THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC
FACULTY OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS
School of Government, Development and International Affairs

Graduate Studies in Diplomacy and International Affairs
GRADUATE STUDIES IN DIPLOMACY AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AT USP

The USP’s School of Government, Development and International Affairs in the Faculty of Business and Economics offers three postgraduate programmes in Diplomacy and International Affairs - a Postgraduate Certificate, a Postgraduate Diploma and a Masters programme.

These programmes are intended for practicing as well as aspiring foreign affairs officers and diplomats, government officials whose duties extend to the international or regional arena, and locally-engaged staff working in regional institutions, United Nations agencies and foreign embassies. They are also intended for military officers who are moving into policy positions, journalists, private sector professionals and civil society activists.

Programme Objectives
The Diplomacy and International Affairs programmes aim to equip graduates with an understanding of the international system including the rules of diplomacy, key international institutions and the processes of global and regional governance.

These programmes aim to develop both academic background and practical skills training in diplomatic negotiations, especially in respect to key policy areas such as trade and the environment.

The courses comprise a mix of global, generic themes and regional content. This is to ensure that subjects are contextualized for Pacific island students.

Structure and mode of delivery
Students may enter at the Postgraduate Certificate level and exit after two courses; or they may choose to ‘staircase’ on to the Postgraduate Diploma and the Masters programmes.

Courses may be offered in a range of modes, including flexi-school (Summer and Winter School) mode, face-to-face semester mode and /or on-line DFL mode.
PROGRAMMES

Postgraduate Certificate in Diplomacy and International Affairs

The PGCDIA provides a core grounding in diplomacy and international affairs. It also provides a staircase into the Postgraduate Diploma and Masters programmes.

The PGCDIA can be achieved in one year on a part-time basis or in one semester on a full-time basis.

PGCDIA students undertake two courses selected from:

PL409  Diplomacy, Negotiations and Statecraft
PL410  World Politics and International Relations
EC416  WTO and Trade Liberalisation in Developing Countries
PL400  Regional Diplomacy in the Pacific Islands OR PL401 Pacific Islands Foreign Policy

The admission requirement for the PGCDIA is a Bachelor’s degree from a recognized tertiary institution with a GPA of at least 3, OR equivalent. In judging ‘equivalence’ account is taken of relevant professional experience.

Postgraduate Diploma in Diplomacy and International Affairs

The PGDDIA offers a more comprehensive understanding of international relations and diplomacy. It provides an opportunity for students to deepen their knowledge of global and regional developments. It also provides a staircase into masters level study.

The PGDDIA can be achieved in two years of part-time study (or one extra year part-time for PGCDIA graduates)
PGDDIA students undertake four courses (PGCDIA graduates have credit for two courses):

- **PL409** Diplomacy, Negotiations and Statecraft
- **PL410** World Politics and International Relations
- **EC416** WTO and Trade Liberalisation in Developing Countries
- **PL400** Regional Diplomacy in the Pacific Islands OR **PL401** Pacific Islands Foreign Policy

The admission requirement for the PGDDIA is a Bachelor’s degree from a recognized tertiary institution with a GPA of at least 3, OR equivalent. In judging ‘equivalence’ account is taken of relevant professional experience (PGCDIA graduates have to achieve a GPA of 3 to enter the PGDDIA).

**Master of Arts in Diplomacy and International Affairs**

The Master of Arts in Diplomacy and International Affairs (MADIA) builds on the foundational courses in the PGDDIA by adding an opportunity to undertake a research essay on a diplomacy and international affairs topic of particular interest to the student. This course also provides research skills and advance writing skills.

In addition, MADIA students also have the opportunity to follow an interest in a particular academic stream by clustering their electives around particular topics such as fields in law, environment, economics or development studies.
MADIA students undertake 8 courses- five core courses and three electives.

