Overview

The International Business Certificate (IBC) is open to undergraduate students in the Henry B. Tippie College of Business or the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Students who complete the IBC will develop a competent understanding of the complexities of the international business world.

The IBC complements internationally minded students' majors by adding an international business dimension to their degrees. While the IBC is not intended to serve as a ticket to a job overseas upon graduation, it can be a credential that draws the attention of prospective employers.

IBC course work is concentrated in 4 areas: International Business, International Relations and Institutions, World Language or Study Abroad, and Area Studies. By acquiring knowledge and skills in these four areas, students will develop an understanding of the economic and cultural forces that shape the global business environment.

Certificate Requirements (29 s.h.—not including world language)

I. International Business (17 s.h.)

These courses provide students with an essential understanding of economics, which is central to all business operation. They also help students develop knowledge of the functional areas of international business. Some courses require special permission to enroll; see the IBC website for details.

Required courses (8 s.h.):
• ECON:1100 Principles of Microeconomics
• ECON:1200 Principles of Macroeconomics

Choose three courses (9 s.h.):
• BUS:2450 Business and Culture in China
• ECON:3345 Global Economics and Business (prereqs: ECON:1100 and 1200)
• ECON:3620 Economic Growth and Development (prereqs: ECON:1100 and 1200)
• ECON:4110 International Economics (prereqs: ECON:3100 and 3150)
• ENTR:4460 Entrepreneurship and Global Trade (prereq: ENTR:2000 or MGMT:3100)
• FIN:4240 International Finance (prereq: FIN:3000)
• MGMT:3450 International Business Environment (prereq: 60 s.h. earned)
• MKTG:4300 International Marketing (prereq: MKTG:3000)
• LAW:8600 International Business Transactions
• LAW:8631 International Trade Law: Basic Norms and Regulations

One of these may be counted toward the 9 s.h. requirement above:
• JPNS:3500 Business Japanese I*
• FREN:3410 Business French*
• GRMN:3214 Business German*
• SPAN:3040 Business Spanish*
• CHIN:3103 Business Chinese I*
• PORT:3130 Business Portuguese*

*Requires 4th level language proficiency or higher.
II. International Relations and Institutions (6 s.h.)
These courses familiarize students with comparative politics, social geography, foreign policy, and issues related to world population and the environment—topics relevant to decision making in the international business world. Choose two courses from the approved list on the IBC website.

III. World Language or Study Abroad Experience
(fourth/fifth level proficiency, depending on the language)
This component enables students to either develop an intermediate level of competence in a second language or immerse themselves in a study abroad experience. Through studying language or studying abroad, students not only gain insight into the culture of another region of the world, but they develop a deeper understanding of their own language and culture.

For the World Language option, complete a language sequence from the approved list on the IBC website, or contact an IBC advisor with questions regarding a language not listed.

For the Study Abroad option, students must earn at least 3 s.h. of graded credit course work for the study abroad experience. Consult with an IBC advisor about study abroad course work in advance, in conjunction with the Office for Study Abroad in 1111 University Capitol Centre.

IV. Area Studies (6 s.h.)
These courses help students learn about the culture, contemporary history, art, literature, and politics of a specific geographic region. They cover topics critical to understanding sociocultural influences on people with whom students share the world, and with whom they may conduct business.

Choose two courses from the approved list on the IBC website from one geographic area appropriate to your world language or study abroad experience region.

Certificate Policies
Tippie College students may declare their intention to pursue the certificate with their advisor in the Undergraduate Program Office (C140 PBB). College of Liberal Arts and Sciences students may declare in the Academic Advising Center (C210 PC) or in Academic Programs and Student Development, 120 SH.

A 2.0 grade-point average must be maintained on all certificate course work and courses may not be taken pass/non-pass. A minimum of 20 s.h. of certificate course work (other than language) must be completed at the University of Iowa, or in approved study abroad programs. Individual courses are not allowed to fulfill more than one requirement within the IBC requirements. More detailed policies are available on the IBC website.

Study Abroad
A study abroad experience is encouraged for all students pursuing the IBC. Credits earned at another university while abroad can be used to satisfy IBC course requirements, if prior approval for the course work is received from the IBC advisor. Students interested in pursuing study abroad opportunities should visit the Office for Study Abroad in 1111 University Capitol Centre.

This handout is a planning tool only. To confirm specific graduation requirements, consult your degree audit on ISIS.

Academic Programs & Student Development
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
120 SH, (319) 335-2633
tippie.uiowa.edu/undergraduate/programs/ibc.cfm

Undergraduate Program Office
Tippie College of Business
C140 PBB, (319) 335-1037