

POS 484/494: Policy Design Studio & Washington, D.C. Internship Program

Study how foreign policy is made and earn up to 12 upper division credits!

Learn about U.S. Diplomacy in Action – **Semester long case study of the U.S. Embassy** in a country of focus

Meet your professors



Ambassador Edward O'Donnell

- **Four decades working in Foreign Service**
- **Served in Europe, Latin America, and Afghanistan**
- **Economic officer**
- **Presidential Envoy for Holocaust Issues**



Ambassador Rod Moore

- **Over three decades working in Foreign Service**
- **Served in South Central Europe and Haiti**
- **Served as First U.S. Ambassador to Montenegro**
- **Has taught at Fletcher School and Naval War College**

Policy Design Studio (PDS)

In Person:
POS 484 (9CH) +
POS 494 (3CH)
in Washington, D.C.

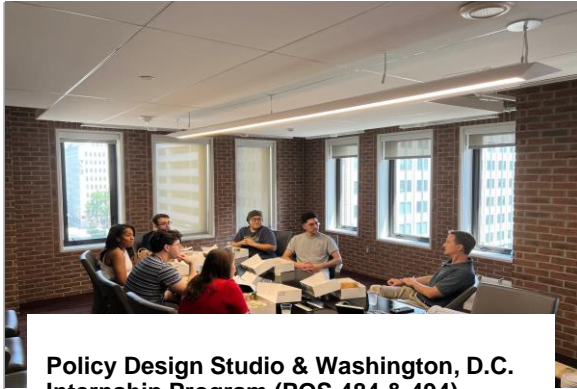
POS 484 (9CH): Intern Monday-Thursday in Washington, D.C.

Attend in-person POS 494 (3CH) class at ASU D.C. campus every Friday

Virtual:
POS 494 (3CH)

Attend virtual POS 494 (3CH) class every Friday

Policy Design Studio (PDS) structure



Policy Design Studio & Washington, D.C. Internship Program (POS 484 & 494)

This is the full PDS program in Washington, D.C., where you will work Monday – Thursday as an intern and role play as a U.S. diplomat on Fridays at ASU in DC.

You will be earning credits for:

POS 484: Washington, D.C. Apprenticeship (~9 credits)

POS 494: Policy Design Studio – Embassy Simulation (3 credits)

Applications are available via Global Education Office:

<https://studyabroad.asu.edu/index.cfm?FuseAction=Programs.ViewProgramAngular&id=6701>

Interviews will be conducted within days after the application deadline.



Policy Design Studio Virtual Course (POS 494)

Role play as a U.S. diplomat on Fridays via Zoom (10am – 1pm AZ MST) Weekly participation is mandatory.

You will be earning credits for:

POS 494: Policy Design Studio – Embassy Simulation (3 credits)

Google application form is available through the School of Politics and Global Studies (SPGS) website: <https://spgs.asu.edu/ldns>

POS 484: Washington, D.C. Apprenticeship

- Only available for the full PDS program
- Intern Monday – Thursday for at least 32 hours a week
- Pre-arrival program during summer (applications materials review, mock interviews, and mandatory Zoom meetings)

POS 494: Policy Design Studio – Embassy Simulation

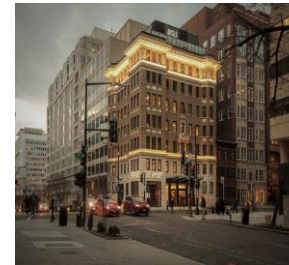
[Sample Friday class schedule](#)

10:00am – 11:00am: Class discussion

DC section and virtual section merge on Zoom after the first hour

11:00am – 12:00pm: Presentation / Debate

12:00pm – 1:00pm: Guest Speaker



Fall 2026 focus: China



PHOTO CREDIT: <https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/06/30/china-united-states-new-cold-war-foreign-policy/>

[State Department Countries Archive: China](#)

[CIA – The World Factbook – China](#)

POS 494 course topics



- **Diplomacy & U.S. policy**
- **National security decision making**
- **Congress and foreign policy**
- **Multilateral diplomacy**
- **Climate change & global health**
- **Democracy, human rights, and corruption**
- **Deep dives into military, economics, and political issues**
- **Character-driven leadership applied principles**

POS 484: Washington, D.C. Apprenticeship (Internship credit)

Pre-arrival work

Fall program → during summer

Spring program → during fall

Pre-arrival graded* work includes:

- Application materials review
- Mock interviews
- Mandatory Zoom sessions
- Applying for at least 25 internships

(*10% of overall POS 484 grade)

Securing an internship is ultimately your responsibility

Internship in Washington, D.C.

Credits breakdown

POS 484: Washington, D.C. Apprenticeship (9 credits)

Internship requirements

Work at least 32 hours a week for 10 weeks

Supervisor must agree to provide a performance evaluation at the end of the semester

484 coursework requirements

- Instagram posts
- Periodic check-ins with Ambassador Moore
- One-page memos

Sample recent internship placements:

McCain Institute | Brookings Institution | William J. Perry Center | Congressional offices | Non-profit organizations (public or foreign policy/int'l development related) | The Roosevelt Group (consulting) | United Nations Foundation | Embassy of Mexico

Housing is set up by GEO and Turnkey

Meridian at Gallery Place: 450 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC 20001

Meridian at Mount Vernon Triangle: 425 L St. NW, Washington, DC 20001

- 24hr controlled building access
- Walking distance from Safeway
- Double occupancy
- Emergency maintenance
- 1.3 miles from ASU in DC



PDS students



Program Fees & Scholarships

Program fee: \$TBD (includes housing, some group meals and activities)

GEO Go Global Grant (\$2,000)

GEO Merit Scholarship (\$2,000)

GEO International Student Scholarship (\$2,000)

GEO Access Scholarship (For ASU Online students) (\$2,000)

ASU Obama Scholars have an outstanding opportunity to use their scholarship to participate in a Global Education program. To review your options, visit the [ASU Obama Scholars webpage](#) or call 855-278-5080 for details.

Corporate Scholarships can be used for select programs. Please contact the Corporate Enrollment Partnership Team by calling 480-965-3200 or emailing corporatpartnership@asu.edu to confirm your eligibility and to understand your benefit.

For more information about the scholarships above, please contact Marie Raach (GEO): Marie.Raasch@asu.edu

LDNS Lab Grant serves as a last-in grant to cover out-of-pocket program cost (subject to funding availability) **An application form will be attached to the program acceptance email from GEO.**

Criteria for selection

- **Open to on-campus and online students**
- **Juniors and seniors get preference, but sophomores are encouraged to apply**
- **GPA 3.0 or above**
- **Strong interest in foreign affairs (Please be sure to indicate this in the application form)**
- **No previous coursework in the country of focus or political science are required**

Application deadlines

- **Washington, D.C. program: Sunday, April 19**
(Typically cap at 8)
 - Application available through GEO
 - Applications reviewed on a rolling basis
- **Virtual program: Rolling until filled (Cap: 12)**
 - Application (Google form) available through SPGS website: spgs.asu.edu/ldns

Robust PDS Alumni Network



- U.S Foreign Service and Civil Service
- Military
- Congressional Staff at U.S. House of Representatives and Senate



- Prestigious Fellowships (Pickering, Rangel, Payne, Boren, Fulbright)
- Peace Corps
- Graduate programs (Harvard, Fletcher, UVA Law, Georgetown, AU SIS, JHU SAIS, KCL, Maastricht, etc.)

Thank you!

