

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, in order 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 Program in Government features world renowned faculty and combines theory and practice. The BA in Government is built around foundational classes that provide students with the academic knowledge that they need, as well as practical workshops designed to teach skills needed in graduate studies and future careers.

Today's global world calls for both specialization – which we offer in the later stages of the degree – and a solid general knowledge that you acquire via government electives (offered within the Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy and Strategy) and general electives (that may be taken all across campus).

In addition, students may take part in the internship program for two academic credits in their second and/or third year.

Students in the school are also eligible to apply to competitive programs at various stages of their studies: the Argov Fellows Program in Leadership and Diplomacy, the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University, the Research Cadets program, the National Competition in International Humanitarian Law, the Zvi Meitar Emerging Technology Program, the Public Diplomacy Program, the Student Exchange Program, the Rabin Leadership Program, the CO-OP Startup Experience Course, and many more.

Please note that the structure of the program is different for students starting in 2022-2023 than for students already enrolled in the program.

First year students will get a full briefing of the updated structure of the program during the course of their first year of studies.

For 2nd and 3rd year students

The program offers five Clusters:

- Global Affairs & Conflict Resolution
- Counter-Terrorism & Homeland Security
- Middle East
- Public Diplomacy (in cooperation with the School of Communications; application required)
- Business Administration (subject to certain qualifications)

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

Students will take one Cluster of 19 credits and one area of Supplementary Studies in their third year. Supplementary Studies consist of 7 credits taken from another Cluster of studies (not the one chosen as the student's main Cluster).

The breakdown of credits is as follows:

First & Second Years

1st year – required courses

2nd year – required courses

General electives – 8 credits

Third Year

Cluster

Cluster courses – 16 credits

Cluster seminar – 3 credits

Supplementary Studies

Supplementary Studies courses – 4 credits

Supplementary Studies seminar – 3 credits

Government electives – remaining credits for the completion of 120 total credits.

Students are required to take 14 credits of Government electives, i.e. courses offered as part of the Global Affairs, Counter-Terrorism, and Middle East Clusters, as well as Additional Elective courses (see below). Academic Research and Writing and Advanced English 1 & 2 are counted as Government elective courses.

Program of Studies

First Year

Course Code	Course Name	Lecture Hours	Recitation Hours	Credit Hours
Fall Semester Courses				
3110	Excel workshop	1		1
3744	Introduction to Contemporary Middle East and Islam	4		4
3747	Israeli Politics, Society and Culture	3		3
3748	Comparative Politics	3		3
273	International Politics I	3		3
3105	Research Methods	3		3
623	Political Communication	2		2
Spring Semester Courses				
3743	Problem-Solving Workshop	1		1
3745	Introduction to Diplomacy and Global Studies	4		4
3746	Introduction to Security Studies and Counter Terrorism	4		4
3749	Principles of Statistics	3	1	4
3751	Introduction to Political Thought	3		3
3752	Contemporary International Politics	2		2
3753	E-Government and IT Policy	3		3
English Language Fall Semester Courses				
4655	Advanced 1 English	3		3
4050	Academic Research and Writing ¹	2		2

¹ Students taking courses 4655/4656 are not required to take course 4050.

English Language Spring Semester Courses

4656	Advanced 2 English	3	3
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Total Credit Hours 44

Second Year

Course Code	Course Name	Lecture Hours	Recitation Hours	Credit Hours
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Fall Semester Courses

678	Theories in the Study of Terrorism and Guerrilla Warfare	2		2
799	Europe from 1948: From Cooperation to Integration	2		2
4787	American Government and Politics	2		2
343	The Arab-Israeli Conflict and the Peace Process	3		3
4164	Introduction to Israeli Constitutional Law	2		2
3106	Conflict Resolution	2		2

Spring Semester Courses

3094	Internet, Social Media and Politics	2		2
803	International Law	3	1	4
3107	Economics and Diplomacy	2		2
532	Israeli Foreign Policy and Diplomacy	2		2
992	Public Policy in Democracies	3		3
3109	Introduction to Data Science for Government	2	1	3

