International Relations & Political Science

Choose your degree
Flinders University offers a range of flexible degrees covering areas such as Law, Languages, Business and Arts. Combine your degree to pursue multiple passions and broaden your job prospects.

Expert teaching
Flinders’ international relations and political science degrees are taught by teachers who are leaders in their fields. Our close industry links with leading partners, practical Work Integrated Learning (WIL) placement opportunities and a strong focus on future policy trends will help you graduate job-ready.

Gain real-world experience
You’ll have the opportunity to gain real-world experience through placements, field studies and simulated workplace settings and assessment activities.
Broaden your horizons and add an elective to your degree to explore space law and policy. You’ll learn how to innovatively tackle problems in space, and gain skills that you can take with you to any industry. And, if you’re looking for a global experience, it’s the first step before taking part in our Vienna Space Internship Program.

New Flinders city campus
Located in the growing heart of the CBD, the North Terrace & Riverbank Precinct, Flinders’ new city campus is metres away from the central Adelaide Railway Station, making study at Flinders open to all.

At Flinders, it’s all about your global career

Acknowledgement of Country
Flinders University acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the lands and waters on which its campuses are located. These are the Traditional Lands of the Arrernte, Dagoman, First Nations of the South East, First Peoples of the River Murray & Mallee region, Jawoyn, Kaurna, Larrakia, Ngadjuri, Ngarrindjeri, Raminjjeri, Warumungu, Wardaman and Yolngu people. We honour their Elders past, present and emerging.
Develop global skills
Flinders’ international relations and political science degrees will teach you the skills to play a part in world events and drive political, social and economic change through exciting careers in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors.

Study with international experts
Study with SA’s largest group of international relations and political science experts, and gain practical experience through industry placements and opportunities to travel to Indonesia, China, Japan, USA and elsewhere, including unique internship opportunities with the US Congress (Washington) and Consulate (Melbourne).

A career in diplomacy, international aid or global consulting
An incredible breadth of career opportunities awaits you in a range of international organisations, in the public or not-for-profit sectors, or as a diplomat. You could work locally for a government department or an SA-based business, pursue a corporate career helping set international policy or help change the world with organisations like Amnesty International or Projects Abroad.

No. 1 in SA in Political Sciences*
* 2022 Academic Ranking of World Universities, public SA-founded universities only

Top 300 in the world for Public Administration**
** 2022 Academic Ranking of World Universities

Flinders University’s links with world-class universities and organisations enable you to undertake an exchange program or internship that will enhance your international relations and political science experience.

There are opportunities all over the world, and over 120 of our students have studied or worked in the US since 2000, some for a semester or more.

For those interested in an experience closer to home, you can also participate in internationally relevant internships onshore, with a variety of organisations in Adelaide and across Australia.

Take your studies global
Key affiliated international institutions in North America, Europe and Asia include:
• Georgetown University – Washington, USA
• York University – Toronto, Canada
• Uppsala University – Uppsala, Sweden
• UNESCO-IHE, Institute for Water Research – The Netherlands
• Hiroshima University – Hiroshima, Japan
• Nanke University – Tianjin, China
• Parahyangan Catholic University – Bandung, Indonesia
• International Network of Universities
• Department of Defence – Adelaide and Canberra
• Defence Science and Technology Group – Adelaide and Canberra
• Cabinet Office, Department of the Premier and Cabinet – South Australia
• Department of Human Services
• Amnesty International
• Australian Consortium for In-Country Indonesian Studies (ACICIS)
• Universitas Gadjah Mada – Yogyakarta, Indonesia.
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
& POLITICAL SCIENCE

Bachelor of International Relations and Political Science

Bachelor of International Relations and Political Science (Honours)

In this degree you’ll develop an understanding of how to drive policy development at home and abroad. You’ll graduate with a comprehensive understanding of key political, social, economic and strategic relations within the domestic and global communities.

Combined degrees

Explore your interests and unlock more career opportunities by combining degrees.

By combining your degree with a qualification in another discipline, you’ll connect diverse knowledge in unique ways and develop specialised abilities to help you stand out from the pack. Studying a combined degree at Flinders is the key to enhancing your career opportunities. Example degree combinations:

Bachelor of Languages/Bachelor of International Relations and Political Science

SATAC code (Bedford Park) 214921

Leverage your love of languages into a career engaging with political, social and cultural issues in Australia and around the world.

Bachelor of International Relations and Political Science/Bachelor of Arts

SATAC code (Bedford Park) 244191

Combine your interest in political, social and cultural issues with the complex critical thinking skills required to solve some of the world’s greatest challenges.

