

8 April 2021

TO: Faculty Senate

FROM: Susan Ginley, Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

RE: Undergraduate Certificate in International Development Studies

The following proposal has been approved by the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee and is recommended for approval by the Faculty Senate.

You may read the full text of the program proposal, as well as Faculty Budget Committee comments, at the [Online Curriculum Management System \(OCMS\) Curriculum Dashboard](#).

## **PROPOSAL SUMMARY FOR**

### **College of Urban and Public Affairs**

#### **Undergraduate Certificate in International Development Studies**

##### **Certificate Type**

Undergraduate Certificate: Earned with baccalaureate; admission to University required

**Effective Term:** Fall 2021

##### **Overview of the Program**

The certificate offers students an opportunity to be recognized for their comprehension of the political economy of development and social and cultural change in developing countries. Students completing this certificate will be able to examine the social, political, economic, and environmental challenges facing developing countries since their independence, and the complicated and intersecting roles of people, the state, the private sector, social movements, and NGOs in addressing them.

##### **Evidence of Need**

Various topics salient in International Development Studies (poverty, social movements, states, aid, elections, economic transformations, etc.) are taught in programs such as Geography, Economics, Political Science, Sociology, History, and Gender Studies. Also, students in engineering and sciences find employment in international development work, either as volunteers or full-time employees, both abroad and in the US. The new IDS certificate creates a unique opportunity for these students at PSU to acquire academic training and skills in this vital area without changing majors or adding another one.

##### **Course of Study**

The Certificate in International Development Studies consists of 24 graded credits (C or above) of International Development focused work. The 24 credits include three 4-credit foundational courses and 12 credits of elective coursework. Students completing an International Development Studies major are not eligible to receive an IDS certificate.

### Required courses (12 credits)

Students must take three required courses to examine the foundation of the discipline of International and Global Studies and the theoretical and policy framework of International Development Studies.

- INTL 201 Introduction to International Studies, 4 credits
- INTL 296 The US and the World, 4 credits
- INTL 397 Theory and Policy in International Development, 4 credits

### Elective courses (12 credits)

Students must select from an approved list of upper-division international development studies-oriented courses.