INTRODUCTION TO THE MAJOR

The Global Studies major allows students to explore interactions between states, societies, and cultures and their outcomes. Students pursuing an undergraduate degree in global studies will engage in thinking critically about how global change has (and can) come about during the course of their lifetimes. Students focus on issues relevant to them in a way that provides intellectual flexibility.

A major and minor in Global Studies is offered by the Interdisciplinary Social Sciences Program, which also offers a major and minor in Political Economy as well as the Human Rights Interdisciplinary minor.

THE GLOBAL STUDIES CURRICULUM

Students pursuing the Global Studies major select one of three concentrations: (1) Global Development, (2) Global Peace and Conflict, or (3) Global Societies and Cultures. Students also choose one of five regions (Asia, Africa, Europe/Russia, The Americas or the Middle East) in which to specialize, both in terms of content and language. Students work with Global Studies faculty and advisors to devise a program that best captures their interests and allows them to reach their intellectual and professional potential.

AMPLIFY YOUR MAJOR

- Get involved with a student organization such as The Global Citizen or the United Nations Association at Berkeley.
- Engage with global issues firsthand through study abroad.
- Attend local events on global issues hosted by World Affairs.
- Complete a major paper or capstone project as part an optional Senior Thesis.

My courses had incredibly engaging material related to us by eloquent lecturers.

– Graduating Student, Class of 2019
**FIRST YEAR**
- Explore your major
  - Meet with your major and college advisor to discuss your academic plans.
  - Familiarize yourself with major and college requirements, and consult the Global Studies Handbook.
  - Get started on the foreign language requirement for the major.
- Connect and build community
  - Get involved with Berkeley Connect and L&S Mentors Program.
  - Find study groups, tutoring, and academic support at the Student Learning Center.
  - Enroll in USGS 98: College Success in L&S.
  - Stay updated with L&S News and Notes.
- Discover your passions
  - Discover new interests in a Freshman Seminar such as GLOBAL 24, L&S 1, or a student-run DeCal course.
  - Attend the Undergraduate Research and Scholarship Fair in October.
  - Explore related minors such as Global Poverty & Practice or Global Public Health.
- Engage locally and globally
  - Attend the Calapalooza student activities fair and get involved with a student organization.
  - Find service opportunities through the Public Service Center.
  - Explore study, internship, and research abroad options with Berkeley Study Abroad.
- Reflect and plan your future
  - Visit the Career Center and Career Counseling Library.
  - Check out the Career Center Yearly Planner.
  - Sign up for Handshake and CareerMail.
  - Explore career fields through the Career Connections Networking Series or a winter externship.

**SECOND YEAR**
- Explore your major
  - Take a methodology class such as GLOBAL 102: Critical Thinking in Global Studies. See Appendix C of the Global Studies Handbook for a complete methodology course list.
  - Complete lower division prerequisites and declare the major.
  - Review major guidelines for study abroad and look into programs in Global and International Studies.
- Connect and build community
  - Join a student organization such as The Global Citizen or the United Nations Association at Berkeley.
  - Practice your language skills through the SLC Language Exchange Program.
  - Get to know professors and graduate student instructors during their office hours.
- Discover your passions
  - Continue exploring with a Sophomore Seminar, Big Ideas or Discovery Course.
  - Assist faculty and graduate students in their research through URAP and SURF-SMART.
  - Enrich your studies with a certificate, course thread, or summer minor.
- Engage locally and globally
  - Work with a community organization in an American Cultures Engaged Scholarship course.
  - Consider a Berkeley Global Internship in the United States or abroad.
  - Apply for a FLAS award, Boren Scholarship or Critical Language Scholarship to support your language study.
- Reflect and plan your future
  - Reflect on your education so far and skills and experience you still wish to build.
  - Meet with a Career Center counselor to discuss your career options and goals.
  - Think about doing an internship and attend an internship fair.
  - Learn about graduate and professional school. See Step-by-Step for planning help.

**THIRD YEAR**
- Explore your major
  - Focus on core courses, geographic focus courses, and remaining upper division electives.
  - Review your degree progress with your major and college advisors.
  - Ask the major advisor about the Global Studies Honors Program or an optional Senior Thesis.
- Connect and build community
  - Explore International and Area Studies Centers & Institutes and start attending L&S events.
  - Consider becoming a Golden Bear Orientation Leader and welcome new students to UC Berkeley.
  - Attend local events on global issues hosted by World Affairs.
- Discover your passions
  - Planning a senior thesis or project? Apply to the Haas Scholars Program or SURF.
  - Apply to the Undergraduate Research & Travel Grant for funding support.
  - Curious about entrepreneurship? Enroll in HUM 192: Entrepreneurship for All.
- Engage locally and globally
  - Experience life at another UC or college on a gap year or fellowship after graduation.
- Reflect and plan your future
  - Discus post-graduate options with advisors and professors.
  - Update your resume and LinkedIn profile.
  - Attend career and graduate school fairs like the “Nonprofit, Education, & Public Service Career Fair.”
  - Ask for recommendation letters and take any exams required for graduate school.

**FOURTH YEAR**
- Explore your major
  - Do a degree check to ensure you are on track to graduate.
  - Complete any “bucket list” courses and remaining major, college, and campus requirements.
- Connect and build community
  - Join a professional association such as the International Studies Association.
  - Connect with alumni groups and build your network as you prepare to graduate.
- Discover your passions
  - Teach your own DeCal course.
  - Undertake an optional honors thesis or independent project and submit your work to the Berkeley Undergraduate Journal.
  - Keep pursuing your interests through a fellowship or gap year after graduation.
- Engage locally and globally
  - Hone your leadership skills with the Peter E. Haas Public Service Leaders program.
  - Interested in a public service career? Apply for the John Gardner Fellowship.
  - Explore service opportunities after graduation, such as Peace Corps, Teach for America, or U.S. Department of State.
- Reflect and plan your future
  - Discussion with alumni about life after graduation.
  - Utilize job search tools from the Career Center.
  - Meet employers at Employer Info Sessions and On-Campus Recruiting.
  - Apply to jobs, graduate school, and other opportunities.

**WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?**

The Global Studies major offers solid training in acquiring knowledge to become agents of positive change on global issues. Graduates develop an interdisciplinary understanding of contemporary and global issues regarding history, geography, and large-scale events, and go on to careers in a wide variety of fields.

**Jobs and Employers**

- Business Development Assoc., Sift
- Consultant, SGR Consulting
- Content Manager, U.S. Green Chamber of Commerce
- Corps Member, AmericaCorps
- Field Director, CA Democratic Party
- HR Specialist, SK Innovation
- Investment Management Analyst, Mercer
- Medical Interpreter, Alta Bates Hospital
- Product Specialist, Everlaw
- Project Manager, Imagine Creativity
- Reporter, The NY Times
- Research Data Analyst
- Software Engineer, Piwotal Software
- Teacher, Teach for America
- Youth Development Facilitator, Peace Corps

**Graduate Programs**

- Education, Masters
- International Relations and Affairs, PhD
- Law, JD, PhD
- Sociology, Masters
- Examples gathered from the Career Center First Destination Survey of recent Berkeley graduates and LinkedIn.

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