

## ABOUT INTEGRATIVE SOCIAL SCIENCE (ISS) AND THE ISS M.S. DEGREE:

- **What will I learn in the Integrative Social Science M.S. program?**

We take an exciting, forward-looking approach to the theories, methods, and practices that social scientists use to address concerns across the human condition. The Integrative approach to Social Science explodes traditional intellectual boundaries and employs a method that fuses the most important aspects of economics, sociology, political science, philosophy, science and technology studies, and jurisprudence. We study society as an emergent whole and analyze: the interconnections between social, economic and political systems; relations between nation-states; the emergence of global governance; socio-economic and socio-political conditions; and the social effects of science and technology.

- **What skills will I acquire in the ISS M.S. program?**

Students graduate with skills desired in many professional fields, including creative problem-solving abilities, the capacity to work effectively in both team-centered and self-directed contexts, advanced analytical knowledge of complex social and global issues, research experience, and professional writing and communication skills.

- **What opportunities will be available to me with a M.S. degree in Integrative Social Science?**

Whether you wish to move on to a Ph.D. program in the social sciences or humanities, or to enter the professional workforce upon graduation, the ISS M.S degree provides excellent preparation. The ISS program immerses students in skill sets relevant to success in both academia and many professional fields: Policy analysis, Research analysis, Health policy, Public administration, Environmental management, Sustainability, Organizational management, Business operations analysis.

- **What classes will I take? What are the graduation requirements?**

Required core courses (12 credit hours) are team-taught by experts in political science, sociology, economics and philosophy.

ISS 501 Advanced Integrated Social Research Methods  
ISS 502 Advanced Seminar in Integrated Social Science  
ISS 504 Advanced Integrated Theories of Social Science  
ISS 505 Multivariate Methodologies of Social Science

You choose electives (12 credit hours) from these courses or others approved by your advisor:

ISS 506 Community Governance, Leadership, and Civic Engagement  
ISS 508 Knowledge, Innovation, and Social Change  
ISS 510 Religion, Secularism, and Social Dynamics

ISS 512 Advanced Integrative Ethics in Social Science  
ISS 514 Cultural Diversity and Gender Understanding  
ISS 516 Conflict Resolution, Peace Studies, and Social Movements  
ISS 518 Science, Technology, and Social Systems  
ISS 522 Globalization and International Political Economy  
ISS 562 Politics of Development and Underdevelopment

You decide on the culminating experience best suited for you (6 hours)

Option 1 ISS 599 Thesis (6 credits)

*Recommended for those who may go on to a doctoral program.*

Option 2 ISS 593 Applied Project and ISS 584 Internship (3 credits each)

*Recommended for those looking to advance in a professional field.*

- **Is the degree available online?**

No, not at this time. All classes are taught face-to-face in a traditional small-group graduate seminar format.

- **Where are classes taught?**

Classes are taught by the Faculty of Social Science in the College of Integrative Sciences and Arts on Arizona State University's Polytechnic Campus in Mesa, Arizona, in the eastern part of the Phoenix metropolitan area.

- **Is housing available on or near the ASU Polytechnic campus?**

Yes. Follow this link for more information: <https://housing.asu.edu/housing-communities/housing-rates-and-costs/polytechnic-housing-costs>

- **Who can I contact to find out more information about the program?**

For more information about the ISS M.S. program, contact:

Scott Scheall, PhD  
Interim Graduate Studies Director Social Science  
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OR

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Faculty Head Social Science  
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ABOUT APPLYING TO THE ISS M.S. PROGRAM:

- **Who can apply?**

We welcome applicants with a bachelor's degree in the social sciences or a related field, or who want to pursue a second master's degree. Our conception of a field related to the social sciences is fairly broad, so please do not hesitate to contact us, if you would like to know whether the major in which you earned your bachelor's degree qualifies.

- **When should I apply? Is there a deadline?**

We accept applications year-round; there is no deadline. However, like most graduate programs, we encourage students to enter the program in the fall semester, which typically begins in mid-August, so it is advisable to submit your application by May 1<sup>st</sup> for admittance in the fall. In rare cases, under special circumstances, we will accept students for admittance in the spring semester.

- **What materials do I need to apply?**

Academic transcripts and scores from the GRE exam are required. International students must provide evidence of English proficiency.

- **What are your admissions requirements? What is the minimum undergraduate GPA required for acceptance in the program? What is the minimum GRE score required for acceptance?**

We evaluate applications on a case-by-case basis, so we do not set strict minimum quantitative standards for acceptance. We are looking for students well-suited to graduate study in the social sciences. Many factors are considered in making this determination, including a student's undergraduate major and university attended, as well as GRE scores, cumulative undergraduate GPA, major GPA, and junior-senior GPA.

## **How do I apply?**

1. Complete the Application for Graduate Admissions:

<https://webapp4.asu.edu/dgsadmissions/>

2. In addition to the Application for Graduate Admission, a complete application package requires:

- Official transcripts from all institutions of higher learning attended to date

Official transcripts must be delivered to Graduate Admission Services for processing:

U.S. Mail:  
Arizona State University  
Graduate Admission Services  
P.O. Box 870112  
Tempe, AZ 85287-0112

If sending by FedEx, DHL or UPS:

Graduate Admission Services  
Arizona State University  
1151 S. Forest Avenue, #SSV112  
Tempe, AZ 85287-0112

- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores

Please arrange to have the Educational Testing Service, the organization that administers the GRE, deliver your scores to ASU at **Institution Code 4007**.

### **I have previous graduate credit from another program. Will this count toward a M.S. in Integrative Social Science?**

In some cases, credit may be applied to our requirements. Credit earned in other master's programs is reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Contact the Director of Graduate Studies for more information.

### **Once admitted to the program, how do I pay for graduate school?**

At this time, the program does not offer TA or RA opportunities within the Social Science unit itself. This should change in the future. However, there are many TA and RA opportunities available in other units across ASU. It is just a matter of doing some research into relevant programs. Naturally, it would be best to start by investigating social science-related programs to see if they have any such positions. Consider looking at the departments of economics, sociology, anthropology, philosophy, public policy, the law school, and various other social science-related units. Some information regarding general resources for TAs and RAs can be found here: <https://graduate.asu.edu/ta-ra>. Unfortunately, ASU does not have a central website where all open TA and RA positions are listed. Each of the academic departments and research centers at the University administers their own TA-ships and RA-ships. So, it requires some legwork to hunt down these opportunities.

In addition to investigating any opportunities that might be available within ASU's academic departments, there are several research centers across the University that routinely offer TA-ships and RA-ships. Here are just a few of the resources that you should explore:

Institute for Social Science Research: <https://issr.asu.edu>

Consortium for Science and Policy Outcomes: <http://cspo.org>  
Lincoln Center for Applied Ethics: <https://lincolncenter.asu.edu>  
Center for Political Thought and Leadership: <https://clas.asu.edu/content/center-political-thought-and-leadership>  
School of Civic and Economic Thought and Leadership: <https://scetl.asu.edu>  
Center for the Study of Economic Liberty: <https://research.wpcarey.asu.edu/economic-liberty/>  
Institute for Humanities Research: <https://ihr.asu.edu>

In addition to, or perhaps instead of, a TA or RA-ship, there are other methods available to cover your graduate school expenses. This page lists fellowships and awards available to graduate students: <https://graduate.asu.edu/pay-for-college>. Also look at the tabs on the same page for “work” and “loans,” which are yet further ways to subsidize your education.