Choose 2 elective workshops from the list below:

Fall Semester Workshops

4794	Public Speaking	1		1
3110	Excel Workshop	1		1
4807	Innovative Conflict Resolution	1		1

Spring Semester Workshops

4798	Strategic Intelligence in National Security & Business	1	1
3729	Games and Sport for Peace- Building	1	1
3129	Global and Intercultural Communication Leadership	1	1
4871	Leadership and International Security	1	1
Total Credit Hours: 31			

Third Year Cluster in Global Affairs and Conflict Resolution

Course Code	Course Name	Lecture Hours	Credit Hours
Mandatory courses- Fall Semester			
4247	Transatlantic Relations in the 21st century	2	2
4284	The Politics of Post-Colonial Africa	2	2
4556	Nationalism, Fascism and Populism	2	2
4345	China: Society and Politics	2	2
Mandatory courses- Spring Semester			
4732	Diplomacy, Governance and Law in a Global World	2	2
4614	The Media in Conflict Zones	2	2
4595	Strategy and Negotiations in the Nuclear Realm	2	2
3922	Russia	2	2
Choose one seminar:			
Fall Semester Seminars			
4671	International Political Economy: Past to Present, Theory to Practice	3	3
4837	Exploring the Modern International System	3	3
Spring Semester Seminars			
3423	Globalization from East to West	3	3

Total Credit Hours: 19

Third Year Cluster in Middle East

Course Code	Course Name	Lecture Hours	Credit Hours
Mandatory courses- Fall Semester			
4688	Iran and Regional Politics	2	2
877	Palestinian Society and Politics	2	2
3486	Business and Political Economy in the Middle East	2	2
Mandatory courses - Spring Semester			
4602	Energy and Geopolitics in the Gulf	2	2
4597	Nationalism and Islam in the Middle East	2	2
2473	Identities in the Middle East: States, Tribes and Communities	2	2
Year long mandatory course			
3425	Arabic- Language and Culture	2	4
Fall semester Seminar			
2498	Political Culture and Negotiation in the Middle East	3	3
Total Credit Hours: 17			

Third Year

Cluster in Counter-Terrorism and Homeland Security

Course Code	Course Name	Lecture Hours	Credit Hours
Mandatory courses – Fall Semester			
4515	Global Terrorism: ISIS, Al Qaeda and Hezbollah	2	2
3174	Political Violence and Extremism in Israel	2	2
4788	Jihadist Social Media	2	2
4518	Ideology and Doctrine of Islamic Radical Movements	2	2
Mandatory courses - Spring Semester			
3381	Terrorism, Counter-Terrorism and the Middle East	2	2
3382	Counter-Terrorism in Comparative Perspectives	2	2
4733	Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism Innovations	2	2
4502	Law and Terrorism	2	2
Choose one seminar:			
Fall Semester Seminar			
4834	Terrorism, Counter-Terrorism and Technology	3	3
Spring Semester Seminar			
3654	Intelligence, Decision-Making and Counter-Terrorism	3	3
753	Israel's Counter-Terrorism Policy Prof. Boaz Ganor	3	3
Total Credit Hours: 19			

Third Year Cluster in Business Administration²

Course Code	Course Name	Lecture Hours	Credit Hours
Mandatory courses - Fall Semester			
2362	Organizational Management	4	4
3486	Business and Political Economy in the Middle East	2	2
Mandatory courses - Spring Semester			
2150	Entrepreneurship and Business Management	3	3
43	Principles of Marketing Management	4	4
3930	Fundamentals of Personal Finance	2	2
4860	The International Firm in the Global Market	2	2
Mandatory Spring Semester Seminar			
4207	Economic Peace	3	3
Total Credit Hours: 20			

