



Simon Aborn, from Vermont, United States of America, is a dual-degree BA/MA candidate at SAIS, and will earn his Bachelor of Arts degree in International Studies from Dickinson College in Pennsylvania, upon culmination of his Master's studies in 2019.

Simon's academic interests include language study, macroeconomic integration, and public choice theory. During his studies at Dickinson, he concentrated in Middle Eastern Studies, and obtained a Minor in Arabic. His varied interests are demonstrated by the variety of papers authored at Dickinson, including *Divergent Imperial Reactions to Israeli and Palestinian Anti-Imperial Resistance Movements*, *Uruguay's Plan Ceibal: An Impact Analysis*, and *Arab Unity and Hashemite Kings*.

At SAIS, Simon is concentrating in International Political Economy, with the intention of contributing meaningful public policy. Simon was fortunate to participate in the Bosnia Study Trek with CCSDD and a London Career Trek this year.

This summer, Simon completed an Internship with GardaWorld's Travel Security team, monitoring security risks around the globe and updating clients on pressing security developments. Additionally, he conducted bespoke research on the political and economic climate in areas where clients had significant infrastructure investments.

Prior to coming to SAIS, Simon completed internships at the United States Army War College Peacekeeping and Stability Operations Institute, researching post-crisis economic stabilization possibilities in Venezuela and private-sector collaboration capacities in Nigeria. He also gained critical experience in his role as Associate Director for Club Finance at Dickinson College. In this role, Simon developed and implemented new allocation procedures for funding of over eighty (80) student-led on-campus organizations.

Simon's extra-curricular interests include golf, eating pizza, and skiing, both downhill and cross-country. During his time at SAIS Europe, Simon became a regular at several of Bologna's finest pizzerias.

Studying in Bologna was Simon's third time living abroad. In 2011-2012, he lived in Uruguay on a home-stay program for eleven months, and in 2016, he spent a semester of undergraduate study abroad in Amman, Jordan studying Modern Standard and Colloquial Levantine Arabic. Simon speaks English and Spanish fluently and is conversational in French and Arabic.