Are you interested in global politics and justice, in understanding conflict, making sense of the climate crisis?

Do you want to make a difference and participate in making a more just and secure world?

Choose a program that allows you to pursue those interests.

Join ISCOR — the oldest multidisciplinary program in the College of Arts and Letters.

ADAM PACHECO
ISCOR Outstanding Graduating Senior, 2022
(Associate, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, Energy and Climate Solutions department)

One of the most exciting aspects of the ISCOR program is its ability to cater to one’s interests. One can learn about global issues from multiple perspectives, allowing a more holistic and international understanding of political, social, and environmental threats. In a rapidly changing world, an interdisciplinary approach is necessary to tackle any challenge on a global scale. As global inequality deepens, it is more important than ever to focus on issues that disproportionately affect women, indigenous communities, and the impoverished.

The opportunity to pursue several interests and learn about how they interact is something I would not have found in a different major.
ISCOR is a unique multidisciplinary program that promotes a comprehensive understanding of contemporary challenges to global and human security.

Founded in 1989, the program on International Security and Conflict Resolution (ISCOR) promotes an innovative, multidisciplinary perspective on issues vital to securing our future. It remains one of the few programs of its kind in California, and in fact, one of the few of its kind in the United States. Located within the College of Arts and Letters, the program draws from courses offered by faculty in other colleges including, Professional Studies and Fine Arts, Sciences, and Health and Human Services.

The Major

The ISCOR major at San Diego State University is an innovative program designed to provide students with a sophisticated understanding of the political, moral, socio-economic, and cultural dimensions of challenges to global and human security. ISCOR exposes students to a multiplicity of ideological, regional, and cultural perspectives, while enabling them to specialize in one of three areas:

Conflict in the Global System

This specialization is concerned with exploring the causes, nature, consequences, management, and resolution of conflict. This provides students with the ability to have a more holistic approach to making sense of conflict in regional and global contexts, while preparing them to think about the possibilities of resolution.

Justice in the Global System

This specialization explores political, economic, and social issues relating to global justice. It includes the study of international organizations and law, human rights, North-South relations, and controversies over distribution of resources. This specialization enables students to have a richer understanding of the dynamics concerning international security and conflict resolution for specialization.

Environment in the Global System

Consistent with ISCOR's early identification of the interconnections between global security and environmental dynamics, the specialization in Environment in the Global System now offers the most globally in-depth examination of the climate crisis and related environmental issues.

The Minor

A minor in ISCOR allows students to get a broad understanding of global affairs with regard to security, social justice, and climate/environmental challenges. It is a great complement to any major and has value for pursuing a range of postgraduate and professional careers.

International Experiences

All ISCOR majors are required to complete an international experience to increase student awareness of cross-cultural and global issues. This requirement can be fulfilled in a number of ways to meet the needs of different students, including those with family and work responsibilities, who are unable to leave the country. Options include, but are not limited to, three-week faculty-led programs, semester and year-long study abroad programs, international internships, service and research experiences, and virtual options.

Among the approved options are the International Security and Conflict Resolution 450 courses, which are generally faculty-led programs of three-to-six weeks. Also acceptable, conditional upon the approval of the ISCOR advisor, are 450 courses offered by other departments. For all other options, including those that don’t require leaving the country, consult the ISCOR advisor at ISCOR@sdsu.edu.

Learn From Scholars Across Disciplines Including —

- Economics
- Geography
- History
- Political Science
- Public Affairs
- Sociology
- Anthropology
- Study of Religion
- Journalism

Connect with like-minded students!

ISCOR Student Society

A student-run organization that provides both ISCOR and non-ISCOR students an opportunity to meet outside of the classroom setting to network and engage with peers. It brings guest speakers from different fields to foster multifaceted conversations on global topics.

Contact ISCORstudentsoc@gmail.com or follow on Instagram to learn more about the organization and upcoming events.