Residence Requirement: The SAIS MA degree in International Relations normally requires two years of full-time study, during which candidates generally take four courses each semester and study a modern foreign language.

Concentrations: Students must meet the requirements for two program concentrations. International Economics must be one of the two. The other may be chosen from an international policy area (American Foreign Policy, International Development*, General International Relations, Energy Resources and Environment, Strategic Studies), or one of the Regions of the World (Africa, Asia, Canada, Europe & Eurasia, Latin America, Middle East). Some concentrations may be enhanced with an Emerging Markets specialization. Within economics, interested students may choose to pursue a specialization in one of five areas (see International Economics at the end of this document).

*Those who applied and were admitted to the International Development program (IDEV, limited enrollment) will automatically be assigned to that program. To enter IDEV, students must also have completed the SAIS intermediate microeconomics requirement prior to their first semester. Please consult the information posted on the SAIS website under International Development.

Before selecting the second concentration, students should study the requirements outlined below and on the SAIS website. Academic advisors will be available at the beginning of the fall semester and throughout the year to assist students in their course selection. Generally, no more than six courses are necessary to complete a concentration. Those who wish to pursue a program in which SAIS Europe has limited course offerings should first consult with an academic advisor.

Core Requirements: To ensure a comprehensive background in international relations, MA candidates must pass either an exam or course in at least two of the following core subjects:

- Evolution of the International System
- Theories of International Relations
- America and the World Since 1945
- Comparative Politics

Those who choose to concentrate in European and Eurasian Studies must pass three comprehensive exams instead of the core exams.

Core examinations are offered at SAIS Europe three times during the year: at the beginning of the academic year and at the end of each semester. Students are expected to pass at least one core exam by the beginning of their third semester. If the second core is not completed by the start of the final semester, the student must enroll in a second core course. Recent syllabi for core examinations will be available on the SAIS Europe insider portal (BCWeb) during the summer. Syllabi for all courses are available prior to the beginning of each semester.

Students may prepare for a core examination by studying on their own, auditing, or enrolling for credit in a Core course. If a student takes a core course for credit it is treated as any other course: all requirements must be completed (mid-term and/or final exam) by the end of the semester and a letter grade is recorded. If a student opts to prepare on their own, or attend a core course as an auditor, only passing grades are entered on the transcript. If a course is not taken for credit, students have the option to take the exam a second time in order to pass. Only a passing grade will appear on the transcript. Students who fail a core exam twice are required to enroll in the core course for credit.

Course Requirements: MA candidates must successfully complete sixteen courses (64 credits) taken for credit, in addition to any foreign language course, normally within four consecutive semesters of study. They must also complete a minimum of three fall or spring semesters as a full-time student in residence at SAIS. To be considered full-time, students must enroll in at least three courses (12 credits). At least one semester must be spent at SAIS in Washington, D.C. Bologna students are encouraged to remain in residence at SAIS Washington, D.C. for a year (see also Advanced Standing below).
**Advanced Standing:** Students who have already completed a relevant graduate degree may petition for advanced standing. Petitions must be submitted to the SAIS Washington, D.C. Office of Academic Affairs through the online form on the BCWeb (to which access will be granted during the summer). Applications must be accompanied by transcripts of both the bachelor’s and master’s degrees. If awarded advanced standing, the number of courses required for completion of the SAIS MA may be reduced, but all program requirements must nevertheless be met. Consideration for advanced standing is given only for relevant graduate degrees.

**Quantitative Reasoning Requirement:** All MA students must complete a course in quantitative reasoning (QR) in order to graduate. Most of the courses which fulfill this requirement are offered in the International Economics program. The following courses meet the QR course requirement (other courses may be added to this list):

- Statistical Methods for Business & Economics (offered in Bologna and DC)
- Econometrics (offered in Bologna and DC; prerequisite Statistical Methods course or waiver exam)
- Applied Econometrics (prerequisite Econometrics)
- Macro Econometrics (prerequisite Econometrics)
- Risk Analysis and Modeling
- Quantitative Global Economics (prerequisite International Monetary Theory)

*IDEV students must take either Statistical Methods, Econometrics or Applied Econometrics (Washington, D.C. only) in order to fulfill the Quantitative Reasoning Requirement.

