

Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy and
Strategy

BA in Government

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A great deal of effort has been expended in preparing this handbook, to ensure that its content is complete and accurate. However, changes are possible. The Reichman University Academic Authorities may cancel, alter or add courses and/or cluster programs, and generate changes in the times of lectures or in the assigned lecturer. When such changes occur, they will be published over the course of the year by various means, such as the online handbook on the Reichman University website, and will apply to all Reichman University students, including students of the Raphael Recanati International School, unless specified otherwise.

Introduction to the Program

The BA in Government is a three-year program that prepares students for careers in Israel and abroad in the fields of diplomacy, strategy, foreign policy, security studies, counter-terrorism, and global affairs. The studies combine solid theoretical foundations in international relations, political science, security studies, public policy, and Middle Eastern studies, with hands-on training focusing on skills and professional experience. In their second year, students begin their Track studies in either Security Studies and Counter-Terrorism, or Diplomacy and Global Affairs. Over the course of the degree, students also study in seminars and practical workshops that equip them with the tools necessary to enter a competitive and changing job market.

In their second and third years, students take a total of 8 credits of government electives and general electives. Government electives include the Internship Program (through which second and third year students intern at one of the organizations, research centers, or government institutions with which the Lauder School partners). General electives include courses from other schools at Reichman University as well as courses from the university's Unit of General Studies.

Students have the option to take a Business Cluster instead of the elective courses.

Finally, students in the school are eligible to apply to competitive programs at various stages of their studies: the Argov Fellows Program in Leadership and Diplomacy (Honors Program), the Public Diplomacy Program, the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University (Summer Program), the Zvi Meitar Emerging Technology Program, the Student Exchange Program, the Rabin Leadership Program, the CO-OP Startup Experience Course, and many more.

Tracks

- Security Studies & Counter-Terrorism
- Diplomacy & Global Affairs

Cluster

- Business

Students are required to take a total of 120 credits to complete their degree.

The breakdown of credits is as follows:

First year

Required courses – 40 credits

English studies – 4 credits

Second Year

Required courses – 36 credits

Track courses – 4 credits

Third Year

Required courses – 7 credits

Track courses, seminar, and capstone – 20 credits

Second and Third Year

General electives – 4 credits

Government electives – 4 credits

Business Cluster may replace 8 credits of General and Government electives.

First-year students in the RRIS international programs will be required to complete the DNA course on Zionism during their first year of studies.

Program of Studies

First Year

Course Code	Course Name	Lecture Hours	Recitation Hours	Credit Hours
Fall Semester Courses				
623	Political Communication	2		2
3110	Excel workshop	2		1
3744	Introduction to Contemporary Middle East and Islam	4		4
4948	Government and Politics in Israel	2		2
5606	Introduction to International Relations	4		4
5607	Research Methods	2		2
5608	Comparative Politics	4		4
Spring Semester Courses				
3743	Problem-Solving Workshop	2		1
3745	Introduction to Diplomacy and Global Studies	4		4
3746	Introduction to Security Studies and Counter Terrorism	4		4
3749	Principles of Statistics	2	1	4
3752	Contemporary International Politics	2		2
4026	Introduction to Political Theory	4		4
5610	Government and AI	2		2
6953	Modern Zionism in Light of the Declaration of Independence	2		1

English Language Fall Semester Courses

6868	Advanced 1 English	3	0
6870	Academic Research and Writing ¹	2	2

English Language Spring Semester Courses

4876	Advanced 2 English	3	2
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Total Credit Hours 43**Second Year**

Course Code	Course Name	Lecture Hours	Recitation Hours	Credit Hours
Fall Semester Courses				
3106	Conflict Resolution	2		2
4164	Introduction to Israeli Constitutional Law	2		2
4787	American Government and Politics	2		2
4949	Empirical Research	2	1	3
4950	History of the Modern Era	2		2
4952	Foundations of Economics I- Micro	2	1	2
4958	Job Market Skills	2		1
5611	The Arab-Israeli Conflict and the Peace	2		2
Spring Semester Courses				
803	International Law	4		4
3094	Internet, Social Media and Politics	2		2
4913	Transnational and Multinational Corporat	2		2
4953	European Institutions and Integration	2		2

¹ Students taking courses 4875/4876 are not required to take course 6870.

