



GLOBAL STUDIES

Global Studies majors are “global thinkers” in every sense. The Global Studies (GS) program provides students with the chance to understand the complex processes of globalization and the multifaceted nature of current global social problems, such as climate change, disease epidemics, refugee crises, and increasing economic inequality. GS is an interdisciplinary program, where students learn directly from professors across fields of history, political science, language, sociology, anthropology, and beyond. The Global Studies major is built around intellectual curiosity, not disciplinary walls.

With a diverse array of courses to choose from, Global Studies is highly flexible, allowing students to tailor the program to match their interests. GS majors and minors acquire analytical skills, research experience, and a breadth of knowledge that enable them to contribute to the rapidly evolving global community. GS has a strong track record of placing graduates in a wide range of exciting positions and graduate programs, including in placements in international business and finance, international organizations, public policy, and research and academia.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS?

How is an interdisciplinary program different from a traditional major?

Traditional (not interdisciplinary) majors offer curriculum and training within one specific field of study. On the other hand, interdisciplinary programs exist across majors or departments. The faculty for Global Studies (GS) comes from across multiple disciplines at Lehigh, including political science, history, sociology, and anthropology. As such, GS students have access to a lot of different people and resources on campus. One of the best aspects of an interdisciplinary major is that students receive a well-rounded education.

What is the difference between Global Studies and International Relations?

Global Studies is about globalization in all its aspects, economic, cultural, political, historical, and social. GS recognizes globalization's diversity as a phenomenon which require a diversity of approaches to begin to understand this complex process. GS is thus an interdisciplinary major – the faculty are professors who study comparative issues from different fields, including history, political science, sociology, anthropology, etc. Also, the Global Studies curriculum focuses on a diversity of actors, including international organizations, non-governmental organizations, corporations, and nation-states.

International Relations (IR) is one field of study, with a strong focus on political forces, including emphasizing the nation-state as the key actor. Majors in international relations study international politics and institutions, learning principles of diplomacy and foreign policy.

Is study abroad required?

Yes, a study abroad experience is required for all GS majors at Lehigh. Students preferably engage in a semester-long study abroad program (during the academic year). Students may also substitute an international internship for study abroad at an organization concerned with global issues. If extended time abroad is a hardship, GS students may also petition to undertake a U.S.-based internship.

What types of careers does a Global Studies degree prepare me for?

The opportunities and possibilities for different careers in global studies is vast. Many of our graduates are working for international organizations, on issues such as health and human rights, migration, and the environment. Others pursue careers in international law, international communications, international business, education, global health, social research, and diplomacy. Here at Lehigh, the GS program takes a very active role in preparing students for opportunities after graduation, including facilitating career counseling, formal mentorship on career and professional development, and job placement opportunities.



For more information
on Global Studies,
go to
global.cas2.lehigh.edu

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GLOBAL STUDIES MAJOR:

The BA in Global Studies requires a total of 36-40 credits.

Major Requirements

Foreign Language Requirement*

- Global Studies majors are required to complete the equivalent of four semesters of language study in a language or languages other than English. Some students place out of a language course or courses through one of the mechanisms listed below; thus, students might meet the Global Studies major language requirement by taking anywhere from 0-16 credits of language study.

Students may fulfill or work towards fulfilling the GS language requirement in a number of ways, including by:

- Taking language courses at Lehigh at any level. (This could be all in one language, or across two different languages; studying 3 different languages is also permitted but should be pursued only in special circumstances).
- Taking a language course or courses while studying abroad.
- Minoring in a foreign language.
- Transferring in credit from language courses taken at other institutions.
- Placing out of a language course or set of courses through AP transfer credit or through formal assessment with a Lehigh language professor.
- By demonstrating written and oral fluency in a language other than English.



A Semester of Study Abroad or International Internship

- Students should complete 12 credits of study abroad, which can be used to fulfill elective or core course requirements when appropriate. Students may also substitute an international internship for study abroad; the internship must include a minimum of 100 hours over at least six weeks (presumably during the summer) and must be at an organization connected to global issues. If extended time abroad is a hardship, GS students may also petition the program director to undertake a U.S.-based internship directly involved in international and global issues.

Required Courses (totaling 36-40 credits)

Introductory Course (4 credits)

- GS 001 Introduction to Global Studies

Core Courses (4 courses from each of the areas listed below totaling 14-16 credits)

- Arts and Humanities (choose 1)
 - GS/MLL 128 - World Stories: Literary Expressions of Globalization
 - GS/REL 140 - Religion and Globalization
- Culture (choose 1)
 - ANTH 011 - Cultural Diversity and Human Nature
 - GS/ANTH 106 - Cultural Studies and Globalization
- History
 - GS/HIS 101 - Histories of Globalization
- Politics (choose 1)
 - GS/IR 010 - Introduction to World Politics
 - GS/POLS 003 - Comparative Politics
 - GS/POLS/PHIL 100 - Introduction to Political Thought

Economics Core / Senior Seminar (1 course, 4 credits)

- GS/SOC 319 - The Political Economy of Globalization (writing intensive)

Elective Coursework (4 courses; 14-16 credits)

- Select four additional courses from the current Global Studies electives listing. At least two electives must be 200-level or above.



GLOBAL STUDIES MINOR:

A minor in Global Studies requires a total of 15-16 credits.

Introductory Course (4 credits)

- GS 001 Introduction to Global Studies

Elective Coursework (11-12 credits)

- Select any three additional Global Studies courses. At least one elective must be 200-level or above.

CONTACT

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