MASTER OF ARTS IN INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY

▶ OVERVIEW

Scientific and technological advances are critical to international competitiveness, improvements in the quality of life around the world, and national growth. In today’s global economy, few fields of policy studies are more pivotal to the world of international affairs than that of science and technology policy. Most universities place their science and technology policy programs within schools of public policy or engineering. At the George Washington University’s Elliott School of International Affairs, we offer a Master of Arts in International Science and Technology Policy that is one of the most prominent programs of its kind in the world. Our students receive more than just a classroom education in policy analysis, research methods, and issues in science and technology; they also learn about the global impacts of these policies and put them to practice in the Washington, DC, science and technology community.

▶ IS THIS PROGRAM FOR YOU?

Our students study everything from biotechnology and nanotechnology to information technology and the Internet, from security issues to international development, from energy and environmental concerns to space policy. Our program gives students the tools and training to understand the importance of science, technology, and innovation to pressing societal and economic issues and the skills to apply these policies in almost any setting. The program’s flexible curriculum combines required courses and electives selected to meet a student’s individual professional goals and intellectual interests. Classes meet in the evenings, accommodating the busy schedules of working professionals and allowing students to pursue daytime internships or employment in government, the private sector, non-profits, and international organizations in the Washington, DC, metropolitan area.

▶ CURRICULUM

The interdisciplinary 40-credit-hour M.A. program can be completed in two years of full-time study or over a longer period of part-time study. The ISTP program requires:

- A 3-credit interdisciplinary cornerstone course that provides the foundation for graduate study in science, technology, and international affairs
- A concentration (15-credit minimum) that allows students to focus on an area of interest—such as space policy, the environment, or information technology, and includes:
  - At least two courses taught by ISTP faculty
  - Courses from external GW departments that relate to the student’s concentration topic
- A 3-credit Independent Study that addresses a policy problem in the area of science, technology, and international affairs
- An elective field (9-credit minimum), which reflects individual interests and career goals
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The program’s faculty members are internationally recognized authorities. Outstanding part-time professors are drawn from the Washington, DC, policy community, providing experienced perspectives on science and technology policymaking. Our core faculty include:

Pascale Ehrenfreund, (Ph.D., University of Vienna/University Paris VII) Focus on astrobiology, molecular biology, space science and related policymaking, technology management.

Henry J. Farrell, (Ph.D., Georgetown University) Focus on European Union and integration, e-commerce, politics and blogs.

David Alan Grier, (Ph.D., University of Washington) Focus on innovation, information and communication technology policy, history of science, scientific institutions, and international trade.

Henry R. Hertzfeld, (Ph.D., Temple University, J.D., George Washington University) Focus on economic and legal issues of space policy, commercial uses of space, innovation, technology transfer, microeconomics, administrative law.

Scott Pace, (Ph.D., RAND Graduate School) Focus on U.S. and international space policy issues, policy and program analysis, and international negotiations.

Robert W. Rycroft, (Ph.D., University of Oklahoma) Focus on science, technology, and public policy; science, technology and complexity; environmental and energy politics.

Albert H. Teich, (Ph.D., Massachusetts Institute of Technology) Focus on globalization’s impacts on U.S. science and technology policy, federal government budgeting, research priority setting.

Nicholas S. Vonortas, (Ph.D., New York University) Focus on economics of technological change, industrial organization, science and technology policymaking.

International Education

Students in the ISTP program can take their study beyond Washington, DC, through short-term or semester-long study abroad programs. The Elliott School’s international partner institutions in Maastricht, Tokyo, St. Petersburg, and Seoul offer courses taught in English that especially complement the science and technology curriculum.

Career Development & Employment

The Elliott School offers career development programs for students from their first semester on campus through graduation and beyond. The Graduate Student Career Development center offers career coaching, workshops, information sessions, and site visits to federal and international agencies, contractors, think tanks, non-profits, and other potential employers. Participation in ISTP on-campus extra-curricular events also offers excellent networking possibilities. ISTP program graduates are currently working for a range of employers that include government agencies, private industry, consulting firms, foundations, and NGOs.

Elliott School of International Affairs
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY