

# INTERNATIONAL HISTORY AND POLITICS

GENEVA GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Understand the present, Prepare the future

GENEVA  
GRADUATE  
INSTITUTE

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## A Unique Programme

**The International History and Politics Department of the Geneva Graduate Institute offers a unique opportunity to study and research today's global challenges in their historical context.**

Situated in the heart of international Geneva, we are uniquely positioned to monitor and examine the making of international policies and the global history and politics that stands behind them. International Geneva is where national, transnational and international, public and private actors operate and meet constantly. Here, peace agreements are signed, international IT protocols are negotiated, environmental advocacy, public health policies, financial, economic, conflict and security issues are imagined, debated and enforced. This has been the case for a century, and Geneva continues to actively shape the future.

The Graduate Institute's Master and PhD Programs in International History and Politics are designed to uncover the complex challenges of the 21st century. We do so by constantly questioning conventional wisdom and by taking into account a multiplicity of national, transnational and global perspectives. Our wide-ranging and constantly evolving curriculum is exceptionally strong in the areas of politics, development, conflict, environment, humanitarianism, commerce and finance, health and culture.

Due to our location, students interested in the drivers of contemporary global governance challenges and their historical undercurrents will find our program particularly rewarding. In addition to benefiting from a dynamic study plan, our students are able to build strong personal and professional networks that prepare them for successful international careers.



## A Dynamic Study Plan

### MASTER IN INTERNATIONAL HISTORY AND POLITICS

4 compulsory courses (24 credits)  
11 elective courses (66 credits)  
7 to 9 courses in discipline of specialisation (42 to 54 credits)  
2 to 4 in one or several other disciplines (12 to 24 credits)  
Thesis (30 credits)  
**Total** of 120 credits

### PHD IN INTERNATIONAL HISTORY AND POLITICS

2 compulsory courses (12 credits)  
2 elective courses (12 credits)  
Preliminary thesis dissertation (30 credits)  
Option to choose other discipline minor (18 credits)  
Dissertation  
**Total** of 54 credits or 72 (with minor)

## Courses

Historiography and Historical Methods · Evolution of the International System · Oral History · An International History of Racism · Research Seminar in International History and Politics · Histories Beyond Nation · International Finance in History · The Evolution of Global Security · From perestroika to the Russian-Ukrainian War · Violence, History and Memory in 20th Century Africa · Authoritarianism and Democracy in Latin America · United States Foreign Policy and International Security since 1945 · Gender, Sexuality and Decolonisation in the Global South · The History of Inequality · History and Development · Humanitarians and Human Trafficking · Violence, History and Memory in Twentieth Century Africa · Transatlantic Relations since 1945 · History and Development · The Kremlin Eyes the Word: Soviet/Russian Foreign Policy From Stalin to Putin · The Climates of History · Democracy and the West after the Cold War · From Cotton to Cocaine: Commodities that made History · Continuity and Change in the Middle East and North Africa: From the Ottoman Empire to the Arab Spring · Critical Histories of Global Health · Histories of Truth, Facts and Uncertainty · The Arab Israeli Conflict

## Why Study International History and Politics?

The International History and Politics Department of the Graduate Institute – the oldest school of international relations in Europe located in Geneva, the site of historical international organisations and historically of the League of Nations – enables students to pursue historical research and analysis in the context of the Institute's anchoring in both the humanities and the comparative analysis of contemporary policy and governance.

The particular contribution of the International History and Politics Department is to bring a historical methodology to the study of international affairs, including policy-making, political systems and institutions. These methods – specifically qualitative and textual analysis, archival research and attention to structural change and continuities over time – allow students to coherently link history, politics and the contemporary environment.

A degree in international history and politics at the Graduate Institute in Geneva can lead to a career as an international historian, but it also provides a set of tools for a successful career in politics and diplomacy, or in the private sector. The same methods that make for a great international historian are a tremendous, indeed indispensable asset in the world of global politics. Of particular importance are the ways that historians illuminate the political relevance of questions of meaning, culture, mentalities and deep economic structures locally and globally.

The Department's mission is to encourage dynamic and cross-cutting historical approaches to understanding, contextualising and situating current international politics and policies. Members of the faculty teach and research

- governmental and non-governmental actors and organisations
- human rights, humanitarianism and humanitarian actions/interventions
- development politics, policies and ideologies
- nation-building and state-building
- civil society and social movements, gender, women and public policies, labour, employment and trade unions
- international and global public health
- environment and environmentalisms, climate change and political ecologies
- immigrants, refugees and diasporas
- international finance and economy
- conflicts and international security issues, political violence and terrorism
- transnational actors, institutions, histories and processes
- foreign policies, multilateral diplomacy, negotiations and co-operation, regional integration and North-South relations

# Faculty and Research

The International History and Politics Department of the Graduate Institute researches and teaches the contemporary world through its different histories and from a multiplicity of perspectives. The Department hosts a diverse community of

distinguished professors and researchers with deep knowledge of today's global challenges expertise on many regions of the world and with a great sensitivity to diversity.