**Core courses**
PL409  Diplomacy, Negotiations and Statecraft  
PL410  World Politics and International Relations  
EC416  WTO and Trade Liberalisation in Developing Countries  
PL400  Regional Diplomacy in the Pacific Islands OR PL401 Pacific Islands Foreign Policy  
PL411  Research Essay in Diplomacy and International Affairs

**Electives**
The electives include but are not limited to the following:
PL402  Special Topic in Intervention and Peace Building  
PL403  Pacific Politics  
LW468  Public International Law  
LW473  Foreign Trade and Investment Law  
LW469  European Law and the Pacific  
EC406  International Economics and Trade  
EC408  International Finance and Development  
MS441  Regional Management of Marine Resources  
EV414  Climate Change, Impact and Vulnerability

The admission requirement for the MADIA is a Postgraduate Diploma in Diplomacy and International Affairs with a GPA of 3 or above, or equivalent qualification.

**COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

**PL409: Diplomacy, Negotiations and Statecraft**
This course provides an introduction to the theory and practice of modern diplomacy, focusing on international negotiation. It is particularly concerned with the role of the ‘new diplomacy’ in preventing conflict, building peace, building legitimate states, and working for just and effective outcomes in the challenging issues of environmental protection and development. In the contemporary era of globalisation, diplomacy includes a variety of state and non-state actors outside the foreign ministry. Negotiations also range over a vast number of issues constituting modern global governance. This course examines these new challenges and opportunities for international negotiation through a series of case studies of Pacific diplomacy in key engagements such as the Pacific at the United Nations and collective diplomacy in relation to security, development, sovereignty and resource management. It asks whether and how Pacific diplomacy is effective and what resources and strategies it can best employ.
PL410: World Politics and International Relations
This course aims to identify key issues, institutions and ideas that shape the environment in which diplomacy and international relations are conducted. It will assess some of the key trends and transformations in contemporary world politics – such as the impact of economic globalization, the role of global and regional institutions (the United Nations, the European Union), the rise of China and other emerging economies, and the impact of new global issues and challenges (such as environmental issues and human rights). The course will explore some major debates such as the future of sovereignty and the sovereign state system, and assess the prospects for peaceful cooperation or inter-state rivalry and conflict. Although this will be a ‘generic’ course in world politics, it will seek to focus on those global themes that are most relevant to the Pacific.

EC416: WTO and Trade Liberalisation in Developing Countries
This course is specific to WTO and trade liberalization. It covers trade related issues for developing and more specifically for small and vulnerable economies. The course provides deeper insights into international trade affairs and draws heavily from the WTO and related libraries to explain the role and patterns of world trade within the context of WTO rules and agreements. In addition, it provides an assessment of regional and bilateral trade agreements and development implications with specific references to Pacific Island states.

PL400: Regional Diplomacy in the Pacific Islands
The Pacific islands region has one of the world’s most extensive networks of regional organizations and regional regimes. These promote regional cooperation between Pacific island countries, and shape the region’s relations with the outside world. The first half of this course examines developments in regional cooperation in the Pacific islands from its colonial origins to the Pacific Plan. The second part applies several key theoretical perspectives to analyzing regionalism in the Pacific. These include regionalism as collective diplomacy, regionalism as a response to globalization; and regionalism as an approach to building security and order.

PL401: Pacific Islands Foreign Policy
Foreign policy analysis is a specialized field of study that overlaps with the study of international politics and domestic political systems. This course analyses the foreign policy of Pacific island states including Papua New Guinea. It explores the internal and external factors that contribute to their foreign policy. Also examined are the roles of major neighboring states – Australia and New Zealand, and China, the United States and Japan. Guest
lecturers, including diplomats, contribute important perspectives to this course.

**PL402: Special Topic in Intervention and Peace Building.**
This course will provide students with an advanced understanding of the politics, norms, and challenges of intervention and peace-building at the global and regional levels. It will explore the effects of these twin practices on intervening and intervened-in states and societies, and on international peace and stability. It will discuss the key debates about the impact of intervention and peace-building on sovereignty and international relations and examine the utility of externally led peace-building, with reference to such experiences as the Solomon Islands and Iraq.

**PL411: Research Essay in Diplomacy and International Affairs**
This course is a 100 per cent research based course. It is a core course for students pursuing a master degree in Diplomacy and International Affairs. It includes workshops on research skills.

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**OTHER INFORMATION**

**Fee structure**
Check USP Regional campuses for information on postgraduate course fees in other countries and centres.

**How to Apply**
Application forms may be downloaded from the USP website (www.usp.ac.fj) Follow links to Information for Students/forms/ application for postgraduate study

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