

Intercultural Relations



CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Students and graduates work in areas such as business, government, nonprofit organizations, education, tourism and human services. Their occupations include positions in human resources, communication, teaching, diversity training, international transition assistance, consulting, marketing, counseling, program development, administration and health care.

The MAIR program also partners with the Peace Corps Master's International program, which allows students to combine Peace Corps service with graduate study to complete the requirements for the MAIR degree.

MASTER OF ARTS IN INTERCULTURAL RELATIONS

As the world becomes increasingly smaller, and each region more multicultural, success will come to those who have the skills and understanding to respond appropriately to the challenges of working across cultures in both national and international organizations. To provide educational support for such individuals, University of the Pacific's School of International Studies has partnered with the Intercultural Communication Institute (ICI) in Portland, Ore. to offer a distinctive Master of Arts degree in Intercultural Relations (MAIR).

The MAIR curriculum balances classroom instruction, extensive coursework assignments between residencies, independent study and thesis research and writing. It emphasizes a theory-into-practice model, stressing the application of relevant theory to real-world contexts in both domestic and international settings. To the extent possible, the program attempts to directly link the ongoing professional aspirations and responsibilities of its adult learners with their academic work, equipping them with practical tools and concepts to accomplish their goals.

The study of Intercultural Relations provides the opportunity to develop cultural competency, including the skills that will be essential to compete in the global workplace.



CONTACT INFORMATION

UNIVERSITY OF THE PACIFIC
SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL
STUDIES

MAIR Associate Director:

Katrina Alison Jaggears, M.L.A.

kjaggears@pacific.edu

Phone 209.946.2836

Fax 209.946.2333

THE INTERCULTURAL
COMMUNICATION INSTITUTE

Director of Graduate Programs:

Kent Warren, Ph.D.

kwarren@intercultural.org

Phone 503.297.4622

Fax 503.297.4695

UNIVERSITY OF THE PACIFIC
OFFICE OF GRADUATE STUDIES

Director of Graduate Operations:

Cerena Sweetland-Gil, MA

Phone 209.946.2765

Fax 209.946.2858

Program Design

Designed to prepare students for stimulating new opportunities at home and abroad, the MAIR is geared toward qualified individuals in the early phases of their careers as well as seasoned mid-career professionals who wish to earn a graduate degree while maintaining employment or other commitments. Consequently, our program is limited-residency in design, and requires a 2-1/2 to 3-year period to complete. Students can complete the core courses in 18 months, including attendance in three 2-week residencies held in the Portland area every six months in January and July. To help students meet the multiple challenges of work, family and community responsibilities, a wide variety of learning strategies and support are offered, including intensive seminars at the residencies, directed studies that are completed at home, significant online library research support, and electives targeted toward students' special interests.

Course Offerings

Residence 1

MAIR 200	Concepts of Intercultural Relations	3 units
MAIR 201	Ethnicity and Intergroup Relations	3 units
MAIR 202	Research 1	2 units

Residence 2

MAIR 220	Advanced Intercultural Communication Theory	3 units
MAIR 221	Research II	3 units
MAIR 222	Process of Change	2 units

Residence 3

MAIR 240	Leadership and Adult Learning	3 units
MAIR 241	Change-Agentry	3 units
MAIR 242	Culture in the Organizational Context	2 units

Electives (8 required)

MAIR 223	Personal Leadership	2 units
MAIR 260	The Intercultural Context of Training.....	3 units
MAIR 291	Independent Study.....	1-4 units

Research and Thesis

MAIR 297	Research	4 units
MAIR 299	Thesis	4 units

Degree Requirements

The program requires the completion of 40 total units, including a thesis. It is built around a set of nine core courses encompassing the body of knowledge and theory that all students need to internalize, whether they are operating on the domestic or international level. In the remainder of the program, students focus on areas of personal interest.

Admission Requirements

The following are required in order to consider your admission to the MAIR program:

- Graduate School application
- Application fee
- Three recommendation forms
- Transcripts from all accredited colleges and universities attended, with one transcript indicating completion of the baccalaureate degree.
- Completed Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI)

Admission Criteria

The MAIR program seeks individuals who have experience in, or a commitment to, working in the fields of diversity, international education, global human resources, intercultural training, healthcare across cultures and other areas related to intercultural relations. Applicants will need to demonstrate:

- Previous successful academic performance
- Groundwork in the field of intercultural relations, (through previous academic coursework or field experience)
- Clear educational goals compatible with the program philosophy
- Sensitivity to intercultural situations
- Ability to operate effectively in small learning groups
- Ability to effectively handle distance learning strategies
- Ability to write and organize thoughts at a graduate level