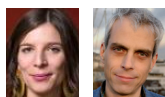
## PROFESSORS

- GOPALAN BALACHANDRAN** Globalisation • North-South relations • Diasporas  
**CAROLYN BILTOFT** Globalisation • History of international relations • International organisations  
**NICOLE BOURBONNAIS** Global health • Gender • Public policies  
**RUI ESTEVES** Currencies and foreign exchange • Finance, financial markets, international investment • Corruption and rent-seeking  
**JUSSI HANHIMÄKI** Cold War • Foreign policies • International organisations  
**SUSANNA HECHT** Environmental history • Political ecologies • Resource governance  
**MOHAMMAD-MAHMOUD OULD MOHAMEDOU** Political violence • State-building • Political transition  
**AMALIA RIBI FORCLAZ** Agriculture • Labour • International organisations  
**DAVIDE RODOGNO** Humanitarianism • Authoritarianism • International organisations  
**AIDAN RUSSELL** Violence • Decolonisation • Borders and mobilities  
**CYRUS SCHAYEGH** Transnational history • Cold War • Decolonisation



## ECCELLENZA PROFESSORIAL FELLOWS

- CAROLINE RUSTERHOLZ** History of sexual and reproductive health • History of activism • Social history  
**MISCHA SUTER** History of science • European social history • Colonialism



## HONORARY AND FORMER PROFESSORS

- BRUNO ARCIDIACONO** (Taught in 1987–2015) Armed conflict • International organisations • History of international relations  
**GARETH AUSTIN** (Taught in 2010–2016) Comparative and global economic history • Economic history of Sub-Saharan Africa • Development in historical perspective  
**PHILIPPE BURRIN** (Taught in 1987–2004) Second World War • Fascism, nazism, antisemitism • History of international relations 19th–20th century  
**MOHAMMAD-REZA DJALILI** (Taught in 1980–2010) Political sociology • Development • History of international relations  
**PIERRE DU BOIS** (Taught in 1992–2007) European history • International security/defence • History of Switzerland  
**MARC FLANDREAU** (Taught in 2008–2017) Economic and financial history • International monetary system • History of science, information and expertise  
**SAUL FRIEDLANDER** (Taught in 1964–1987) History of international relations, 1918–1945 • History of German foreign policy, 1918–1939 • History of nazi policies of extermination  
**MICHAEL GOEBEL** (Taught in 2018–2021) Immigrants, refugees, diasporas • Urban questions • Global and European history  
**ANDRE LIEBICH** (Taught in 1989–2013) Minorities • Post-communism • Immigrants  
**MIKLÓS MOLNÁR** (Taught in 1963–1988) History of international relations • Social history of Central Europe • History of Hungary  
**LANXIN XIANG** (Taught in 1996–2021) Cold War • Foreign policies • World wars





## Students and Careers

The International History and Politics Department of the Graduate Institute prepares you for an international career.

From academe to diplomacy to the corporate sector by way of the media, foundations and think-tanks, effective analysis and practice of current international affairs need the contribution of an appropriate historical contextualisation and knowledge. This is what we offer our Master and PhD students, helping them secure that quality advantage.

Through historical methodology such as qualitative and textual analysis, applied research seminars conducted with practitioners in partner organisations, archival research and attention to structural change and continuities over time, students study international politics, policy-making, political systems and institutions, transnational actors and

actions, and history of culture, societies, markets and environment in regional and/or global perspective.

Studying international history and politics at the Graduate Institute means acquiring high-quality training, an international network and practical experience. It also means living in a city, Geneva, where international cooperation happened, happens and will continue to happen.

Past and present cohorts of Master and PhD students have been extremely successful and are currently employed in a wide range of roles in the private and public sector.

To the extent of its ability, the Graduate Institute strives to support its students throughout the duration of their studies with nearly half of our students receiving direct or indirect financial support. Financial aid is awarded on the basis of an application documenting financial need.

### STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

“ The Department of International History and Politics at the Graduate Institute provides students with the opportunity and the tools to approach their studies in more complex and innovative ways than do other graduate programmes around the world. ”

Jonathan Matthew **SCHMITT**  
United States of America

“ A wonderful community of scholars and students. The historical sources available in Geneva – a hub of international organisations – have enriched my work in a way that I had never expected, and my time at the Graduate Institute broadened my intellectual horizon. ”

Yukako **OTORI**, Japan

“ I have continually found the space to explore novel openings and have received great direction and support. An ideal milieu in which to broaden our spectrum of thought, history and politics and everything else in between. ”

Aditya Kiran **KAKATI**, India

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