

**Interdisciplinary Major Proposal**

**International Political Economy &  
Applied Mathematics**

**Jeremy Williams**

**Class of 2014**

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**Rationale**

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I aim to be a civil servant, and the proposed interdisciplinary major prepares me to be an excellent one. Studying International Political Economy & Applied Mathematics prepares me to effectively deal with public policy, whether as a diplomat, actuary, or college professor.

Inspired by the Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE) degree, this proposed degree develops analytical ability with breadth and rigor. Different versions of the PPE degree have prepared civil servants with rigorous breadth since 1920, and I envision this proposal to be its twenty-first century counterpart. Whereas the PPE degree of decades past develops a base of knowledge and ability from which to draw incisive insights, the International Political Economy & Applied Mathematics builds on top of that base. It develops the ability to apply quantitative methods to the task of analyzing, evaluating, and implementing public policy within the framework of International Relations and Economics combined.

As such, each aspect of this proposal advances the pursuit of my primary career path, and its alternatives. My ideal route to becoming a diplomat follows through a Master in Public Affairs, with a concentration in Economic Analysis and Public Policy. The entirety of the proposed curriculum contributes to a firm foundation upon which to develop the skill set and knowledge developed during such a graduate program in further preparation to join the diplomatic corps. Similarly, the economics and mathematics components prepare me for doctoral study and the subsequent pursuit of a professorship. And, in pursuing a career as an actuary, the economics and mathematics components are in fact necessary to satisfy the Validation by Educational Experience certification and complete actuarial examinations.

In addition to developing substantive knowledge in preparation for graduate study and actuarial accreditation, studying International Political Economy & Applied Mathematics also further develops effective communication skills. The proposed curriculum not only builds the ability to employ quantitative analysis, but also the ability to effectively interpret it. And veritably, the ability to effectively interpret information is a prerequisite for successful participation in each of my potential endeavors.

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**Requirements**

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The proposed program of study satisfies the requirements for an interdisciplinary major, including: a clear title; thematic coherence; greater than ten courses, with over four at or above the 300-level, over half of which will be taken in residence; and a capstone experience conducting research which applies combined aspects of each discipline. Although studying abroad is required of the IR major, financial constraints preclude my incorporating it into this proposal.

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**Supervisory Committee**

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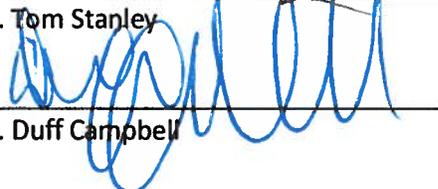
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Dr. Kiril Kolev



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Dr. Tom Stanley



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Dr. Duff Campbell

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**Courses**

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**International Relations**

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<b>POLI 251</b>	<b>Theories of International Relations</b>
POLI 260	Political Economy
POLI 282	Foreign Policy Analysis
POLI 400	Research Methods

<b>Bold – Completed</b> <i>Italics – In progress</i>
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**Economics**

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<i>BUSI 200</i>	<i>Fundamentals of Accounting and Business</i>
<i>ECON 300</i>	<i>Intermediate Microeconomics</i>
<b>ECON 310</b>	<b>Intermediate Macroeconomics</b>
ECON 400	Econometrics and Forecasting

**Mathematics**

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<b>MATH 130</b>	<b>Calculus I (transfer credit)</b>
MATH 140	Calculus II
MATH 290	Introduction to Advanced Mathematics
MATH 270	Linear Algebra

**Capstone**

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POLI 497	Senior Research Seminar
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**Course Schedule**

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**2012-2013**

<u>Fall 2012</u>	<u>Spring 2013</u>
<i>BUSI 200</i> <i>Fundamentals of Accounting and Business</i>	<b>POLI 260</b> <b>Political Economy</b>
<i>BUSI 250</i> <i>Principles of Statistics</i>	<b>POLI 282</b> <b>Foreign Policy Analysis</b>
<i>ECON 300</i> <i>Intermediate Microeconomics</i>	<b>POLI 400</b> <b>Research Methods</b>
<i>HIST 341</i> <i>The Arab-Israeli Conflict</i>	<b>POLI 440</b> <b>Politics of Development</b>

**2013-2014**

<u>Fall 2013</u>	<u>Spring 2014</u>
<b>ECON 400</b> <b>Econometrics and Forecasting</b>	<b>MATH 290</b> <b>Intro to Advanced Mathematics</b>
<b>MATH 140</b> <b>Calculus II</b>	
<b>MATH 270</b> <b>Linear Algebra</b>	
<b>POLI 497</b> <b>Senior Research Seminar</b>	

<b>Bold – Proposed Course Requirement</b> <i>Italics – In progress</i>
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