

# International and Global Studies

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## Contact Information

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- International and Global Studies (p. 1)
- Diplomacy and International Relations Concentration
- Global Affairs and Development Concentration
- International and Global Studies Minor

## Departmental Goals and Objectives

The world of the twenty-first century is one of both great promise and great danger; one in which technological changes promise to bring us closer together, but ideological, cultural and religious diversity threaten to pull us apart. The task of a university in this complex era must be to produce students, who, as citizens and community leaders, can provide an informed public that can make the difficult policy choices future generations will face.

International and Global Studies examines the interactions and inter-relationships among countries and peoples across the globe; studies particular regions and cultures in a comparative and interactive way; and considers issues affecting more than one country. The curriculum is designed to provide students with the tools necessary to understand how other peoples see the world and the issues confronting the global community. The degree uses an interdisciplinary approach that emphasizes political science, history, economics, sociology/anthropology, communications, gender studies, and environmental studies. Within these disciplines, as well as across them, students learn a variety of theoretical approaches for understanding international and global issues such as war and peace, globalization, and development.

## Global Experience Program

The Global Experience Program includes UIS study-away seminars and exchange programs, as well as programs administered by other universities and educational institutions. UIS has developed short-term study-away programs in a number of countries; yearly offerings vary. UIS has also signed exchange agreements with a range of universities across the world. These exchange agreements permit UIS students to study at the partner institutions for a semester or year paying UIS tuition. For more information regarding Study Away, go to <https://www.uis.edu/study-away>. Other UIS partnerships to promote global studies include the Sister Cities Association of Springfield and the World Affairs Council of Central Illinois.

## Model United Nations

Model United Nations (MUN) is designed to teach students how the United Nations fosters peace in the international system. The MUN courses (PSC 478 and PSC 483) allow students to participate in committee simulations where world problems are debated and solutions are presented. Students learn how to operate in a caucus

environment while role-playing a country that is not their native homeland. The courses are specifically designed to prepare UIS students to compete at the National Model United Nations Conference held annually in New York City.

## The Bachelor's Degree

- Diplomacy and International Relations Concentration
- Global Affairs and Development Concentration

The B.A. in International and Global Studies is an interdisciplinary liberal arts degree. Thus, the program seeks to foster and enhance critical thinking, effective writing, and develop intercultural skills to analyze and help solve contemporary world problems.

International and Global Studies students with no concentration may take elective courses from either or both concentrations (Diplomacy and International Relations and/or Global Affairs and Development) or other elective courses with an international or comparative focus with advisor's approval through a Student Petition.

## Advising

Majors in International and Global Studies are advised by faculty appointed to the program. However, majors are welcome to seek the advice of associated faculty who teach courses in the program as well. Particular care is required in choosing courses in the upper division concentrations.

## Grading Policy

International and Global Studies majors must receive a grade of C (2.0) or better in IGS 301 and in IGS 491.

## Program Learning Outcomes

1. Ability to describe, analyze, and explain the terms and concepts necessary for understanding and discussing global phenomena. (Discovery of Knowledge)
2. Critically analyze and combine the theories and methods of multiple disciplines. (Integration of Knowledge)
3. Apply knowledge of diverse cultural frames of reference and alternative perspectives to think critically and solve problems. (Application of Knowledge)
4. Develop effective independent research and writing to communicate clear, logical, and substantive ideas of contemporary world problems. (Communication of knowledge)
5. Integrate academic knowledge with real-world application. (Engaged Citizenship)

The international and Global studies major fosters respect for diverse cultural frameworks to help solve global problems. The competencies established through the International and Global Studies major prepare students for career in business, communications, education, government, immigration, international affairs, law, public health, and sustainable development, among other areas.

## Requirements

### Core Courses

ECO 201	Introduction to Microeconomics	3
ECO 202	Introduction to Macroeconomics	3

IGS/PSC 206	Introduction to International Relations	3
IGS/PSC 301	Introduction to Global Studies	3
IGS/PSC 371	ECCE: Comparative Politics	3

**Select one History Course at 300 or 400 level. Other courses from the History Department may be selected with advisor's permission.** 3-4

HIS 365	ECCE: Culture Wars/Europe	
HIS 371	Islamic Civilization	
HIS 375	ECCE: Conflict in the Middle East	
HIS 419	Egyptology	
HIS 482	Samurai in History and Romance	

**Select one Culture course from these units of: SCM, ENG, ENS, or SOA at the 300-400 level. Other courses may be selected from these or other departments and with advisor's permission.** 3-4

COM 477	ECCE: Global Media and Culture:China	
ENG 320	Topics in World Literature I	
IGS 331	ECCE: Cultural Geography	
SOA 302	Understanding Cultures	

#### Capstone Seminar

IGS 491	International and Global Studies Capstone	2
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**Total Hours** 23-25

<sup>1</sup> Students may focus on one of two concentrations or take 12 to 16 hours of electives (see above).

After completion of the first seven core courses above, students may then focus on one of a number of topical concentrations or take 12 to 16 hours of electives. The two concentrations are "Diplomacy and International Relations" and "Global Affairs and Development." Students may also choose electives without a concentration.

The final course in the curriculum, IGS 491, is designed to help students to weave together the components of their curriculum.

While theory is important, International and Global Studies majors also have the opportunity to put their learning to the test of experience. One of these ways could include participating in the Model United Nations (MUN) simulation (by taking PSC 478 and PSC 483), which requires students to represent a country (usually not the US) at the UN, learn UN procedures, practice the diplomatic arts of persuasion and coalition building, and learn about the issues facing their adopted country. A second way that students can learn from experience is by participating in one of our study-away programs. For more information on study away opportunities please go to, <https://www.uis.edu/study-away>. Special encouragement is given to students to enhance their foreign language skills by choosing to study away in a country where the foreign language of their choice is spoken.

Finally, each International and Global Studies major is required to do a 3 - 6 hour "civic engagement" experience. In addition to Study Away, this might include doing an internship at the US headquarters of a multinational corporation, or for a non-governmental organization (NGO) dealing with human rights or the environment.

## Minors

- International and Global Studies Minor

## Online

Our online courses are as rigorous as our on-campus courses, and are taught by the same faculty members who teach our on-campus courses.

For our online International and Global Studies Bachelor's Degree and our online Minor in International and Global Studies, students are able to take 100% of their classes online, enabling them to earn their degree regardless of their physical location and schedule.

Professors are open to conducting the online course as they see best for the course content and for their students. Some professors choose to record their lectures and have students view them online, while other professors choose to do "live" lectures, where students can view the lecture synchronously (all at the same time) online or view a recorded version of the "live" lecture asynchronously (at different times) online. Most of our online students work full-time and go to school part-time and our online students vary in location and time zones, so our online classes are designed to work with different schedules and different time zones.

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