Secure Studies
might include:
specific skills and experiences. These
With your Security Studies major,

WHY SECURITY STUDIES?
The Security Studies program is unique
in that:
Security Studies is a growing career
field;
It is interdisciplinary and examines
security-related issues at all levels of
government;
Students are encouraged to talk to
their advisor about the potential for
double-majoring, rather than doing
a minor, which many students can do
within the same number of credits.

WHAT CAN I LEARN?
While completing the Security Studies major, you can expect to:
• Develop the skills necessary to succeed in a professional environment;
• Understand the concepts and theories relevant to this career field;
• Gain practical knowledge about the modern world and insights into the
major issues of our age;
• Communicate
• Learn basic concepts relevant to the structures, power, procedures and
problems in the international system, and how the U.S. interfaces with
them;
• Identify and understand the factors that influence international,
domestic, and individual security;
• Analyze the ways in which cultures, societies, politics, economics,
power, environment, and religions can result in conflict between and
within states;
• Assess foreign and security policies.

DEGREE OPTIONS
To earn a BS in Security Studies you will need to complete a minimum of 120 credit
hours, including:
• General Education requirements
• 15 credit hours in Core Security Studies courses
• 6 credit hours of writing and
communication cognate courses
• 24 credit hours of electives from at least 4
different disciplines
• At least 18 credit hours in a minor.

TO ECU THROUGH THE OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS
www.ecu.edu/admissions. To be
considered for admission, applicants must submit their high
school transcript and standardized
test scores. Transfer applicants submit
official transcripts from all previously
attended institutions. Application
deadlines and specific admissions
requirements for freshmen and transfer
applicants are listed on the website.

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## Multidisciplinary Studies: Security Studies MAJOR MAP

### Course Requirements

#### FIRST YEAR
- Begin completing the General Education requirements (ENGL 1100 & MATH 1050). Register for SECS 1000 (Fall), JUST 1000 & POLS 2020. If completing the BA in MULT: SECS, begin taking foreign language requirements. Work with your advisor to develop your academic plan in DegreeWorks.

#### SECOND YEAR
- Continue to progress with general education requirements and foreign languages (if needed) and begin with your SECs electives.
- Use the Occupational Outlook Handbook, USAjobs.gov, and/ or other resources available through Career Services to identify common skills in your career field. Take classes that will help you develop the skills that will make you marketable when you graduate.

#### THIRD YEAR
- Complete general education requirements and register for any remaining SECs core courses, including POLS 3031 in the fall. Continue with SECs electives and second major or minor courses. Be sure you have 45 SECs completed.
- Internships, part-time jobs, student leadership positions, volunteer, and community engagement activities can help build your résumé and give you valuable experience. Connect directly with faculty members who share your interests, network and identify future opportunities.

#### FOURTH YEAR
- Complete electives for major/minor/second major. Register for SECs 4000: Senior Seminar in Security Studies in the spring. Meet with your academic advisor before the year starts to be sure you will have a minimum of 120 semester hours and all the requirements to complete the major. Apply for graduation!

### Gain Relevant Experience
- Spend some time each year reviewing qualifications for positions advertised on USAJobs.gov and elsewhere.
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- Meet with Career Services to investigate job-related skills and identify gaps in your résumé so you can address them early. Log in to ECU CareerNet to set up your profile, check out career events, and begin to explore potential employers and job opportunities.

### Community Connection
- Explore your major and career options in consultation with your advisor. By the end of your first year you should have identified the experience necessary for the kinds of employment you may be interested in and start thinking about relevant internships and the potential to study abroad.
- Pay attention to emails from the department that will let you know about upcoming guest lectures, internship opportunities, and special events. Keep up with the department social calendar to attend events. Consider opportunities to get involved with quantitative research, and experience with GIS.
- Join student and national organizations that suit your interests, which may include the International Studies Association or Women in International Security.
- Consider pursuing leadership positions in on-campus student organizations. For a full list of student organizations, visit OrgSync.
- Connect with the Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement to explore local opportunities. Also consider contacting community partners using the OrgSync directory. To build your professional network, join a professional organization like International Political Science Association.
- Submit a proposal to present a polished research paper from one of your classes at a relevant professional conference such as the International Security Studies Section of International Studies Association; International Security and Arms Control Section of the American Political Science Association Joint Annual Conference.

### Apply for Scholarships Each Year
- Meet with your Academic Advisor to put your post-graduation plans into action. Refine your résumé, LinkedIn profile, and interview skills. Complete the Pirate Employment Survey.

### Consider an Internship and/or Study Abroad
- Use the Occupational Outlook Handbook, USAjobs.gov, and/ or other resources available through Career Services to identify common skills in your career field. Take classes that will help you develop the skills that will make you marketable when you graduate.
- Internships, part-time jobs, student leadership positions, volunteer, and community engagement activities can help build your résumé and give you valuable experience. Connect directly with faculty members who share your interests, network and identify future opportunities.

### Think Globally
- Integrate internationally-oriented classes into your electives. If you are considering a foreign language, check the critical languages identified by agencies of interest. Consider volunteer work abroad with NGOs/international aid organizations like the Peace Corps and International Red Cross.
- Consider studying abroad. Work with the Office of Global Affairs and the Career Center to learn how to leverage your study abroad experience to improve your job placement possibilities.
- Being internationally aware and culturally competent is increasingly important. Consider taking courses such as GOGO 3003 Political Geography; RELI 1690 World Religions; POLS 3291 Politics of Genocide in the 20th Century; RELI 3800 Religion and Violence.
- Take on a leadership position in one of your globally-oriented student organizations. Complete your program by incorporating more internationally-focused courses.

### Career Preparedness
- Meet with your Career Counselor to explore your goals and develop your résumé. Attend career fairs and other employer-related activities. Speak to your instructors and advisors about career options often. Spend some time each year reviewing qualifications for positions advertised on USA Jobs.gov and elsewhere.
- Meet with Career Services to investigate job-related skills and identify gaps in your résumé so you can address them early. Log in to ECU CareerNet to set up your profile, check out career events, and begin to explore potential employers and job opportunities.
- Consider studying abroad. Work with the Office of Global Affairs and the Career Center to learn how to leverage your study abroad experience to improve your job placement possibilities.
- Remember that some careers in this field require that you apply as much as a year in advance. It may not be too early to start applying this spring. Develop your LinkedIn profile. If helpful, research graduate schools and program requirements. Continue to attend career fairs and other employer-related events. Work with Career Services to identify potential job opportunities.

### Post-Grad Options
- Students who graduate with a degree in Security Studies have a variety of career options. Some of these include:
  - Federal, state or local intelligence or law enforcement
  - Contract work for security-related agencies
  - Domestic or international think tanks, interest groups or non-profit organizations
  - Local or state government
  - Law school
  - Private sector security and intelligence
  - Graduate school
  - Military service

### Visit Us Online
- For more information and an interactive map PDF, visit: www.securitystudies.ecu.edu