**Language Requirement:** All MA candidates must pass a written and oral proficiency examination in a non-native language taught at SAIS in order to graduate. ALL non-native English-speaking students are required to take the written section of the SAIS English Proficiency exam during orientation at SAIS Europe (regardless of any TOEFL, IELTS or CPE test scores they submitted at the time of admission). Those who do not pass are required to attend Advanced English during the academic year. Detailed information on the program and requirements are on the website.

**Graduation with Honors:** The top 30 % (as determined by the grade point average after the 3rd semester) of a graduating class is eligible to compete for honors by taking a final oral exam which tests students’ knowledge of international economics and their chosen concentration. Only the top 10% of the graduating class may receive honors. Those who either opt out of the oral exam or are not eligible will need to complete a non-economics capstone in their concentration in order to meet the MA graduation requirements.

**CONCENTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MA**
(https://www.sais-jhu.edu/areasofstudy)

**International Economics (required):**

Every MA student at SAIS must complete a concentration in International Economics. To do so, students must successfully complete a minimum of four economics courses taken for credit at SAIS. (See International Economics at SAIS below)

**Africa**

The African Studies Program offers an extensive curriculum covering development, governance and security across the continent. It draws on leading theories of international politics, political economy and comparative analysis in approaching this dynamic region. The Program offers strong foundations in the history and politics of the region, with a consistent focus on current policy concerns and emerging issues in Africa. Courses address general themes as well as particular countries, regions and specialized topics.

**Requirements:**

- Successful completion of at least six courses in the program, which may include one course outside African Studies on an African topic. Courses in the curriculum cross-listed with African Studies may be counted toward the degree.
- African Studies concentrators must pass Comparative Politics as one of their core requirements prior to the start of their third semester.
- Capstone: see details on website.
Asia concentrations

Asia Programs comprises China, Japan, Korea, South Asia, and Southeast Asia Studies programs and provides students with an interdisciplinary approach to understanding the trends shaping Asia in the 21st century. Through curricula rooted in the study of international economics, international relations, and regional studies, and taught by distinguished faculty experienced in policy, theory, and practice, students gain the knowledge, skills and resources required for success. By applying theoretical propositions on development, strategy, and conflict resolution to real circumstances in the Asia region, students prepare for careers in research, academia, policy-making, diplomacy, defense, business, trade and economics, journalism, and the non-profit sector.

Students at SAIS Europe may concentrate in one of the Asia Studies programs, but should be aware that most of the specialized courses will be taken in DC. In addition, Asian languages are not generally offered in Bologna. However, as of 2019-20 Novice Chinese will be offered under a pilot program for a limited number of MA students, with priority for China studies students.

Canadian Studies

SAIS Europe does not offer courses in Canadian Studies; it is therefore generally not advisable for students to select SAIS Europe if they are interested in pursuing a concentration in this area.

European and Eurasian Studies (EES)

EES concentrators analyze the trends, events and ideas that have shaped today’s Europe and Eurasia. They discover the essentials of governance, including economic governance, focusing on individual states as well as institutions of the European Union. The program differs from other concentrations at SAIS because it does not have any required coursework. Students work with their program advisor and members of the senior faculty to design a course of study to prepare for three comprehensive exams. Two of the comprehensive exams cover some of the same material found in the SAIS Core examinations on ‘Evolution of the International System’ and ‘Comparative Politics’. Hence, by passing the comprehensive examinations, EES concentrators meet the SAIS core requirement. All EES students must demonstrate proficiency in a modern European language. Once students achieve proficiency in one language, they are encouraged to deepen their knowledge through post-proficiency study or to broaden their exposure by taking up another language. Students may choose to specialize on a sub-regional basis by focusing attention on different parts of Europe. Within this framework, it is possible to follow a Russian and Eurasian Studies ‘track’ and have this noted on one’s transcript. Students who choose this track will need to demonstrate proficiency in the Russian language. All EES concentrators also complete a ‘capstone’ requirement, which consists in the completion of a summer internship (followed by a written report) or an oral exit examination with the Program Director.

