

Are you interested in pursuing a degree with an international focus in the US or Canada? Are you considering a masters degree? Undertaking post-secondary education in international studies is one way to build your international credentials. Gain international experience before you go abroad or deepen your international perspective upon your return. This *Quick Guide* provides links for North American students researching international studies degree programs. While the focus is primarily on the US and Canada, a few extra international links are listed. Happy hunting!

US LINKS

American Association of Community Colleges (AACC): Washington, DC <http://www.aacc.nche.edu/>. This association represents more than 1,200 associate degree granting institutions. It offers useful information on community colleges throughout the US for potential students. You can also take advantage of the "Community College Finder," which not only provides a directory of community colleges by state, but also lists important facts associated with the institution, such as student characteristics and ethnicity, tuition, credit enrolment and educational attainment.

American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AACSU): Washington, DC <http://www.aascu.org/>. The AACSU is a national association of 430 public colleges and universities across the US and its territories that offer degree programs leading to Bachelor's, Master's or doctoral degrees. On their web site, you can find information about program initiatives run on their member campuses and search through a linked directory of these public colleges and universities by state.

American Council On Education (ACE): Washington, DC <http://www.acenet.edu>. ACE is the major coordinating body for all of the US higher education institutions (e.g. community colleges and four-year institutions, private and public universities, and non-profit and for-profit colleges). You'll find information on college-related queries and some resources for where to begin your search under the "College is Possible" heading.

America's Best Colleges 2009: 296 Pages http://www.usnews.com/usnews/store/products/college_index.htm \$9.95 US (Print edition), \$14.95 US (Online edition), \$19.95 US (Online & print package). This book includes a directory of more than 1,400 schools organized based on features such as admissions statistics, cost, financial aid, and admissions deadlines. In-depth ranking tables are also offered, comparing schools based on numerous attributes, such as acceptance rates, test scores of entering students, and reputation.

America's Best Graduate Schools 2009: 176 Pages <http://grad-schools.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/grad>. \$9.95 US (Print edition), \$14.95 US (Online edition), \$19.95 US (Online & print package) Provides in-depth ranking tables based on expert opinions and statistics, state-by-state directory and informative articles on graduate schools in business, law, medicine, engineering, education and more.

Association of International Educators (NAFSA) : Washington, DC http://www.nafsa.org/students.sec/studying_abroad_from. NAFSA is a non-profit professional organization promoting student and scholar exchanges between international institutions. They also actively promote the inclusion of an international perspective in all college / university curricula. Although NAFSA does not provide resources or assistance directly to students, most of its members do. It does provide some resources and links to student-oriented web sites and serves as a good reference for US students looking to study abroad with a focus on funding and financial aid.

Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs: www.apsia.org. This US site allows you to search for information on APSIA's 29 member schools of international affairs located in the Americas, Asia and Europe. Provides information on degree programs, requirements, and contacts. Also lists resources for careers in international affairs.

The Best 368 Colleges 2009: Robert Franek, Tom Meltzer, Christopher Majer, Random House Inc., 832 pages. This guide presents students' "insider" perspectives on colleges and universities. It also contains 62 ranking lists with focuses ranging from financial aid to social life and even how "green" your potential college / university is. An additional section lists the top colleges / universities for the 15 most popular Majors.

College Prowler: <http://collegeprowler.com/rankings/>. Run by students, College Prowler is a good resource guide for student advice and reviews of colleges / universities and their respective programs. It uses numerous criteria to rank an institution (e.g. diversity on campus, academics, etc.), and also allows you to carry out comparisons of up to five colleges / universities at a time, based on criteria (e.g. Majors offered). Not as high-level as some of the other resources, but certainly a good starting point.

The Complete Book of Colleges 2009: 1584 pages \$17.79 US, on Amazon.com. This book provides profiles of all four-year colleges in the US (there are over 1,600), includes a bonus section on Online Schools and an "Admissions Wizard" questionnaire designed to help students find schools that meet their individual needs.

Council on International Educational Exchanges (CIEE): www.ciee.org. This is the web site of the US organization, Council on International Educational Exchange. With programs designed for students, faculty and administrators, CIEE's respected and extensive listing of international academic programs will help you choose the international experience that is right for you. Highly recommended!

