

The Global Studies Learning Plan (Updated 04/28/25)

Global Studies is an interdisciplinary, student-centered major in support of a single goal: to make the world a more equitable place. Our program is founded on the idea that a more just and sustainable world is possible and our academic curriculum weaves together historical, political, economic, sociological, cultural, linguistic, and philosophical views and perspectives. Our students regularly participate in engaged research, complete internships and fellowships, and work with organizations committed to improving our local and global communities, alongside traditional coursework.

Central to the Global Studies major is an individualized learning plan. Starting with fall 2021, the Department of Global Studies will hold a session for first- and second-year majors on developing their learning plan each semester. No later than in their sophomore year, Global Studies majors will also review their four-year plan with their academic advisor. The learning plan includes an individualized, four-course concentration, along with other required Global Studies courses, elective courses, core courses, and any courses required for additional majors or minors. Students should also build in research, internship, fellowship, and community engagement opportunities to complement and enhance their classroom-based learning, to expand their professional networks, and to develop their post-graduation trajectories. Students are **expected to revisit and update their learning plan each semester (as we see this as a work-in-progress or living document)** in collaboration with their academic advisor. Periodically, the department chair will review all plans to ensure consistency across plans.

Primary questions to explore when developing the Global Studies learning plan:

- What are my interests in Global Studies? Is there a specific region of the world I want to study? Is there a specific issue or theme I want to explore in depth?
- Do I have a particular vocation or calling? What are my post-graduation interests and short-term and longer-term career goals?
- What Global Studies concentration might I propose based on my academic interests and professional goals? What Global Studies course(s) could *anchor* my four-course concentration? What additional upper-level Global Studies courses should I take?

Additional questions that may assist students in developing their learning plan include:

- What language(s) and cultures will I study and how does this complement my interests in Global Studies and possible career trajectories?
- What Political Science and Economics courses will best complement by interests in Global Studies?
- What choice(s) for studying away fit my interests and learning goals? What type of study away program am I interested in? Do I want to do a homestay? An internship?
- With which community partners (local, national, or international) might I work or partner through an internship or independent study?
- How might my senior capstone project bring together my interests, allow me to collaborate with a community partner, and deepen my understanding on a topic or issue of importance to the partner and myself?

NOTE: Each Global Studies major is expected to take the initiative to develop and revise their learning plan and bears responsibility to ensure that they follow the agreed-upon plan. Global Studies advisors should review and discuss each advisee's learning plan as part of advising meetings.

Global Studies Major Requirements

All Global Studies majors are required to take the following six Global Studies courses; in parenthesis, we specify the college-wide cores/proficiencies fulfilled by these required global studies courses:

- GST 101: Introduction to Global Studies (civic engagement proficiency)
- GST 202: Globalization and Change
- GST 290: Global Engagement (1 credit)
- GST 303: Case Studies in Globalization (social science core) *
- GST 480: Capstone I (intensive writing II proficiency)
- GST 481: Capstone II (oral communication proficiency)

* *Global Studies 303 is the department's research methods course, which focuses on qualitative methods. Three other research methods courses also have been approved by the department to fulfill this requirement: PSC 302 Research Methods; APG 247 Ethnographic Research Methods; SWK 368 Social Work Research. If you take a substitute for GST 303, it will not fulfill the social science core; please take another course to fulfill the social science core.*

Global Studies majors must take two upper-level Global Studies courses. Examples of elective courses include:

- GST/ART/PSP 333: Community Lens (civic engagement proficiency; fine arts core)
- GST/BLS/SOC 355: Comparative Race and Inequality (diversity proficiency)
- GST/BLS 370: ST: Global Migration
- GST 370: ST: Sustainable Futures
- GST/PHL 379: ST: Islamic Philosophy and Science (philosophy core)
- GST 371: Storytelling in Our Communities
- GST/SOC 454: Immigration (diversity proficiency)

Every Global Studies major individualizes their program of study through a four-course concentration, with at least one 'anchoring' course in Global Studies. Examples of Global Studies concentrations include (*with a sample Global Studies anchoring course(s) in parenthesis*):