Latin American Studies (LASP)

The SAIS Latin American Studies Program offers students the opportunity to gain a broad understanding of Latin America as a global player, while simultaneously developing functional expertise through a policy-oriented curriculum that integrates a practical approach to learning. A diverse group of countries richly endowed with natural resources, Latin America provides the perfect laboratory to learn not only about the challenges faced by emerging economies, but also about key international policy areas such as energy, emerging markets, and sustainable development, as they apply to the region and beyond.

Requirements:

✓ students concentrating in Latin American Studies must complete 20 credits of applicable coursework
✓ at least 12 credits applied to the concentration must start with the prefix SA.810.XXX
✓ one of the courses must be Understanding Modern Latin American Politics (SA.810.700)
✓ capstone: see details on website.

Middle East Studies (MES)

This program blends the classic study of the culture and history of the region with contemporary political analysis. MES offers policy-oriented courses as well as courses with a more theoretical approach. Students are exposed to material from area studies, comparative history, sociology, business and political economy. Students must choose one of the following tracks:

Requirements:

✓ students concentrating in Middle East Studies must complete 20 credits of applicable coursework
✓ one of the five course may be outside of Middle East Studies, provided the topic is relevant
✓ MES concentrators are required to demonstrate proficiency in Arabic or Persian (Farsi). Native speakers of Arabic or Persian (Farsi) must demonstrate proficiency in any other language taught at SAIS, which can include English
✓ see website for details on capstone and summer funding
INTERNATIONAL POLICY AREAS

American Foreign Policy (AFP)

Students who choose American Foreign Policy as their concentration should understand the history, culture, process and politics of America’s foreign relations, as well as the main contemporary issues in U.S. foreign policy.

Requirements:

- Successful completion of a minimum of five courses in the program (can include the AFP core course)
- Passing the core exam: America and the World since 1945.
- Presentation of a major research paper on a subject approved by a full-time AFP faculty member.
- Language Proficiency: MA candidates must pass exams to demonstrate proficiency in a second language. This language must be offered at the school. Students whose native language is not English may use English as their proficiency language.
- Quantitative reasoning: students must complete one of the quantitative reasoning exams offered at SAIS.
- Capstone: see details on website.

Energy, Resources and Environment (ERE)

This program focuses on developing innovative solutions to urgent global energy and environmental challenges. ERE aspires to educate a new generation who will play leadership roles in the diverse array of global, national and local institutions that will shape the world’s future. ERE faculty provide students with the intellectual framework and analytical skills to devise robust solutions to the daunting policy, financing, technological and governance challenges facing the international community. Students must take both energy and environment courses, thus ensuring that ERE students are knowledgeable about the deep links between these two subject areas. An understanding of the "iron triangle" of energy, water and food security, the threats posed by global climate change, and possible solutions to these daunting problems, is a critical component of the ERE graduate’s tool kit.

Requirements:

- Passing the non-credit Online Basics of Energy course before the start of classes of their first term with ERE. Students who indicate ERE as their concentration will be given access automatically; others considering this program may request access from the program coordinator.
- Passing two core exams and/or courses in addition to their concentration requirements. If the core courses/exams are not completed by the start of the final semester, a student must enroll for credit in the core course(s).
- Passing six courses in the field, at least one of which must be an "Energy" course and one an “Environment” course. Only two of the six required ERE courses may be cross-listed starting with a prefix other than SA.680.XXX.
- Quantitative reasoning: students must complete one of the quantitative reasoning exams offered at SAIS.
- Language Proficiency: MA candidates must pass exams to demonstrate proficiency in a second language. This language must be offered at the school. Students whose native language is not English may use English as their proficiency language.
- Capstone: see details on website.