Fiske Guide to Colleges 2009: Edward B. Fiske, Sourcebooks Inc. (25th edition), 848 pages, <http://www.amazon.com> \$15.61 US on Amazon.com. Provides not only the standard academic and social rankings, but also offers lists of each US institution's strongest Majors and programs.

Foreign Policy Association: http://www.fpa.org/info-url_nocat2405/info-url_nocat_show.htm?doc_id=54936. A handy reference for the top ten International Relations and Public Policy Graduate Programs in the US. This resource provides detailed information on each of the graduate programs and their respective links. Tip: US magazines on international-related subjects such as Foreign Policy and Foreign Affairs contain ads for various Master's programs available in internationally-focused subjects. (e.g. The New School in New York offers a Master's degree in International Affairs, or the School of International Service at American University provides Masters degrees in International Development, International Peace and Conflict Resolution, and more).

Global Directory of Peace Studies Programs: www.peacejusticestudies.org. Annual, The Peace and Justice Studies Association, 180 pages, \$45 US. This is a comprehensive annotated guide to peace studies and conflict resolution programs at colleges and universities worldwide. Profiles over 500 undergraduate, Master's and doctoral programs and concentrations in over 40 countries. Entries describe the programs' philosophies and goals, examples of course offerings, key course requirements, degrees and certificates offered, and complete contact information including e-mail and web addresses. An excellent resource for this growing field of international study.

Gradschools.com: <http://gradschools.com>. GradSchools.com has over 60,000 programs worldwide to choose from in over 400 subject areas. Search by field of study, subject and location (USA and international). They also list graduate online programs (distance learning) from accredited colleges and universities in over 100 subjects as well as topical resources (example, Applying to school as a foreign student).

Institute of International Education: New York, NY, <http://www.iae.org/>. A leading non-profit organization in international exchange and training, this organization provides numerous useful resources including study abroad exchanges for undergraduates, graduates, and professionals. In addition to its headquarters in New York City, IIE has two offices in Washington, DC,

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and four regional centers in the domestic US. In addition, IIE has offices in 13 international locations.

International Studies Association (ISA): Tucson, Arizona, <http://www.isanet.org>. A group of scholars and practitioners founded the International Studies Association (ISA) in 1959 to pursue their mutual interest in international studies. Representing eighty countries (including the US), ISA has over 4,000 members worldwide, and is widely-respected as a scholarly association in this field. This guide is key for those interested in international studies, as you can be up-to-date on international studies-related news, find out about annual conventions, make use of their scholarly journals, and contact regionally organized ISA coordinators.

International Studies Program at the College Of New Jersey: Ewing, NJ, <http://internationalstudies.intrasun.tcnj.edu/resources/graduate.html>. The International Studies Program at the College of New Jersey provides a very useful list of graduate programs available for various disciplines in international studies and their respective websites.

National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU): Washington, DC <http://www.naicu.edu/>. 202-785-8866. NAICU is an organization of over 1,000 private US colleges and universities. NAICU developed the "University and College Accountability Network (U-CAN)," a new tool for prospective students and their parents designed to give concise, web-based, consumer-friendly information on individual private colleges, allowing users to compare characteristics of each private college/university. This important resource will benefit you most if you use it in addition other guides (<http://www.ucan-network.org/>).

The Princeton Review – The 368 Best Colleges: <http://www.princetonreview.com/colleges-majors.aspx?uidbadge=%07>. A great resource for college/university rankings (there is a book you can also purchase). View rankings of American colleges and universities based on various academic, demographic, social and extracurricular criteria. Also provides information on grad programs, a "Best Fit School" search tool and listings of schools offering your Major of interest.

QS Top Universities: <http://www.topuniversities.com>. QS Quacquarelli Symonds is a leading global career and education network - not only is it a great place to find rankings for US universities, it also provides additional rankings of interest, links and information about numerous internships, MBA programs, leadership and diversity forums, etc. Definitely something to check out.

Road Map For Graduate Study: A Guide For Prospective Graduate Students: 2008, Dr. Donald C. Martin, 100 Pages. www.gradschoolroadmap.com. 877-722-4723. Comprehensive book about graduate school, seeks to educate and enlighten individuals not only about the inquiry and application process, but also about how to succeed in graduate school. In four succinct chapters, readers are taken from A to Z with respect to the graduate school experience. Starting with doing research on graduate programs/institutions, then covering the application process, and ending with how to succeed once enrolled, prospective students will have all they need to know about how to navigate the journey to earning a masters or doctoral degree. Road Map features 7 personal questions to ask about your motivation to earn a graduate degree, a 12-month checklist before applying, 7 ways to get recognized as an applicant, 7 deadly sins for applicants, how to respond if wait listed, denied or admitted, how to make the final enrollment decision, and 15 essential pointers on thriving in grad school. Road Map is the first, succinct and complete guide for anyone wishing to pursue a graduate degree.

