



## Masters "Bordeaux International Relations Degree" of the Institute of political studies

### Presentation

BIRD is a graduate program whose substantial contents – International Relations – and language of study – English – reinforce each other, thanks to teaching and evaluation methods aligned with Anglo-American standards: home readings, class discussions, research papers.

During the first Master year, students acquire basic knowledge in IR theory and history, in international security and international political economy. They spend their second year abroad, at one of BIRD's four partner universities - Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey (MIIS), California; National Taiwan University (NTU), Taipei; Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya (IDC), Tel Aviv; Libera Università Internazionale degli Studi Sociali (LUISS), Roma - before writing a Master thesis and undertaking an internship.

### Objectives

BIRD students form a small, dynamic group of some 20 highly motivated young people from Bordeaux, France and beyond, rigorously selected on the basis of their undergraduate level, fluency in English, IR knowledge and career project.

The aim of BIRD is to provide them with a diploma permitting them to successfully apply on the worldwide market of International Relations specialists – experts, consultants, and scholars. This objective is made possible thanks to the specialisation they choose to acquire during the 2nd year in Conflict and Security Studies, Environmental Studies, Development Studies, Chinese Studies, European Studies, notably.

### Additional information

- \* No equivalent in other French Regional Instituts d'Études Politiques.
- \* 100% English Taught Programs.
- \* 4 top universities as partners all around the world - in America, East Asia, the Near East, Europe.
- \* Worldwide internships network.

### In brief

#### Type of education

\* Initial education

**Kind of education :** Second cycle | masters degree

### Partner schools

[MIIS – Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey \(California, USA\)](#)

[LUISS – Libera Università Internazionale degli Studi Sociali Guido Carli \(Rome, Italy\)](#)

[NTU – National Taiwan University \(Taipei, Taiwan\)](#)

[IDC – Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya \(Tel Aviv, Israel\)](#)

### Contacts

#### Responsible(s)

Battistella Dario

[d.battistella@sciencespobordeaux.fr](mailto:d.battistella@sciencespobordeaux.fr)

Caron Karine

[k.caron@sciencespobordeaux.fr](mailto:k.caron@sciencespobordeaux.fr)

## Training content

---

This information is for guidance purposes.

## Organization

Fourth year BIRD

Fifth-year BIRD

## Access conditions

---

BIRD is open to approximately twenty students who have completed a 3-year higher education degree/or with 180 ECTS credits. Recruitment into the program is highly selective: academic records, career plan, motivational interview in English with the head of the Master's program; written tests in English for candidates from institutions other than Sciences Po Bordeaux. Being fluent in English and having a basic knowledge of IR is essential to be able to apply with a reasonable chance of success.

**Sciences Po Bordeaux Diploma :** [First year](#)

[Find out more about the requirements for admission to fourth year](#)

## Professional insertion

---

The majority of BIRDs become experts and consultants International Organizations (Governmental and Non-Governmental), Think Tanks, Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defense, Multinational Firms.

A small minority opts for a second Master program or a PhD at English Speaking Universities (Canada, US, UK, Netherlands, Scandinavian countries).

## Fourth year BIRD

### Organization

#### ■ Transverse skills

---

##### ■ Transverse skills (Mandatory)

- General Knowledge
- Economics
- Speciality BIRD – Making sense of International relations
- English
- LVB

##### ■ Languages (Choice: 1 Max number of courses to choose 7)

- LVB – German
- LVB – Arabic
- LVB – Spanish
- LVB – French as a foreign language
- LVB – Italian
- LVB – Portuguese
- LVB – Russian

- Sport

#### ■ Core knowledge

---

##### ■ Classes - semester 1 (Mandatory)

- History of international politics
- EU and IR
- History of Europe

##### ■ Final Oral Examination - Outward-looking class/involvement (Mandatory)

- Final Oral Examination
- Outward-looking class or validation of students' extracurricular activity involvement

#### ■ Specialized skills

---

##### ■ Classes - semester 2 (Mandatory)

- War Studies
- Gender Studies and International Relations
- Critical theories of International Relations
- International Law and Migration

##### ■ Specific seminars (Mandatory)

- The politics of European Security
- Thinking the Seas

## Fifth year BIRD

### Organization

#### ■ Transverse skills

---

##### ■ Method conferences (10.0 credits ECTS) (Mandatory)

- Courses taught in partner institutions

##### ■ Examinations (6.0 credits ECTS) (Mandatory)

- Final Oral Examination – English
- Final Oral Examination – LVB

#### ■ Consolidation of disciplinary knowledge

---

##### ■ Certificate 1 (9.0 credits ECTS) (Mandatory)

- Courses taught in partner institutions

##### ■ Certificate 2 (9.0 credits ECTS) (Mandatory)

- Courses taught in partner institutions

#### ■ Transition into the professional world

---

##### ■ Workshops, simulations and tutored projects (Mandatory)

- Internship

#### ■ Dissertation

---