International Development (IDEV)

The SAIS International Development Program provides an interdisciplinary approach to the study of developing countries, with the aim of preparing students for careers in development. A limited number of students will be admitted to this program. IDEV courses are open to all SAIS students on a space-available basis.

Requirements (general):

- Completion of intermediate microeconomics before the beginning of the first semester of the MA (by passing the pre-term or waiver exam).
- Completion of the IDEV gateway course, Introduction to Development, during the first semester.
- Take at least 6 courses in the program in addition to the specific required economics and quantitative reasoning courses.
- Quantitative reasoning: students must complete one of the quantitative reasoning exams offered at SAIS.
- Language Proficiency: MA candidates must pass an exam to demonstrate proficiency in a second language, which must be one of the languages offered at SAIS. Students whose native language is not English may use English for that purpose.
- Capstone: see details on the IDEV pages on the SAIS website.

Students choose one of the following IDEV Professional Field Tracks:

1. Self-Designed Track (Program Approval Required)
2. Development Economics (DevEc)
3. Finance and Development (F&D)
4. Governance, Politics and Development (GP&D)
5. Management for Development (MfD)
6. Social Entrepreneurship and Business (SEB)
7. Social Policy and Programs (SP)
International Relations (IR)

International Relations is a broad field that provides general training in the subject, for students wishing to achieve a wider appreciation of international politics. Students may specialize in one of the four concentrations within the IR field or choose to fulfill the requirements for General International Relations. The programs are:

- International Relations – General
- Conflict Management (CM)
- Global Theory and History (GTH)
- International Law and Organizations (IL)
- International Political Economy (IPE)

General requirements for these concentrations are summarized below. Consult the International Policy Area on the website for specific requirements for each IR concentration.

**Requirements (general):**

- Passing the core exam Theories of International Relations by the end of the second semester in Bologna.
- Passing six courses in the field (not counting the Theories of IR core course, if taken for credit). Those courses must be taken in at least three different programs within IR.
- Fulfilling special requirements of the specific IR concentration, if the student chooses to concentrate in one.
- SAIS Europe students must take at least three of the IR courses at SAIS in Washington, DC, although there is no limit to the number of IR courses they can take in Bologna (exceptions are made for students with advanced standing /dual-degree).
- Capstone: see details on website.

Strategic Studies (STRAT)

This program explores the relationship between politics and the many kinds of military power—from the use of terror by small, non-state groups to the threats of use of nuclear weapons. Building on core concepts taught in the course Strategy and Policy, the program allows students to pursue interests in diverse aspects of security while developing a variety of analytical and practical skills. The study of national security issues at SAIS dates back to the founding of the school in 1943, but gained its greatest impetus under the direction of Professor Robert Osgood, who established a formal program in the field in 1980.

**Requirements:**

- a minimum of 5 courses (20 credits) within this program-including those that are cross-listed with STRAT.
- One of those courses must be Strategy and Policy (SA.660.740) and must be taken in their first semester.
- Quantitative reasoning: students must complete one of the quantitative reasoning exams offered at SAIS.
- Language Proficiency: MA candidates must pass exams to demonstrate proficiency in a second language. This language must be offered at the school. Students whose native language is not English may use English as their proficiency language.
- Capstone: see details on website.
- One of the following Capstone requirements:
  - Successful completion of the course SA.660.751 Strategic Studies Research Seminar
  - Leading or directing research for the international staff ride, or leading one of the domestic staff rides
  - An oral exam conducted by two Strategic Studies faculty members at the end of the final semester
  - MA Oral Exam (to compete for honors—if eligible)
SUMMER READING FOR CORE EXAMS

MA candidates who wish to acquire some background in the core examination areas during the summer may wish to read the following texts:

