New Member Application 2020

Welcome to the new member application for Sigma Iota Rho (SIR), the International & Area Studies honorary. SIR is an active student group, working in conjunction with Wash U’s IAS department to host events and spread international awareness on campus. By completing this form, you are declaring your interest in becoming part of the Fall 2020 cohort of SIR members and will complete a new member education process if accepted.

We have two options for our application. Option 1 is only for seniors in the following majors: International and Area Studies; East Asian Studies; Latin American Studies; African and African-American Studies; Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Languages and Culture; or Political Science (International or Comparative Politics tracks). Option 2 is for anyone, regardless of year or major.

**Option 1.** SIR Academic Honors: SIR Academic Honors are available to seniors who meet the GPA requirements (maintain a 3.4 GPA or higher within IAS and 3.3 overall) and other criteria for membership in the national charter. Academic Honors recipients pay $45 to become members of the Sigma Iota Rho National Honorary and receive a cord at graduation. These members do not need to participate in the committee and programming body of our local organization. If you are applying only for SIR Honors, please only complete the sections up until/including GPA.

**Option 2.** SIR Programming Body: this option allows for applicants to go through our new member process this Fall. Upon completion of all new member requirements, they will be inducted as full members into our General Body in December. These members will contribute to the general body through planning/attending events and attending general body meetings. If you are applying to be in our programming body, please complete the entire application. Membership in the programming body also gives students access to SIR resources including internship search assistance, networking opportunities with alumni and professors, and a great sense of community.
Please indicate which option you wish to apply for (you can apply for just one or both):

_____ Option 1
_____ Option 2

General Information:
Name:
Email Address:
Major(s):
Minor(s):
GPA:
How did you hear about SIR?:

General Questions:
1. Why are you interested in joining SIR?

2. What specific or unique skill set do you think that you can contribute to SIR?

3. What is a particular world area and/or world issue about which you are passionate? Elaborate on your relationship with that passion.

4. What other extracurriculars are you currently involved in?
Short Answer Question (Pick one of two prompts -- there is no word limit!):

**Prompt A:** Our SIR members take immense pride in creating international-oriented programs for the greater SIR body to participate in. If you were able to plan one event for SIR this semester (professor panel, dinner, movie screening, etc.) what would it be? Use this as an opportunity to discuss issues that you are passionate about, professors or possible speakers that you think are interesting, and/or more generally the kind of events you would like to see on campus.

**Prompt B:** Our SIR members are constantly learning the skills necessary to become involved citizens in today’s highly globalized society. If you could be paid to do any job with an international focus, which job would you choose and why? Use this as an opportunity to think big (there are no limits!) and to contemplate the way in which your membership in SIR can help you achieve that goal.
Final Question:
Can you commit to all three of the following:
   a) General Body Meetings for 1 hour every 2 weeks, Tuesdays from 8-9 P.M.
   b) 2 New Member meetings (9/29, 10/13 each from 8-9 PM on zoom)
   c) Interview with an exec member

And you’re done!

All applicants will sign up for an interview time with a member of the exec board. You will be contacted with information on setting that interview up shortly following the submission of your application.

When emailing the application please send a fresh email to washusir@gmail.com with the subject line: lastname_firstname_application.

THIS APPLICATION IS DUE VIA EMAIL BY 11:59 PM ON FRIDAY, 10/9