Other combinations

Bachelor of Accounting

SATAC code (Bedford Park) 244001

Learn the policy and political skills that will be needed by the policy-makers and leaders of tomorrow – in Australia and around the world.

Study policy areas such as social policy, Indigenous affairs, multiculturalism, education, trade, economic development, foreign affairs and human rights.

Gain real-world understanding of how Parliament and public agencies work through placement opportunities.

Meet professionals working on current international ventures and build your international professional profile.

Engage with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and defence officials in simulated activities.

Experience South Australian politics first-hand through the South Australian Parliamentary Internship and the South Australian Cabinet Office Internship, or take your studies overseas with the Washington Internship Program.

Career opportunities

Your degree could open up a range of employment opportunities, including:

- policy analyst
- diplomat or public service officer
- journalist or digital media content maker/manager
- international aid or development worker
- electorate officer
- researcher, analyst or assistant
- intelligence, security or political analyst

Potential employers include:

- Federal, state and local government
- international aid sector
- not-for-profit sector
- private sector
- consulting firms.

Washington Internship Program

The Washington Internship Program provides you with an opportunity, unparalleled in Australia, to experience political life in Washington DC.

Flinders has been sending students on this unique seven-week placement in the US Congress since the program’s inception in 2000. To date, we’ve sent over 127 students to Capitol Hill.

The program can give you a unique insight into US politics and an appreciation of the workings of the American political system.

As a participant in the program, you will work full-time in the office of a member of the United States Senate or the US House of Representatives. The goal of the internship is to provide an experience of political life in an influential congressional office and the many tasks, priorities and pressures of that office.

To find out more visit: flinders.edu.au/washington-internship-program

South Australian Parliamentary Internship

2022 was the 27th anniversary of the prestigious South Australian Parliamentary Internship Program.

The program gives you the opportunity to experience how Parliament operates from the inside, enhancing both your degree and future career opportunities.

Interns will work attached to the office of a Member of Parliament while completing a public policy research project nominated by the member, under the formal supervision of a member of the Flinders academic staff.

“If I had the chance to do this again, I would... you will make new friends, experience different cultures, see Washington up close, and develop all the skills necessary to help you gain employment post-study.”

Kyle Whenan
Intern, 2022 Washington Internship Program
Starting at Flinders

One of the world’s top universities, Flinders offers students a supportive, inclusive education in an unrivalled study environment.

Flinders is ranked in the top 2% of universities in the world*  
* The World University Rankings 2023 as a percentage of the total number of universities in the world according to the International Association of Universities

Flinders’ Adelaide campuses include the Bedford Park campus, featuring an award-winning hub and plaza, with retail, food outlets and a state-of-the-art sport and fitness centre.

Flinders at Tonsley houses state-of-the-art facilities and close links to industry. In 2024, our Victoria Square CBD campus will move to the stunning new Flinders at Festival Tower on North Terrace, right beside the Adelaide Railway Station.

Take a virtual tour of Flinders University and explore our amazing locations. It’s the next best thing to being here!  
Flinders.edu.au/vr

This is Flinders

Flinders at Festival Plaza – opening 2024
Flinders University students want flexibility, convenience and connectivity. That’s why we’re taking our presence in the Adelaide CBD to a whole new level. As an anchor tenant in the new Festival Plaza development on North Terrace, Flinders will offer new courses and new career pathways in a new city campus.

Bedford Park
Flinders’ huge main campus features an award-winning hub and plaza, with retail, food outlets and a state-of-the-art sport and fitness centre.

Tonsley
Flinders at Tonsley is a place where our students interact with business, and where business interacts with our researchers in areas such as engineering, medical devices and nanoscale technologies.
Getting to Flinders

Transport options
The Flinders Railway Line gets you from the CBD to Tonsley in a super-fast 20 minutes, or to Bedford Park in just 22 minutes. And with free Campus Connector and Tonsley Link bus services running 7am – 6pm Monday to Friday, getting to and from your studies is simple. You’ll be able to schedule your day without worrying about missing a single lecture!

flinders.edu.au/loop-bus

Plan your trip to Flinders:
adelaidemetro.com.au/routes/flndrs

The Flinders railway line is now open
The new Flinders train line has made travel easier and more convenient than ever, linking Bedford Park to our Tonsley campus and the Adelaide city centre, now just 22 minutes away.

A new link from the north
Opened in June 2022, the electrified Gawler Rail Line provides services from the northern suburbs to the CBD, with express services expected to take around 48 minutes from Gawler to the CBD.