**Evolution of the International System**
Thomson, David, *Europe Since Napoleon* (1815-1945)

(OR) Breunig, Charles and Levinger, Matthew, *The Revolutionary Era, 1789-1850* AND
Rich, Norman, *The Age of Nationalism and Reform, 1850-1890* AND
Gilbert, Felix and Large, David, *The End of the European Era: 1890 to the Present* AND
Kissinger, Henry, *Diplomacy.*

**America and the World Since 1945** -- Any one of the following texts, or another text covering U.S. foreign policy since 1945:

**Theories of International Relations:**
K. Waltz, *Theory of International Politics,* Addison-Wesley, 1979

**Comparative Politics:**
Students may familiarize themselves with past examinations (available on the SAIS Europe insider portal – BCWeb) and then use the Oxford Handbook series to prepare. There is absolutely no expectation that students should read the books cover to cover. Instead they should develop a list of topics based on past exams and then look through the books to find relevant entries. Five titles are appropriate:

*The Oxford Handbook of Political Science; The Oxford Handbook of Comparative Politics; The Oxford Handbook of Political Institutions; The Oxford Handbook of Political Economy; The Oxford Handbook of Political Behaviour*

If students have little or no background in political science, they are strongly urged to read the following book:

**MAGR DEGREE**
(13 months; BOLOGNA)

Cohort-based classes, traditional training in quantitative methods, and practical application lay the foundation for the Johns Hopkins SAIS approach to political and economic risk analysis. Most courses are taught by Johns Hopkins SAIS faculty, renowned for their interdisciplinary approach to the study of economics, politics and history, as well as recent innovative work in the field of risk and uncertainty. Their diverse areas of scholarship and practical experience bring both a realistic and rigorous orientation to the MAGR program. Students begin their studies by reviewing economic concepts related to risk, during the first summer term. In the fall students explore theoretical approaches and problems associated with managing risk. In the spring term students examine sources of risk in politics and how to apply quantitative approaches to risk assessment. The program culminates with a project which can entail a period of professional experience or an original thesis, where students apply the knowledge and tools they acquired through the MAGR program to identify potential risks facing a company or organization, and provide recommendations to mitigate these risks.

**MIPP DEGREE**
(one year; Bologna or Washington, DC)

Candidates for the Master of International Public Policy degree are mid-career professionals, with at least seven years of full-time post-university professional experience, in careers relating to international affairs. Candidates must successfully complete any eight courses (in addition to any language courses they may choose) within one academic year on a full-time basis, or within a two-year period on a half-time basis. Non-native English speakers must pass the English proficiency examination. MIPP students planning to attend SAIS Europe should be aware that normally only a small number of MIPP students attend SAIS Europe each year. MIPP students attend courses together with students in the other programs. Those who wish to take advantage of the courses in economics should make sure to fulfill any course pre-requisites.
SAIS EUROPE DIPLOMA
(one year, Bologna)

Students who are unable to continue for the second year of the MA degree may ask to transfer to the SAIS Europe one-year Diploma in International Studies. In order to receive the diploma, students must complete eight courses, not including language courses, usually in two consecutive semesters of full-time residence. In addition, non-native English speakers must pass the English proficiency examination, or complete two semester courses in advanced English. Native English speakers must pass a language proficiency exam in any of the languages offered at SAIS Europe, or two semester courses in any of these languages. The intensive Italian course offered in pre-term can be counted as a one-semester language course. This does not apply to the intensive English course.

MAIA DEGREE
(one or two years, Bologna)

The MAIA degree may be undertaken by attending SAIS Europe for two years, or by attending one of the partner programs in Europe for one year, followed by one year at SAIS Europe. Detailed MAIA requirements are available from the SAIS Europe Registrar’s Office.

MAIA with two years at SAIS Europe:

Degree Requirements:

Students choose between the following two options:

- Successful completion of 14 non-language courses (56 credits) with a grade point average of at least 2.67 (B-), plus a thesis which carries 8 credits;
- Successful completion of 16 non-language courses* (64 credits) with a grade point average of at least 2.67 (B-)

*Students who choose to complete two elective courses in lieu of the thesis are required to prepare a research paper or mini-thesis their MAIA studies; this can be completed as a requirement for one of their elective courses.

