



Ca' Foscari  
University  
of Venice

Department of  
Linguistics and  
Comparative  
Cultural Studies

## WHY COMPARATIVE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS



## An interdisciplinary programme to understand the international challenges of today

The MA programme in **Comparative International Relations (RIC)** is the product of a long-standing collaboration between the department of Linguistics and Comparative Cultural Studies and the department of Economics at Ca' Foscari University. The programme offers a unique opportunity in Italy to study international relations from an interdisciplinary perspective.

After following a **common track** involving the study, at an advanced level, of international history, law, economics, politics, and English language for international relations, RIC students specialise in the study of specific **geographical-political or thematic areas** (the Americas, East Asia, Eastern Europe, European Union Studies, Global studies). The study of the language of international relations in **English** and in a **second language** consistent with the chosen path enables students to acquire high-level communication skills, indispensable to both understand and represent international phenomena.

With diversified emphasis depending on the chosen path, RIC students can focus on the historical origins, as well as the political, juridical, and economic implications, of some of the **main processes** at work in today's international affairs:

- the interactions among state actors, with an emphasis on players such as the United States, China, the European Union, Brazil, Japan and Russia;
- the dynamics of regional integration, cooperation and conflict in the Americas, in East Asia and in Eastern Europe, as well as the challenges facing the European Union;
- global economic integration and dis-integration, as well as the interactions between social and political phenomena across long distances.

The programme traditionally offers plenty of opportunities, such as **seminars and conferences**, to engage with scholars from all over the world. Among the many that have held courses and lectures at RIC in the last ten years are Ennio Di Nolfo, Gilles Kepel, Odd Arne Westad, Shumpei Takemori, Akira Iriye, John Ikenberry, Silvia Federici, Donatella Della Porta, Colin Crouch, Rosemary Foot, Jon Elster, Federico Finchelstein, Luisella Pavan-Woolfe.

RIC promotes numerous opportunities to come into direct contact with international realities, both through exchanges with **universities all over the world**, and through internships at national and **international institutions**. Specific meetings are organised on a yearly basis to provide students with practical information on **international careers**, and RIC students have various opportunities to take part in simulations of the working of **international organisations** (such as the Model United Nations and Model European Union).

The **interdisciplinary education** and **linguistic competences** acquired through RIC enable graduates to pursue careers in public administrations, international organisations, NGOs and private companies, in think tanks for research and communication about international realities, and in institutes for the ideation and monitoring of international cooperation programs. In addition, the *Master's Degree* in RIC enables participation in ministerial competitions for diplomatic service and the continuation of studies in research doctorates.

### **Curricula**

- the Americas
- East Asia
- Eastern Europe
- European Union studies (ENG)
- Global studies (ENG)

### **Web site**