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

Course Code	Course Name	Lecture Hours	Recitation Hours	Total Credit Points	Prerequisites
Year-long Courses					
7674	Seminar: Public Diplomacy during Conflicts	6		6	
Fall Semester Courses					
7681	War of Narratives: Israel in the Arena of Public Diplomacy	2		2	
Spring Semester Courses					
3452	Diplomacy, Innovation and Statesmanship	1		1	
3453	Digital Diplomacy #War	1		1	
3063	Innovative Diplomacy Amb. Ron Prosor	1		2	
3900	Practical tools workshop for public diplomacy	3		3	
7500	Internship in Digital Public Diplomacy	2		2	
7736	Intelligence, Diplomacy and National Security	2		2	

Total Credit Hours: 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	
Fall Semester Course				
3652	Liberty and Responsibility: Exploring the Foundations of the Modern Open Society	2	2	
2668	Public Opinion and Foreign Policy in the U.S.	2	2	
Spring Semester Courses				
4647	Leadership: Governance and Politics	2	2	
2647	Climate Change and International Relations	2	2	
4871	Leadership and International Security	1	1	
Additional Seminar				
3338	Honors Seminar	3	3	88 Avg.

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 IDC).

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. Details about the internships and registration information are available through the Assistant RRIS Government Academic Director, Mr. Ori Barzel (ori.barzel@idc.ac.il).

Argov Fellows Program in Leadership & Diplomacy

The Argov Fellows Program in Leadership and Diplomacy is part of the Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy and Strategy, but is accepting students from all Reichman University schools.

Building on the legacy of former Israeli Ambassador Shlomo Argov z"l, the Argov Fellows Program in Leadership and Diplomacy seeks to prepare around 20 exceptional Reichman University students in their final year of undergraduate studies for future leadership positions for Israel and the Jewish people. Through a year-long, challenging interdisciplinary curriculum, the program seeks to help the students acquire the knowledge, tools, skills and critical thinking abilities necessary for working towards meeting the many challenges that Israel faces in today's complex global environment.

The program, conducted entirely in English, combines academic training and practical skills. Its unique curriculum includes courses, seminars and "hands-on" workshops taught exclusively to Argov Fellows by leading academic and professional experts. The students participate in study tours to Europe, the United States and within Israel. Throughout the year, the students meet exceptional individuals who have obtained leadership positions in a wide range of fields and benefit from in-depth discussions with them regarding their values, career paths, and defining moments.

The program concludes with the public presentation of capstone group projects in which the fellows propose their solutions to pressing problems that Israel faces. Argov Alumni have carried on to eminent fellowship programs such as Koret, Fulbright and Legacy Heritage, graduate programs at Yale, Georgetown University, Oxford, and the London School of Economics and employment positions in public, private, and non-profit sectors.

Program of Studies

Course Code	Course Name	Lecture Hours	Recitation Hours	Credit Hours
4606	Political Strategy in Israel	2*		2
3240	Narratives in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict	2**		2
4833	Social and Business Entrepreneurship ♦	2**		2
3818	Media Ethics in the Digital Age	2*		2
4839	Tradition and Innovation: The balancing Act of Jewish life ♦	2* 2**		2
4643	Capstone Project Research Workshop	2* 2**		
4238	Current Challenges Facing Israeli Society	2* 2**		2
4016	Argov Seminar	2* 2**		4
4765	Informal Session	2* 2**		
4015	Topical Issues in the EU	2*		2
873	Leadership in Practice: Rhetoric, Public Speaking, and Debate	3*		2
3250	Current Political Developments	3*		3
4694	China: Society and Politics	2*		2
4857	The US Political and Legal System	2**		1
4856	US Foreign Policy in the Middle East	2**		2

4868	World Order in the Twenty-First Century	2*	1
3819	The Global Impact of the Technological Revolution ♦	2**	1
4759	Study Tour to Europe and the US		3
4842	Negotiations	2**	2
4869	Psychological Aspects of Leaders and Groups	2*	1
4300	International Political Economy	2**	2
4870	Critical Thinking and Research Skills	1* 1**	2
Total Semester Hours			40
*	First Semester Course		
**	Second Semester Course		
♦	Intensive Course		