

Global Studies

Introduction

An individualized major in Global Studies centers on transnational issues such as economic integration, environmental change, comparative cultures, or health. It is an interdisciplinary major that can include courses from a wide range of disciplines, including such areas as political science, history, economics, anthropology, literature, and languages. It should provide you with a solid foundation for graduate studies or a profession with international scope.

Required Courses

Your individualized major plan of study will consist of **at least 36 credits** of 2000-level or higher courses, 18 of which must be from the college granting your degree, and must include the following:

Research Methods Course. Choose one from an academic department that is integral to your major. Examples include: ANTH 3004, HIST 2100, POLS 2072Q, ECON 2311, or ENGL 2600.

Capstone. UNIV 4600W Capstone Course, UNIV 4697W Senior Thesis, or an approved alternative.

Writing Intensive Course. A writing intensive course that is relevant to the major theme. This will normally be designated “W” in the course catalog and is *in addition to* the capstone.

Essential Elements

Your major should include the following elements:

Thematic Focus (at least 12 credits). Coursework with a well-defined, coherent thematic focus: economics and international development; peace, conflict, and security; environment and natural resources; comparative cultures, arts, and identities, etc.

Regional Grouping (at least 9 credits). Coursework in a region such as the Middle East, East Asia, Latin America, Europe.

Second Language. Two semesters of college-level language study in addition to the university requirements. This may be advanced study of a language you have already begun to learn or more basic study of a different language.

Education Abroad. A semester abroad in a program relevant to your thematic or regional focus. Relevant upper-level courses taken abroad may be part of the thematic focus or the regional grouping. Under exceptional circumstances, shorter programs or alternative experiences will be considered.

Introductory Courses

If you have a thematic focus in economics, politics, or natural resources, we strongly recommend ECON 1201 and 1202. Additional relevant courses include: ANTH 1000, GEOG 1700, GEOG 2000, POLS 1402, SOCI 1701, and WGSS 2124. We recommend that you take one of these in order to get an introduction to your theme.

Designing a Thematic Focus

One of the most important aspects of creating a major in Global Studies is designing the thematic focus. It is critical that at least twelve credits of your plan of study be directly relevant to the theme. If you are using one of the themes mentioned above, a great resource is the Global Studies suggested course list, which is sortable by theme, on the IISP website. Otherwise, you will need to carefully search the catalog for courses related to your theme.

Important Note! If you are interested in **Human Rights**, we strongly advise that you pursue it as a double major (with your individualized major as the first), or as a minor, not as a thematic focus.

Below are a few examples of themes with related courses. Please note that these are just examples! Your plan should be unique to you.

Economics and International Development

ECON 2201 Intermediate Microeconomic Theory
ECON 3473 Economic Development
GEOG 2100 Economic Geography
POLS 3410 International Political Economy

Peace, Conflict, and Security

HIST 3516 Rise of US Global Power
POLS 3247 Gender and War
POLS 3402 Contemporary International Politics
POLS 3442 Politics of American Foreign Policy

Environment and Natural Resources

GEOG 2300 Introduction to Physical Geography
NRE 2600 Global Sustainable Resources
POLS 3203 Environmental Policy and Institutions
POLS 3208 Politics of Oil

Comparative Cultures, Arts, and Identities

ANTH 2000 Social Anthropology
CLCS 2201 Intercultural Competency towards Global Perspectives
ENGL 3318 Literature and Culture of the Third World
ENGL 3631 Literature, Culture, and Humanitarianism

Global Health

ANTH 3300 Medical Anthropology
ANTH 3325 Introduction to Global Health
GEOG 3240 Medical and Healthcare Geography
WGSS 3205 Politics of Reproduction

Regional Grouping

Regionally focused courses can be found in many different departments, including: History; Literatures, Cultures and Languages; Political Science; Anthropology; and Art History.