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GLOBAL AND REGIONAL STUDIES

The Global and Regional Studies (GRS) major is designed for students preparing for an increasingly global environment through the multidisciplinary study of global processes or a major world region. The course of study integrates several academic disciplines, language proficiency, cultural literacy, independent research, and residential experience abroad.

The GRS major is geared toward students who want to focus their major on international studies writ large instead of a single academic discipline. This interdisciplinary approach best facilitates the student's gain in cultural literacy, language acquisition, and the ability to understand and analyze critically global and regional connections, processes, and development outcomes from multiple academic perspectives. The GRS major allows students to focus on a major region of the world (eg, Europe, Latin America, East Asia, etc), or broader themes and issues that cut across world regions. Students may also opt for a concentration in global justice.

FACULTY ADVISORY BOARD

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LEARNING OUTCOMES

Graduates of the Global and Regional Studies Program will demonstrate:

- **APPRECIATION** of their place as a citizen in global society.
- **UNDERSTANDING** of the political, economic and cultural interconnectedness that constitutes our world today.
- **ABILITY TO COMMUNICATE** at a basic functional level of proficiency in a language other than English specific to their geographical region of study.
- **ABILITY TO ANALYZE** specific social aspects of a geographical region employing in a competent and creative way the appropriate conceptual and theoretical tools of the following disciplines: anthropology, economics, history, literature and art, and politics.
- **ABILITY TO INVESTIGATE** the increasing interdependent nature and complexity of cultural, economic, environmental, political, and social processes that constitute the global experience, and to examine those processes from a global justice perspective.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

TRACK SELECTION

Students first select between one of two tracks in the major: Global Studies or Regional Studies. Students in the Global Studies track may opt for a concentration in global justice studies. Students in the Regional studies track must select a specific region of the world in which they have a particular interest and wish to focus their studies. Four choices are available: East Asia, Europe, Latin America, or student defined (eg, North Africa, Middle East, etc). Student defined regions must receive approval from the Director of Global and Regional Studies.

LOWER DIVISION

Students must complete the following five lower-division courses:

Global and Regional Studies 1: Introduction to Global and Regional Studies

Anthropology 1: Introduction to Social and Cultural Anthropology

Economics 4: Principles of Macroeconomics

History 1 or 2: World History

AND

Global Studies track: Politics 4: Introduction to International Politics

Regional Studies track: Politics 1: Introduction to Comparative Politics

UPPER DIVISION

Students must complete the following three upper-division courses:

GRS 100: Cultural Geography and Global Societies

GRS 130: Interdisciplinary Issues in Global Studies

GRS 196: Senior Thesis

GLOBAL STUDIES TRACK

Students in the Global Studies track complete six additional upper-division courses—two in each of three groups: Group A (Intellectual Traditions), Group B (Issues and Topics), and Group C (Regional Studies), as follows:

	Group A	Group B	Group C
Anthropology	134	112, 114, 117, 118, 128	119, 121
Economics	102, 160, 190, 192		
French			123, 129
History	104	127, 137, 154	120, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 160, 161, 162, 163, 170, 172
MODL			185, 186, 187, 188, 189
Politics	115, 120, 121	122, 125, 126, 128, 129	143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148
Spanish		160, 161, 162	141, 143, 145

REGIONAL STUDIES TRACK

Students in the Regional Studies track complete four additional upper-division courses. One each from the following four disciplines according to regional concentration:

	East Asia	Europe	Latin America
Anthropology	ANTH 121: China	ANTH 121: Europe	ANTH 121: Central America or Latin America
History	HIST 160, 161, 162, 163	HIST 120, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128	HIST 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155
Literature and Art	<i>check with Director for appropriate courses</i>	ENG 103, 104, 144, 160, 161; FREN 121, 122, 123, 130, 150; SPAN 120, 121, 122, 127, 160 or MODL 187; MODL 186	SPAN 140, 141, 143, 145; MODL 188, 189
Politics	POL 144	POL 146	POL 145

Note: Regional studies track students must take the **ANTH 121** that corresponds to the content of their region.

Any course listed for this major that requires a prerequisite assumes a grade of C– or better in the prerequisite course. In addition, C is the minimum acceptable grade in **IAS 100** and **IAS 196** for credit toward the major.