Cooperative program students: students coming from cooperative programs are required to complete six non-language courses plus the thesis or eight non-language courses, and the language proficiency requirement.

Economics requirement: All MAIA students are required to complete Microeconomics and Macroeconomics. Those who have taken an equivalent course elsewhere, may take a waiver exam to demonstrate their competence in one or both of those areas. Students who pass a waiver exam in Microeconomics must substitute it with Intl Trade Theory; those who pass the waiver exam in Macroeconomics must substitute it with Intl Monetary Theory.

All MAIA candidates must pass a minimum of two economics courses at SAIS Europe taken during the fall and spring terms. Pre-term courses are not counted toward the MAIA economics requirement although they will fulfill pre-requisite requirements for other courses.

Language Requirement: Native English speakers are required to pass a proficiency examination in one of the foreign languages offered at SAIS Europe. Non-native English speakers must pass the SAIS English proficiency examination.*

Details requirements are available from the BCWeb.

*All non-native English speakers must take the written section of the SAIS Europe English Proficiency exam during orientation. The oral section can be completed later in the year.
INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS AT SAIS

The SAIS International Economics Program provides students with a firm grasp of the theory and tools of economics and finance and the functioning of the international economic system. These skills are an important component of modern training in international affairs. In addition, the advanced courses can be used to prepare for a variety of careers in international economic and financial analysis as well as in business.

The study of economics is an integral part of the program at SAIS. The strong emphasis on economics in the curriculum is one of the unique characteristics that sets SAIS apart from other graduate programs in international affairs. Thus, all MA students must complete a concentration in International Economics by taking at least four economics courses while at SAIS. In addition, MA students must complete one quantitative reasoning course.

The concentration in international economics is designed to provide students with a solid understanding of economic theories and concepts as well as the important role economics processes play in international affairs. Whether you are interested in pursuing a career in international finance, public policy, business, or economic development, the program provides students with the knowledge, skills and abilities to succeed in both the public and private sector.

MAIA students must complete at least two economics courses but are encouraged to take full advantage of the additional economics courses offered in Bologna.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENT IN ECONOMICS

All students entering SAIS must have passed a course in Principles of Economics (covering basic Micro- and Macroeconomics). Students who have not passed these courses at the time of admission must take the SAIS ONLINE Principles of Economics course during the summer prior to enrollment, OR an approved course equivalent to the SAIS ONLINE course at another institution. If this requirement applies to you, it is indicated in your letter of admission. Make sure not to miss the registration deadline. Detailed information is available on the website at: http://www.sais-jhu.edu/graduate-studies/other-programs/online-principles-of-economics#description-dates-and-tuition

Students opting to take a course elsewhere during the summer should verify with the Admissions Office that the alternate course covers the same topics as the SAIS online course. Proof of enrollment in an alternate course should be provided as early as possible. Upon completion of the course, an official transcript showing a satisfactory passing grade must be submitted to the Office of Admissions (from which you receive your letter of admission). This must be submitted by the beginning of pre-term if you plan to take Intermediate Microeconomics in pre-term. Otherwise, it must be submitted by the beginning of the fall semester. Those who do not pass an approved course in Principles of Micro- and Macroeconomics will not be allowed to register for courses in the fall.

MATH REQUIREMENT

Math plays an integral part in understanding the economics concepts you will be expected to develop at SAIS. All students should be prepared to use mathematical tools to meet the economics course requirements. All incoming SAIS students will receive access to an online course to assist them in their preparation. Detailed information will be sent by email once matriculation is finalized. All students arriving for pre-term are required to complete the Online Pre-Calculus course and final test by Monday, August 12. Those who do not pass will be required to attend a pre-calculus math tutorial during pre-term. Students who are unable to attend pre-term must complete the Online Pre-Calculus course and test by Monday, September 9. Those who do not pass will be required to attend the math Review which will be offered during the first weeks of class.