US News Ultimate College Guide 2009: Sourcebooks, Inc., 176 Pages. www.amazon.com. A comprehensive college guide magazine that is released annually, includes up-to-date college profiles, exclusive rankings, index of majors of majors, awards, best value schools and information on financial aid.

CANADIAN LINKS

Association of Canadian Community Colleges (ACCC): www.accc.ca. This national organization was created in 1972 and represents colleges and institutes throughout Canada. On their Web site, you will find a database where you can search full-time programs available at ACCC's 150 member colleges and institutes. You can also find out about ACCC's international projects and browse through their education resources.

CanLearn: www.canlearn.ca. This Canadian government web site provides information on everything you need to know about post-secondary education in Canada, including program, school and scholarship searches. It details how to plan and finance your education as well as helping you explore career possibilities. It also includes the National Student Loans Service Centre, with information about applying for student loans.

DestinEducation: www.destineducation.ca. Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE). Maintained by the Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE), this Web site contains a wealth of information and planning tools about international education from a Canadian perspective. The site is divided into three sections catering to Canadians who want to study or work abroad; those outside of Canada interested in studying here; and professionals in Canada and abroad who are involved in international aspects of education. Recommended.

Directory of Canadian Universities: Annual, Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC), 500 Pages. Ottawa, ON, www.aucc.ca, \$39.95 CDN. A comprehensive, bilingual guide to higher education in Canada. Provides authoritative information about campuses, facilities, admission requirements, programs, degrees, financial assistance, and student life and services. National index to all university programs.

Directory of Canadian Universities Database: www.aucc.ca/can_uni/search/index_e.html. The web site of the Association of Universities and Colleges in Canada (AUCC) has a comprehensive on-line Directory of Canadian Universities Database where you can search undergraduate and graduate programs offered by Canadian Universities. Saves time because you don't have to browse all the Web sites of Canadian universities in searching for the programs you are interested in. Contains over 10,000 search records, from which you can navigate directly to the more detailed program information on the university web sites.

International Development Studies Network: www.idsnet.ca. Maintained by the Canadian Consortium of University Programs in International Development Studies (CCUPIDS), this site is a great resource for Canadians studying, researching and working in international development. It provides links to and information about international development studies programs in Canada and opportunities for study abroad, as well as links to organizations that have work, internship and volunteer opportunities.

University Affairs: 10 issues/year, Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC), Ottawa, ON, www.aucc.ca. \$39 CDN/year or \$3.75 CDN per issue, Credit Cards. This bilingual magazine, published 10 times a year, is of general interest to Canadian students and academic staff. It contains articles on a wide range of topics and trends related to Canadian universities and colleges, and posts job openings at affiliated member institutions as well as at educational institutions around the world. Visit the publisher's web site, www.aucc.ca, for ordering information.

OTHER LINKS

British International Studies Association: www.bisa.ac.uk. This UK organization is the professional association for academics and practitioners of international relations in Britain. BISA promotes the study of international relations and related subjects at UK universities and abroad. If you are thinking about international studies in Britain, this is a good place to start. BISA's Web site allows you to start searching a directory of programs offered by UK universities in the area of international studies.

Shanghai University: The Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU): [http://www.arwu.org/rank2008/Top500_EN\(by%20rank\).pdf](http://www.arwu.org/rank2008/Top500_EN(by%20rank).pdf). The www.arwu.org site provides useful links to yearly academic rankings of the world's top universities. Information includes each university's regional and national rankings, as well as criteria scores. Listings are updated annually in August. Currently, US universities have a dominant position, holding 17 spots in the top 20 higher education institutions, and representing 85% of the top universities in the Americas. Canadian universities play the second most important role for higher education in the Americas, holding 23 spots on ARWU. This resource has provided some of the first-ever international comparative analysis of university rankings. Be sure to take a look. The Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) was compiled by Shanghai Jiao Tong University's Institute of Higher Education. They have provided some of the first-ever international comparative analysis of university rankings.

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