



Interdisciplinary  
Studies

# WAR AND THE MILITARY IN SOCIETY

*Study of war and security in the past, present  
and future*

## Program Highlights

War and the Military in Society (WMS) equips students with skills and knowledge to evaluate, analyze, and solve problems related to the use of organized violence surrounding the instruments of national defense, including questions of:

- national security
- international relations
- defense policymaking
- domestic policy
- fiscal policy
- legal policy
- social policy

Students use historical and contemporary case studies to better understand the dilemmas and opportunities facing policymakers and military professionals. Recent events have demonstrated the degree to which military issues affect social groups, global politics, and the world economy. The ways that armies are raised and funded, the reasons troops serve, the conditions military personnel and civilians endure during wartime, and the ways that nations conceive their military apparatus all have direct bearing on future policy decisions.

Students access faculty and their expertise across the university including the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution and the Schar School of Policy and Government.

For the most up-to-date application and degree requirements visit:  
**[mais.gmu.edu/programs/la-mais-isin-wms](https://mais.gmu.edu/programs/la-mais-isin-wms)**

**website: [mais.gmu.edu](https://mais.gmu.edu)**  
**email: [mais@gmu.edu](mailto:mais@gmu.edu)**

## Degree Requirements - 36 Total Credits

### Interdisciplinary Perspectives on War and the Military in Society - 27 Credits

- Electives chosen from 2 or more perspectives: Historical, Contemporary Policy, Theoretical, Practical or Applied.

### Research Methods Course - 3 Credits

### MAIS 793 Integrated Learning Experience - 3 credits

### Capstone Project or Thesis - 3 Credits

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## How to Apply

Along with the completed Application for Graduate Admission and application fee, applicants should submit:

- Official transcripts from previous institutions of higher education attended
- Goals statement
- Two letters of recommendation
- Resume
- Formal writing sample of at least 1,000 words

See [chss.gmu.edu/admissions](https://chss.gmu.edu/admissions) for complete details on the application process.

## MAIS: Design Your Own Degree

The Interdisciplinary Studies (MAIS) program in the College of Humanities & Social Sciences consists of multiple established degree paths that exist in partnership with academic units and faculty across the University. It offers a home for students with broad academic interests who seek a master's degree to help them to create a better world. While their degree paths may vary dramatically, our students share a desire to address critical problems facing the world today.

### Available Degree Paths

Computational Social Science  
Energy and Sustainability  
Individualized Studies  
Religious Studies  
Social Entrepreneurship  
Social Justice and Human Rights  
War and the Military in Society  
Women and Gender Studies