DEPARTMENTAL MINOR CONCENTRATION

Regional Studies track students must complete the requirements of a minor area of study chosen from Anthropology, Economics, History, World Languages and Cultures or Politics. The choice of minor provides a key focus for the student and aids in their preparation for the senior thesis, which generally is written in that field. In addition, students may pursue a graduate degree in their minor field.

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OPTIONAL GLOBAL JUSTICE CONCENTRATION

Global Studies track students may opt for a concentration in global justice studies. The concentration requirements are:

- 1) complete **POL 115 Theories of Justice**
- 2) complete an internship with a local organization or business while focusing on a global justice issue (may be completed in conjunction with an independent study course that counts as a Group B course).
- 3) write the senior thesis on a global justice topic (approved by the instructor).

LANGUAGE

Students in both tracks must complete the equivalent of level four (4) semesters in a foreign language (appropriate to the region if selected). Language study should correspond with the country where students wish to spend their study abroad. The interdisciplinary and language courses taken by students will prepare them for critically engaged learning experiences.

STUDY ABROAD

Study abroad is a vital component of the GRS major and provides students with an important experience that allows them to understand more directly the cultural complexities and lived experiences of their region of study. Regional studies track majors are strongly encouraged to spend a minimum of one semester studying abroad in their selected region during their junior year in a country that corresponds with their foreign language study. Global studies track students are also strongly encouraged to study abroad for a semester in any region of their interest, or may opt for a semester long internship with an international focus.

MINIMUM GPA

Students must be mindful of meeting the minimum GPA requirement of the study abroad program of their choice, which range from 2.8 to 3.5.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates will be in a position to work for the ever-growing number of international agencies, organizations and businesses. Increasingly, language proficiency and overseas experience are requirements for jobs. Employers seek persons experienced and qualified to function in another language and culture.

Other students go on to graduate school in international business, international studies, or in their minor field. Most major universities have graduate international or area studies programs that offer a natural next step for students interested in further developing their expertise.

Beyond career advancement, many students will find that the immersion in another culture expands their understanding of the human experience and permanently enriches their lives.

CORE COURSES

1 Introduction to Global and Regional Studies

This course introduces students to the principal concepts and theories scholars and practitioners employ to analyze and understand global phenomena including an examination of historical, economic, cultural, and political events, institutions, structures, and processes. In addition, the course introduces students to major world regions and examines the connections between regional and global outcomes. Theories of globalization and key global issues are addressed including human rights, global inequality, poverty, population and migration, terrorism, global trade, and environmental issues. *This course satisfies the Global Perspectives and the Common Good requirements of the Core Curriculum.*

100 Cultural Geography and Global Societies

This course exposes students to the breadth and excitement of the field of geography. Cultural geography studies the ways people shape and give meaning to their environment and allows us to look at the fascinating variety of human activity in the world—the human landscape. Geographic knowledge is vital to understanding national and international issues that dominate daily news reports. This course examines the relevance of geographic methods and concepts to social science topics such as agricultural patterns and practices, architecture, ethnic traditions and conflicts, gender, health, migration, population, political economy, poverty, religion, resource utilization, social change and urban planning. *Prerequisite: GRS 1. This course may only be completed at Saint Mary's College.*

130 Interdisciplinary Issues in Global Studies

Courses in this designation employ interdisciplinary approaches to explore a special challenge, problem, or issue(s) related to international regions or globalization. Topics can include transnational cultures, health, environment, development, and migration and globalization. May be repeated for credit as content varies. *Prerequisite: GRS 1, ANTH 1, ECON 4, HIST 1 or 2, POL 1 or 4. This course satisfies the Global Perspectives requirement of the Core Curriculum.*

196 Senior Thesis

As a culmination of their studies, students are required to complete a senior thesis on a topic of their choice in consultation with the instructor. The thesis demonstrates the student's ability to conduct independent research, and to think and write critically about salient issues related to their chosen track of studies. This course should be taken in the senior year. *This course may only be completed at Saint Mary's College. This course satisfies the Writing in the Disciplines requirement of the Core Curriculum.*

197 Special Study

An independent study or research course for students whose needs are not met by the regular courses in the curriculum. *Permission of instructor and chair required.*