MA ECONOMICS COURSE REQUIREMENTS

MA candidates must successfully complete FOUR courses in international economics at SAIS:

1. Microeconomics (intermediate level) – offered in pre-term* and fall
2. Macroeconomics (intermediate level) – offered in fall and spring
3. International Trade Theory – offered fall and spring
4. International Monetary Theory – offered in spring

*See the Pre-Term information on the website in order to choose your Pre-Term course. Make sure to pay attention to the prerequisites for Intermediate Microeconomics in Pre-Term.

Those who pass the Online Calculus course by Monday, August 12 may attend Microeconomics in Pre-Term in order to fulfill MA Microeconomics requirement. This will also enable students to take courses with a prerequisite of Intermediate Microeconomics during the fall (for example, Corporate Finance, which in turn is a pre-requisite for the Financial Derivatives and Renewable Energy in the spring). Alternatively, students can apply to take the equivalent SAIS waiver exam. Those who pass the waiver exam will have met the SAIS microeconomics requirement, but they will need to substitute the waived course with a different economics
course during their program of study. Waiver exams are also available for the other three required economics courses (above).

**WAIVER EXAMS**

Waiver exams are offered online by the SAIS Economics Department in Washington, D.C. Passing a waiver exam enables students to fulfill the corresponding requirement, meet a prerequisite for other courses, and avoid repeating subjects you have already mastered. Waiver exams are offered for the following courses:

1. Microeconomics (intermediate level)
2. Macroeconomics (intermediate level)
3. International Trade Theory
4. International Monetary Theory
5. Statistical Methods for Business and Economics (prerequisite for Econometrics)

All those who received a *satisfactory grade in one of the above courses in their previous academic institution* are encouraged to take the corresponding waiver exam.

Those who have passed Microeconomics are advised to take the waiver exam in June so that if they do not pass the waiver exam, they will still be able to register for the Microeconomics course in Pre-Term. In the US grading system, a minimum of B- is required to qualify for the waiver exams. To take a waiver exam, admitted students must *submit a request, accompanied by a transcript showing a satisfactory grade in an equivalent university course*, to econwaiver@jhu.edu at least *TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO THE EXAM*. Check the waiver exam dates for 2019-20 on the [SAIS website](http://www.sais-jhu.edu/content/international-economics#waiver-exams).

*Makesure not to miss the waiver application deadlines.*

Those who miss the waiver deadlines may request an ad-hoc exam but will be required to pay a fee.

Once approved for a waiver exam, students receive an email with instructions on how to take the test online.

**All students are strongly encouraged to consult the detailed information on the economics waiver exams on the website:**

[http://www.sais-jhu.edu/content/international-economics#waiver-exams](http://www.sais-jhu.edu/content/international-economics#waiver-exams)

MA students who pass Microeconomics in pre-term do not need to substitute that course with another economics course. Those who pass any of the waiver exams listed above will need to substitute the corresponding course with an alternate economics course.

**Economics Specializations at SAIS**

As an option to the international economics requirement described above, interested students can pursue a specialization in one of the following five specific areas of economics:

- Quantitative Methods and Economic Theory
- International Finance
- Development Economics
- Economic Policy
- Infrastructure Finance and Policy

For further information on the SAIS economics program and specializations, please consult the website at:

[http://www.sais-jhu.edu/content/international-economics#overview](http://www.sais-jhu.edu/content/international-economics#overview)

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**A NOTE ON PRE-TERM**

*(see also detailed information sheets):*

Pre-term is not mandatory (except for those required to take Intensive Advanced English), but it is strongly recommended for students in the MA and MAIA programs. In terms of sequencing, Microeconomics should be taken before Macroeconomics. MA students should plan to complete their economics requirement before the start of their third semester. All students are invited to discuss their economics course choices with the economics faculty at the beginning of the academic year prior to registration for courses.