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
Explore your major
Meet with your major and college advisor to discuss your academic plan.
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 the Berkeley Global and International Studies student group.
Join a student organization such as the Global Citizens of 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
Discover new interests in a Freshman Seminar such as GLOBAL 24, L&S 4, 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 Berkeley Career Engagement and the Career Counseling Library.
Develop a plan for getting career ready.
Sign up for Handshake and CareerMail.
Explore career fields through the Career Connections Networking Series or a career internship.

FIRST YEAR
SECOND YEAR
THIRD YEAR
FOURTH YEAR

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, Americorps
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, Berkeley Global Internship
Software Engineer, P哧ot 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.

Updated: 11.08.23