Plan your trip to Flinders CBD:
adelaidemetro.com.au/routes/gawc

Gawler to Festival Plaza in 48 minutes

The Flinders Station is now open, providing easy access to the Gawler Central Station and connecting you to the Gawler Rail Line and the Gawler to Festival Plaza service in 48 minutes.

Get in touch with our friendly staff for more information or visit flinders.edu.au/transport/ for detailed transport options and maps.
Get more out of your study

Combined degrees
Combining your degree with a qualification in another discipline will give you more expertise and expand your career prospects. Studying a combined degree at Flinders will help you stand out from the crowd. A combined degree is a combination of two Flinders bachelor degrees. As a combined degree graduate you will have two qualifications in just one to one-and-a-half years of extra study. There are dozens of combinations available, so why not explore your interests and find out where a combined degree could take you?

Our combined degree programs are designed to enhance your educational, academic and professional qualifications while minimising the cost and length of your studies. Flinders’ combined degrees allow you to undertake in-depth study in exciting combinations that aren’t usually available in single degrees.

[link]

Flinders diplomas
Flinders’ diploma-level qualifications give you the chance to experience university life without having to commit to long-term study. The one-year Diploma in Business, Diploma in Sports Management, Diploma in Laws, or Diploma in Arts give you the chance to explore a range of interests, and successful completion allows you to apply for up to one year of credit towards a range of bachelor degrees, and guaranteed entry to the following courses:

- Bachelor of Archaeology
- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Business
- Bachelor of Business Economics
- Bachelor of Creative Industries (Digital Media, Film and Television, Interactive Design, Theatre and Performance, Writing and Publishing, Festivals and Arts Production)
- Bachelor of Disability and Community Inclusion
- Bachelor of Disability and Developmental Education
- Bachelor of Engineering Science
- Bachelor of Information Technology
- Bachelor of International Relations and Political Science
- Bachelor of Laws - Legal Practice Entry
- Bachelor of Laws (Honours) - Legal Practice Entry
- Bachelor of Science

Standard University admission requirements apply. The Diploma in Sports Management will teach you the core skills needed to begin a career in sports management, backed by over 100 hours of practical and hands-on training with Port Adelaide players, management and staff.

The Diploma in Language offers a solid foundation for learning and using a language of your choice, and will help you develop cross-cultural knowledge and skills that are invaluable in international workplaces.

[link]

Flinders.edu.au/combineddegrees

Begin your journey to a successful career

If you have secondary education

Year 12 entry
Most Year 12 applicants enter university via the traditional entry method, where offers are made to eligible applicants with the highest selection rank until all places in the degree are filled. Your selection rank is used by Flinders to assess your admission to a course and is based on your ATAR plus any adjustment factors for which you are eligible.

[link]

Guaranteed entry
If you achieve an ATAR equal to or above the published guaranteed entry selection rank (and you meet course prerequisites) you will be guaranteed a place at Flinders. We offer guaranteed entry for most courses.

Indigenous Admission Scheme
The Indigenous Admission Scheme provides an alternative pathway for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, who may not have been able to gain entry to university by traditional means, with the opportunity to study at Flinders.

See page 16 for further details.

Elite Athlete Pathway
If you’ve officially represented your school or state at a national level competition, we’ll consider your school’s recommendation about your academic potential when you apply.

[link]

uniTEST
If you’re in Year 12, uniTEST is available to enhance your chances of getting into Flinders. We will select students based on their Year 12 results (60% weighting toward the ATAR selection rank) and uniTEST results (40%). Flinders will also consider applicants based on their uniTEST results (100%) as a standalone entry score (subject to SACE completion and any course prerequisites or specific admissions requirements). If you take the test and don’t do well, we will only consider your highest selection rank.

[link]

Pathways to study
Whether you are a school leaver or returning to study at a later date, there are many ways to gain admission to Flinders University. Explore your options and find the entry path that’s right for you.

Flinders.edu.au/unitest

If you haven’t achieved the results you expected
If you haven’t achieved the results you expected in Year 12, there are a number of pathways to your preferred degree. You can start studying one course and move to another via internal transfer or Flinderslink.

[link]

Pathways to study

uniTEST
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[link]

School Recommendation Program
We may consider your school’s recommendation about your academic performance as part of your admission into Flinders.