4954	Foundations of Economics II-Macro	2	2
4955	The Politics of Climate Change	2	2
4960	Professional Writing Workshop	2	1
6838	International Political Economy: Theory and Policy	2	2
6979	AI Methods for Advanced Users	2	2

Total Credit Hours 35

Second Year Visiting lectures

Course Code	Course	Lecture Hours	Credit Hours
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You are registered to one of the following courses:

Fall Semester Courses

3455	Visiting Lectures	2	1
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Spring Semester Courses

6857	America and the Global War on Terrorism	2	1
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Total Credit Hours 1

Second Year Terrorism and Homeland Security Track

Course Code	Course Name	Lecture Hours	Credit Hours
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Fall Semester Courses

4962	Human Security	2	2
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Spring Semester Courses

5832	Foundations in Strategy and Intelligence	2	2
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Total Credit Hours: 4

Second Year Diplomacy & Global Affairs Track

Fall Semester Courses

5181	Antisemitism and the Far Right	2	2
6951	Regional Cooperation and the Abraham Accords	2	2

Total Credit Hours: 4

Third Year

Course Code	Course Name	Lecture Hours	Credit Hours
Fall Semester Courses			
4794	Public Speaking	2	1
5178	Democratic Backsliding	2	2
Spring Semester Courses			
4956	Great Power Competition and Cooperation	2	2
4957	Strategic Planning and Policy Analysis	2	2
5179	Project Management	2	1
Total Credit Hours: 8			

Global Affairs and Conflict Resolution Track

Course Code	Course Name	Lecture Hours	Credit Hours
Mandatory all year courses			
5182	Capstone Project	2	4
Mandatory courses- Fall Semester			
4345	China: Society and Politics	2	2
4556	Nationalism, Fascism and Populism	2	2
Mandatory courses- Spring Semester			
3922	Russia	2	2
4595	Strategy and Negotiations in the Nuclear Realm	2	2
4732	Diplomacy, Governance and Law in a Global World	2	2
5183	Marketplace and Practitioners Workshop	2	1
5614	Africa: Between Domestic and Global Perspectives	2	2
Mandatory seminar:			
Spring Semester Seminars			

5615	Understanding Foreign Policy Making	4	4
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Total Credit Hours: 21

Third Year Counter-Terrorism and Homeland Security Track

Course Code	Course Name	Lecture Hours	Credit Hours
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Mandatory all year courses

5182	Capstone Project	2	4
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Mandatory courses – Fall Semester

4502	Law and Terrorism	2	2
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6995	Great Powers and Security in the Middle East	2	2
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5184	Israel's C.T. Policy	2	2
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Mandatory courses - Spring Semester

4733	Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism Innovations	2	2
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5183	Marketplace and Practitioners Workshop	2	1
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6996	Iran: Security, Strategy and Regional Influence	2	2
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6960	New Trends in Online Terrorism and Extremism	2	2
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Mandatory seminar:

Spring Semester Seminar

5612	Terror and Profiling	4	4
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Total Credit Hours: 23

Third Year
Cluster in Business Administration²

Course Code	Course Name	Lecture Hours	Credit Hours
Mandatory courses - Fall Semester			
43	Principles of Marketing Management	4	4
Mandatory courses - Spring Semester			
2362	Organizational Management	4	4
3930	Fundamentals of Personal Finance	2	2
Total Credit Hours: 10			

² Registration to the Business Administration Cluster is conditional upon a combined average of at least 85 in Micro, Macro and Statistics.

Third Year Public Diplomacy Program³

Mandatory Courses

All program courses are only intended for the program participants. Other students will not be allowed to register for any of the courses (not even as a free listener).

Course Code	Course Name	Lecture Hours	Recitation Hours	Total Credit Points	Prerequisites
Year-long Courses					
7674	Seminar: Public diplomacy during conflicts	6		6	
7550	Internship in Digital Public Diplomacy	2		2	
5657	The Brandon Korff Digital Influencers Workshop	4		4	
3453	Digital diplomacy #war	1		1	
7736	Intelligence, Diplomacy and National Security	2		2	
Spring Semester Courses					
7681	War of narratives: Israel in the arena of public diplomacy	2		2	
7761	U.S. & Us: A journey to the keystone of Israel's foreign relations	2		2	
Total Credits				19	

³ For information regarding the application process, please see:
<https://www.idc.ac.il/en/specialprograms/pd/pages/apply.aspx>

Third Year Additional Elective Courses

Course Code	Course	Lecture Hours	Credit Hours	Prerequisites
Yearlong Courses				
4175	Internship Program ⁴	2	2	
Spring Semester Courses				
4734	Negotiation Workshop	2	2	

Exam Schedule

The dates of the examinations can be found on the Reichman University website under

Students → Course Catalogue, student regulations and Syllabi → Search Exams

A personal examinations schedule for each student appears on the Student's information website (My RUNI).

⁴ A select number of third year students may participate in an internship chosen from a list of organizations (NGOs) or institutions. The internship will involve a minimum of six hours per week and submission of an academic paper relevant to the internship experience. Two credits will be awarded for a successful completion of the internship. These 2 credits may be used in lieu of one government elective course.