**INTERNATIONAL SECURITY STUDIES (ISS)**

***WHAT IS A STRATEGIC COUNTRY?***

The NSEP (National Security Education Program) model was used to develop the International Security Studies major. NSEP supports students who are eager to study in and about areas of the world critical to U.S. national security and outside Western Europe, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. Students may look at the NSEP site for a list of their acceptable destinations for study abroad: <http://www.nsep.gov/content/critical-areas> .

***WHAT LANGUAGE MAY I STUDY AS AN ISS MAJOR?***

The list of languages emphasized by NSEP reflects a need for more than 70 languages. However, ISS majors should keep in mind that only a certain number of strategic languages are offered on the OU campus, so ISS students should be prepared to study Russian, Chinese, Japanese, Arabic, Hebrew, Portuguese, Spanish, and in some cases French. OU offers various study abroad programs in strategic countries that correspond with the languages listed above.

***WHERE CAN I STUDY ABROAD?***  
It is of particular importance that students majoring in ISS conduct their study abroad in a “strategic” area, as defined by NSEP, and that they use their language of instruction here at OU as a guide for where they go. To the right is a list of strategic countries that students may consider when making a decision on where to study abroad for the major. Official OU program countries for study abroad are listed here. In some cases, OU will not offer student travel programs to particular countries for security reasons. On the Education Abroad (EA) website, students may search for several reciprocal exchanges and study abroad programs offered by other universities in the United States or abroad, as well as programs offered by other agencies and affiliated programs: <https://oklahoma.studioabroad.com/index.cfm?FuseAction=Programs.SimpleSearch>

***STRATEGIC LANGUAGES AND OPTIONS FOR STUDY ABROAD:***  
The languages listed below may be spoken in other strategic countries as well, but only those countries currently listed on the EA website are represented here. If students find other options through other universities not on the list, please bring that information to an IAS advisor for consideration.

**RUSSIAN language** –Russia and Ukraine.

**CHINESE language** – China and Taiwan.

**JAPANESE language** – Japan.

**ARABIC language** – Jordan, Israel, Turkey, Morocco and United Arab Emirates.

**HEBREW language** – Israel.

**PERSIAN language** – TBD.

**PORTUGUESE language** –Brazil

**SPANISH language** – Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, Peru, and Uruguay.

**FRENCH language (as approved)** –Africa (South Africa, Senegal and Morocco). Asia (Vietnam and Cambodia).