[link]
Pathways to study

If you have work and life experience

Foundation Studies
The Foundation Studies program has been designed to introduce you to university study in a supportive learning environment. Open to people from all backgrounds, Foundation Studies provides a pathway to gain entry to most degrees at Flinders and offers guaranteed entry into some degrees.
flinders.edu.au/study/pathways/foundation-studies

Military pathways
Use your military service in the Australian Defence Force as a pathway to a Flinders University degree.
flinders.edu.au/study/pathways/military-veterans

Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT)
Adult entry to university via the Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT) enables people aged 18 years and over to apply to study at Flinders. Applications are made via SATAC.
satac.edu.au/stat
Alternatively, you may wish to consider an undergraduate certificate or diploma. These shorter courses allow you the opportunity to explore your interests and to progress to further study. Certificate courses are Commonwealth supported.
flinders.edu.au/pathways

If you have some higher education

Tertiary Transfer
If you have completed at least one semester of full-time equivalent study at university, you may be able to transfer to study at Flinders University using your grade point average (GPA).

TAFElink
Flinders offers guaranteed entry to selected degrees for applicants who have completed a TAFE/VET Certificate IV or higher-level qualification, as long as degree prerequisites are met.
flinders.edu.au/tafelink

TAFE SA Dual Offers
Flinders University together with TAFE SA offer dual offer pathways in various disciplines.

Work Integrated Learning
When it comes to landing a job, practical placements can give you the edge you need to succeed. Flinders’ Work Integrated Learning (WIL) will improve your employability by helping you better understand the day-to-day skills employers are looking for, and by giving you the chance to gain real experience in a workplace environment directly related to the course you’re studying. You might take on a work placement or internship, gain hands-on experience through field education, or get involved in projects with industry or community organisations. Your WIL experience will be designed to help you gain that edge.
Flinders.edu.au/WIL

If you are looking for, and by giving you the chance to gain real experience in a workplace environment directly related to the course you’re studying. You might take on a work placement or internship, gain hands-on experience through field education, or get involved in projects with industry or community organisations. Your WIL experience will be designed to help you gain that edge.

Student support

Whatever you decide to study at Flinders, we’re always here to help you succeed.

Careers & Employability Service
The Careers and Employability Service helps give you the edge in your career. CareerHub, our online employment portal, offers personalised job opportunities, career planning, programs to help you broaden your skills and experience, access to employer events and career-related resources. Whatever you are studying, CareerHub can help you find your direction and start your career.
flinders.edu.au/careers

Flinders Connect
Flinders Connect can help with everything from enrolment and fees to exams and graduation. You can also access Flinders Connect for specialist services in admissions, careers and IT help. A range of support services is also available.
flinders.edu.au/flindersconnect

Flinders Library
Our extensive library is more than a book repository. We provide a range of services such as computing and printing, document delivery and one-on-one librarian appointments for assistance with search strategies and finding resources for your assignments.
library.flinders.edu.au

Flinders Living
Flinders is the only university in Adelaide that gives you the opportunity to live on campus, and both University Hall and Deirdre Jordan Village are located within the Bedford Park campus. The wide range of social, sporting and community activities also enhances the student experience at Flinders Living.
flinders.edu.au/living

Flinders University Student Association
The Flinders University Student Association (FUSA) continues a long tradition of active student involvement and represents the rights and interests of students. FUSA manages social events, non-sporting clubs and societies, and the student publication Empire Times, and helps with academic, administrative and welfare issues.
fusa.edu.au

Health, Counselling & Disability Services
Managing your health is important. We have facilities and services available to help you look after your physical and mental health.
flinders.edu.au/hcd

Horizon Award
The Flinders Horizon Award program sits alongside your academic studies; it is an innovative program that provides further opportunities to develop your professional skills and gain new experiences and insights that will benefit you now and in your future career.
flinders.edu.au/horizon

Transition to university
Starting at university is a big step; let’s make it easier. The Student Learning Centre provides a range of services from writing and mathematics support to assistance with study and time-management skills.
students.flinders.edu.au/study-support/slc

Yungkurrinthi Student Engagement
Yungkurrinthi Student Engagement is committed to increasing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student access, participation, retention and success at Flinders University. Providing a range of services and supports for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, our team of highly qualified staff is dedicated to supporting you throughout your student journey.
flinders.edu.au/study/indigenous-students

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Take your studies overseas

Why wait until you graduate to explore the world? Flinders’ Learn Without Borders could see you studying overseas, gaining a unique perspective and immersing yourself in a different culture, language and lifestyle. Our global study programs are designed to allow students to take their Flinders study overseas and earn academic credit toward their Flinders program. With 70+ overseas partner universities, why wait until you graduate to see the world?

flinders.edu.au/learn-without-borders

Explore Flinders scholarships

Flinders offers a generous range of scholarships for students in undergraduate courses. With over 450 available scholarships, including scholarships to students from low socio-economic backgrounds, students from rural and regional areas, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, you may be eligible for support that will help you achieve your goals at university.

flinders.edu.au/scholarships

Study abroad/scholarships

“The Wyndham Richardson Scholarship Fund has been invaluable to reduce the financial pressure during studies, especially now that I am in the later years of my degree.”

