International Relations Field Expectations for Second and Third Year Reviews
Dan Lindley, Field Chair, February 12, 2014

In addition to the formal requirements of the Ph.D. program that are stated in the Graduate Studies Manual (pp. 12-13, 2013-2014 edition, approved Nov. 8, 2013), the International Relations field has the following general expectations for its students as they approach the end of their second year and the end of their third year in the Ph.D. program.

Second Year

Demonstrating capacity for independent research (e.g. in seminar, workshop, or conference papers).

Demonstrating a high level of commitment to and engagement with international relations research (e.g. participation in seminars, attendance at and participation in internal research workshops and speaker series such as those sponsored by the Notre Dame International Security Program, the Kroc, Kellogg, and Nanovic Institutes, the Reilly Center, and so forth as relevant, and discussing research and research opportunities with faculty).

Submitting proposals to present papers at academic conferences such as the annual meetings of the International Studies Association, the Midwest Political Science Association, and the American Political Science Association.

Discussing dissertation topics with faculty who might serve on your dissertation committee.

Taking the first steps to move work toward publication.

Third Year

Demonstrating capacity for independent research (e.g. in seminar, workshop, or conference papers).

Demonstrating a high level of commitment to and engagement with international relations research (e.g. participation in seminars, attendance at and participation in internal research workshops and speaker series such as those sponsored by the Notre Dame International Security Program, the Kroc, Kellogg, and Nanovic Institutes, the Reilly Center, and so forth as relevant, and discussing research and research opportunities with faculty). Students should aspire to present their own work at these fora, as appropriate, in later years.

Submitting proposals to present papers and presenting papers at academic conferences such as the annual meetings of the International Studies Association, the Midwest Political Science Association, and the American Political Science Association.

Taking the department’s optional “Academic Career” course or planning to take it soon after becoming ABD.
Having a dissertation topic, assembling a dissertation committee, and taking serious steps toward producing a dissertation proposal (which must be defended no later than the seventh semester).

Submitting articles to journals or coming very close to article submission. Please consult the Graduate Manual for more information on this requirement.