

and grammar, the course will also focus on improving writing skills with assignments on different elements of the communication process. **(5 credits)**

INTS 4557 Cross Cultural Communications (IP/Skills)

This course is designed to prepare graduate students for careers as international professionals by focusing on the cultural factors that influence communication as well as the rules that proscribe and prescribe behavior. The course will emphasize culture and explore how culture both influences and reflects communication dynamics. Culture is understood to incorporate regional background, values, world views, and associated thought processes; religion, gender and social perception; language and nonverbal communication, among other elements. Each student will select a country and conduct research on the culture, as well as the communication conventions, practices, standards, core metaphors, terms, cultural premises, and meaning systems. Students are expected to demonstrate a critical and informed awareness of cultural content and identity, as well as relational and procedural issues in their country through class presentations, discussions, and a long paper. The rationale for the course is that, in the current environment, cross-cultural (or intercultural) communication is inevitable. Without an understanding of the cultural communication imperatives, it is very difficult, if not impossible, to understand, work with, manage, or influence individuals from another culture. The course will involve theory and proven models, but will primarily focus on practical applications and case studies. We will explore how culture both influences and reflects communication dynamics, how to communicate effectively across cultures or in a multicultural environment, and how to manage and resolve cross-cultural conflicts. **(5 credits)**

INTS 4575 Systems Thinking for the Social Scientist (IP/Skills)

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to systems thinking as an approach for understanding and analyzing real-world issues. In addition to introducing the basic principles of systems thinking, questions that will be addressed include: Why do systems behave the way they do? Why do systems resist change and often end up getting worse when we try to change them? How do you find points of leverage within a system? The course will use examples drawn from a range of issues across the field of international studies. In doing so, it will illustrate how a systems perspective can allow you to see parallels between seemingly disparate issues. The course will introduce both qualitative and quantitative approaches for analyzing systems, and discuss the benefits and limitations of each. Quantitative, computer-based modeling will be used in the course, but no background is required. **(5 credits)**

INTS 4576 Seminar: Community Based Research (IP/CP/Skills)

This course will offer a weekly seminar in methods for community-based research in health, development, population, and humanitarian assistance. The course is intended as a preparation for development, population, and humanitarian assistance. The course is intended as preparation for students preparing for our community-based research partnerships in Delhi, Nairobi, Jerusalem, and Iquitos, Peru but it is open to all students preparing to go into the field. The course will focus on practical methods for gathering quantitative and qualitative data at the individual, household, village/neighborhood, facility, and total community level including “windshield observation”, key informant surveys, household surveys, and gathering of secondary data from census and other government and non-government sources. Methods of data collection will include Geographic Positioning System (GPS), facility/provider surveys, community governance/needs assessments, and knowledge-attitude-practice (KAP) behavioral surveys. Topics of particular emphasis will include maternal and child health (MCH), water and sanitation (WASH), and primary health care (PHC). Students will learn to design, revise, collect, enter, and analyze basic surveys using Excel and the Stata statistical software package. The final project for the course will include a community “desktop assessment” document and a plan for further data acquisition and analysis for your focus community. **(5 credits)**

INTS 4579 International Futures, Global Change, and Development (IPE, CP)

This course will explore the role that the environment plays in determining human well-being. It will introduce the student to different conceptions of human well-being and environmental services, and look at how frameworks are being developed and used to extend and structure our understanding of the relationship between the two. The implications of this increasing understanding will be explored in the context of current scientific and policy debates. **(5 credit hrs)**