work experience may petition their career advisor for a waiver of this requirement during their first semester.				

MPIA Degree Core (6 Credits)

PIA 2021	International Affairs	None	
PIA 2303	Security and Intelligence Studies	None	

SIS Concentration Courses (12 Credits)

PIA 2---	SIS Concentration Course		
PIA 2---	SIS Concentration Course		
PIA 2---	SIS Concentration Course		
PIA 2---	SIS Concentration Course		

Free Electives/Minor Courses (18 Credits)

PIA 2---	Elective/minor course		
PIA 2---	Elective/minor course		
PIA 2---	Elective/minor course		
PIA 2---	Elective		
PIA 2---	Elective		
PIA 2---	Elective		

Notes:

48 credits are required to graduate. Joint-degree students take a minimum 36 GSPIA credits and must have 3 terms of GSPIA residency.

Students may waive PIA 2022 if they pass the waiver exam. If waived, the class must be replaced by an additional elective.

Meet with your academic advisor every term to confirm your progress toward graduation.