- Immigration (*GST 360: Justice Across Borders or GST 371 Global Border Crossing; GST 370: Global Migration; GST 454: Immigration; GST 370 Immigrant Young Adults*)
- Community Development and the Arts (*GST 333: Community Lens*)
- Human Rights in Latin America (*GST 270: Latin American History; GST: 309: Introduction to Latin American Anthropology*)
- Race and Gender from a Comparative Perspective (*GST 355: Comparative Race and Inequality; GST 352: Global Feminism Age of Empire and Beyond; GST 370: ST: Race, Class and Gender in the Global South*)
- Global Health (*GST 315: Issues in Global Health*)
- The Black Diaspora (*GST 255: African World View; GST 355: Comparative Race and Inequality; GST 470: Black Freedom Struggles*)
- History and Politics in Africa (*GST 255: African World View*)
- History and Politics in Asia (*GST 270: History of Modern India; GST 370: Chinese Language & Culture; GST 370: Social Inequality in India*)
- Race and Capitalism (*GST 370: ST: Racial Capitalism; GST 401: Political Economy of Race; GST 445: Consumer Society*)
- Youth Development (*GST 371: Mapping Youth Leadership*)
- Food Systems (*GST 370: ST: Sustainable Futures; GST 444: The Global Food System*)
- Urbanization and Development (*GST 370: Cities and Empires in World History*)

- Social Movements/Social Change (*GST 370: ST: Sustainable Futures; GST 371: Mapping Youth Leadership*)

Global Studies majors must take a political science and economics elective in order to better understand the political and economic systems that are foundational to contemporary processes of globalization.

- Economics requirement: ECN 102 Principle of Economics: Macro. Students can also take an alternative political economy course to fulfill the economics requirement: GST 370 /SOC/BLS 470: ST: Racial Capitalism*; GST/SOC/BLS 401: Political Economy of Race*; PSC 430: International Political Economy **Racial Capitalism & Political Economy of Race* have pre-requisites
- Political Science requirement: one political science course with an international or regional focus outside the US (e.g., PSC 205: Comparative Politics, PSC 207: Intl Relations, PSC 325: Comparative Revolutions, PSC 336: Latin American Politics, PSC 375: Intl Conflict Resolution, PSC 416 Race and Politics in the Americas)

Global Studies majors are required to start or continue their study of a second (or third) language that would align with their academic goals and professional objectives.

- Six credits (two courses) at the advanced level (i.e., 200-level or higher-level courses) in a more commonly taught language (e.g., Spanish, French, Italian).
- For less-commonly taught languages, this requirement is fulfilled with six credits at the beginner or intermediate levels (e.g., Arabic, Mandarin Chinese)
- This proficiency can be fulfilled through completion of 6 credits in Sign Language.
- Students whose native language is other than English (e.g., their K-12 education was not in English) demonstrate foreign language proficiency through their undergraduate studies at Providence College.
- Providence College is a member of the [AICU](#) Rhode Island Language Consortium Program and students interested in languages not taught at the College can enroll in language courses in the associated institution.

Global Studies also has a cultural immersion requirement. It is critical for global studies students to deepen their understanding of cultural and global issues by participating in a study abroad/study away cultural immersion experience. Majors are thus required to study abroad/study away for a semester or a full academic year with an approved program through the Center for Global Education. Because of our commitment to engaged learning, an internship, service-learning course, and/or community-based action research project is an integral component of each of the approved Global Studies. Recognized Study Abroad/Study Away Programs. Students may apply to fulfill this requirement over the summer at an approved study away program.

GLOBAL STUDIES ACADEMIC LEARNING PLAN

Name:

Major(s):

Minor(s):

Global Studies Concentration:

Cultural Immersion Experience/Study Away:

Language(s):

Global Studies Advisor:

Date (most recently updated and discussed with GST advisor):

	Fall	Spring	Notes (i.e., Maymester, summer, Jan. courses; internships; fellowships, etc.)
1 st year	1.	1.	
	2.	2.	
	3.	3.	
	4.	4.	
		5.	
2 nd year	1.	1.	
	2.	2.	
	3.	3.	
	4.	4.	
	5.	5.	
3 rd year	1.	1.	
	2.	2.	
	3.	3.	
	4.	4.	
	5.	5.	
4 th year	1.	1.	
	2.	2.	
	3.	3.	
	4.	4.	
	5.	5.	