Ryan Rowston
Bachelor of Computer Science
Wyndham Richardson Scholarship Fund recipient
How to apply

Flinders offers two admissions cycles each year for undergraduate degrees.

Semester 1 – March start
Applications open in August for commencement the following year.

Semester 2* – July start
Mid-year applications open in August for commencement in July the following year.
* Not all degrees are offered for semester 2.

Key dates
Flinders Open Days: Friday 11 August, Saturday 12 August 2023
Semester 1 Orientation week: 19 February 2024
Semester 2 2024 start date: 22 July 2024
Semester 2 Orientation week: 29 July 2024

Fees and charges
Your course fees – Commonwealth support
All our courses list indicative fees, but as an undergraduate student your course is Commonwealth supported provided you’re an eligible Australian citizen, New Zealand citizen or permanent resident. Your course being Commonwealth supported means that your course fees are shared between the Australian government and you – with your portion being the student contribution amount.

HECS-HELP loan
You won’t have to pay your fees up-front if you’re an Australian citizen or holder of a permanent humanitarian visa. You can get a HECS-HELP loan for your student contribution portion of your uni fees. Find out more about costs to plan for while you’re at uni at flinders.edu.au/fees

When can I start?

There are many terms used within a university that may be unfamiliar or confusing. Below are a few terms that may need explanation.

Admission pathway
Any one of the options available to a prospective higher education student that will enable them to meet the entry requirements of their chosen courses.

ATAR
The Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) is a ranking from 30 (lowest) to 99.95 (highest) agreed by COAG as a nationally equivalent measure of a person’s relative academic ranking within their complete age cohort in the year they graduated from senior secondary school.

Adjustment factors
Often referred to as ‘bonus points’, these are additional points that may be used in combination with an applicant’s university aggregate to derive their course selection rank.

Defer
Delaying the start of a course of study by one year (commencing students only). If you have already enrolled, then you need to withdraw from topics before you can defer.

Not all courses are deferrable. Please visit flinders.edu.au/defer for details.

Guaranteed entry selection rank
Achieve a selection rank equal to or above the published guaranteed entry selection rank and you’ll be guaranteed a place at Flinders.

Major
A sequence of topics required to be taken as defined in your course rule, normally across all years of a course.

 Minor
A sequence of topics required to be taken as defined in your course rule, generally as part of a major.

Offer round/s
Refers to the series of dates on which offers of higher education places are issued to applicants throughout the year, whether through a tertiary admission centre or directly by a higher education provider.

Selection rank
The ranking that tertiary admission centres and most universities actually use to assess admission to a course. A person’s course selection rank can include their ATAR, any adjustments they are eligible for, such as equity or subject adjustments, other contributions calculated on the basis of work experience or previous non-secondary study, portfolio assessments, results of the Special Tertiary Admissions Test, other supplementary tests, etc.

Glossary

Check the application dates
Applicants need to apply through the South Australian Tertiary Admissions Centre (SATAC).
satac.edu.au

Read the course information
- Check the admission criteria
- Check the prerequisites
- Check assumed knowledge and additional admission criteria
- Consider combined degrees
- Consider pathways to your degree

Visit us
- Visit Flinders Open Days
- Check other upcoming events at events.flinders.edu.au

Contact us if you have any questions
- Call 1300 354 633 (local call cost)
- Email askflinders@flinders.edu.au

Apply
- Apply through SATAC at satac.edu.au
- Apply for scholarships at flinders.edu.au/scholarships
- Lodge separate Indigenous Admission Scheme (if applicable) at flinders.edu.au/indigenousadmissions

Accept your offer
Enrol in your subject/topics at students.flinders.edu.au/my-course/enrolment

Listing your SATAC preferences
You may enter up to six course preferences that you would like to study. You should list these in the order in which you’d like to study them, with the one you would like most listed first. If you cannot be offered a place in your first preference, you will then be considered for your second preference and so on. It is also important to consider a backup plan. Ensure you include our recommended pathway courses in your preferences.

Notes
International Relations
& Political Science

Contact us
Our friendly staff are available to answer your questions:
1300 354 633 (local call cost) | askflinders@flinders.edu.au | flinders.edu.au/ask
International students should contact:
+61 8 8201 2727 | flinders.edu.au/international | INTLAdmissions@flinders.edu.au

Every effort has been made to ensure the information in this brochure is accurate at the time of publication: July 2023. Flinders University reserves the right to alter any course or topic contained herein without prior notice. Alterations are reflected in the course information available on the University’s website. CRICOS No. 00114A