

In Armenia, the Center has become known as a resource for a variety of policy issues. In its various projects, the Center is able to draw on expertise from the Graduate School of Political Science and International Affairs' permanent and visiting faculty. In addition to its regular staff of researchers, the Center hosts Research Fellows and Visiting Scholars who have conducted research in areas such as energy policy and conflict resolution. The Center hires students and graduates of the Graduate School as short-term assistants for research projects, thus providing students with opportunities for direct participation in applying knowledge gained in the classroom to practical research in the field. All full-time Center researchers are graduates of the School.

The Center's staff and associated faculty have developed both formal and informal cooperative activities with the Armenian National Assembly, many of Armenia's Ministries and their staffs, the United Nations, the World Bank, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and a variety of international non-governmental organizations working in Armenia, as well as indigenous non-governmental organizations. The Center's work has focused on research in the areas of democratic systems and local governance, housing policy, legislative processes at the national level, elementary education policy, print and broadcast media policy, higher education policy, election legislation and constitutional rights.

CPA books include the 1997 CPA Directory of Print Media in the Republic of Armenia (1997, Armenian and English), CPA's 1996 Guide to the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia (1996, Armenian, English, and Russian), and The Armenian Military Forces in the First Half of the 18th Century (1997, English and Armenian).

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For information on admission requirements and the application process, please contact the AUA Office of Admissions and Student Academic Affairs, phone 51-27-93. To learn more about the Graduate School of Political Science and International Affairs, please contact:

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We invite you to explore our web site for more information on the Graduate School of Political Science and International Affairs at the American University of Armenia: <http://www.aul.am>.

The **definitive text** describing this program is the one on our Internet site.

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF ARMENIA



GRADUATE SCHOOL OF
POLITICAL SCIENCE AND
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Information Brochure

MASTER OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Yerevan
Republic of Armenia
2006

ACADEMIC MISSION AND PROGRAM

The School of Political Science and International Affairs offers students a comprehensive set of courses dealing with the political environment of the 21st Century. The School's primary focus is to provide students with analytical, reasoning, and problem solving skills through the study of international, comparative, and domestic institutions in governance and of political systems and processes. The Master of Political Science and International Affairs aims to provide students with the knowledge and perspectives needed to function effectively and responsibly in public service, the private sector, and the non-governmental sector and as agents for change in society. The breadth and flexibility of the curriculum enables students to better understand the interplay between international and regional politics, as well as the socioeconomic issues that influence the transformations taking place in Armenia, in its government, and in the region. The School's approach is multi-disciplinary with strong emphasis placed upon providing students with a comprehensive understanding of democratic governance at the local, national, and international levels.

The School offers a six-quarter graduate program leading to the degree of Master of Political Science and International Affairs. The Master of Political Science and International Affairs provides students with the skills and analytical perspectives needed to function effectively in government service as future administrators, diplomats, policy analysts, and researchers and in accomplished careers in the private sector. The School's approach is inter-disciplinary and strong emphasis is placed upon providing students with a comprehensive understanding of policy making processes, policy evaluation and

research methods, and policy implementation and administration.

The breadth and flexibility of the program enables students to concentrate on complex interactions among international and regional political systems and processes and their relationship to Armenian national development.

The majority of the School's graduates are working in international organizations, in diplomatic missions, the Armenian government and agencies, and in educational and research institutes.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

To graduate with a Master of Political Science and International Affairs, students must complete 80 credit hours of coursework, including the completion of either a Master's Essay or an Internship Policy Project in the final quarter of study. Both the Essay and Internship carry six units of academic credit. All course units in the School, unless otherwise indicated, represent either two or four hours of class attendance per week by the student.

Full-time students must carry at least 12 credit units per quarter and complete all departmental requirements in no more than three academic years. Degree candidacy will automatically lapse after this period. A course load of more than 16 credit units or less than 10 credit units requires prior approval from the Dean of the School. All required courses, except the Master's Essay and Internship, must be taken on a letter grade basis. For graduation, a cumulative grade-point average of 3.0 or higher is required.

THE M.A. CURRICULUM

Students are provided with "total immersion" in western political science methods and theory through introductory courses in their first year of study and are taught critical thinking based on objective analyses. The curriculum is comprised of courses in the following subfields of the discipline: Political theory and methods, international politics, public administration, public policy, and economics. Multiple courses are offered in each of these fields throughout the students' two years of study. All courses have a strong emphasis on comparative analyses and on bringing practical applications of theory into the classroom. The curriculum is divided into first and second year studies, with some courses requiring prerequisites.

TURPANJIAN CENTER FOR POLICY ANALYSIS

The Turpanjian Center for Policy Analysis was established in 1995 in order to conduct multi-disciplinary applied research in a broad spectrum of contemporary social, political, and legal fields concerning Armenia and the surrounding region. The Center's central mission is to promote greater knowledge and understanding through objective and independent research and policy analysis using the latest methodologies.

The Center is a non-profit and independent organization and is supported through a major donation by the Jerry Turpanjian Family Fund and contracts and grants from organizations such as the Urban Institute, Development Associates, the World Bank, and the United States Information Agency. The Center is a member of the Transition Policy Network, a consortium of research institutes in Eastern Europe and the CIS that collaborate on policy reform projects.