

# 25 UNIVERSITIES WITH GLOBAL STUDIES PROGRAMS OR PROGRAMS OF SIMILAR INTEREST

\*This list is not meant to be extensive but to provide you with a starting point when exploring your post-secondary options.

**What is a Global Studies Major?** According to the [The College Board](#):

*“Global studies majors are “global thinkers” in every sense. Drawing from fields as different as geography, music, political science, and ecology, they look at the connections between nations and peoples and the trends that shape our lives. And global studies majors don’t just think on a large scale. They may study how something like climate change can affect hundreds of nations, but they also consider its effects on their own backyard.”*

## **Potential Career Paths:**

- Foreign Service/State Department;
- International business, including working for a domestic American corporation in their international operations, or working for a corporation abroad;
- Entrepreneurialism;
- International law;
- International development and sustainable development;
- International non-profit work or activism on environment, human rights, social justice, etc.;
- Journalism and other communications media;
- Education, especially teaching and administration at the high school level and above.
- [Click here to see more about what you can do with a Global Studies Degree](#)

### 1. [BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY](#)

The International and Global Studies (IGS) Program is an interdisciplinary program that provides students with an opportunity to understand the complex processes of globalization that have so profoundly affected politics, economics, culture, society, the environment and many other facets of our lives.

### 2. [BROWN UNIVERSITY: WATSON INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES](#)

The Watson Institute is a community of scholars whose work aims to help us understand and address the world's great challenges, such as globalization, economic uncertainty, security threats, environmental degradation, and poverty. Focusing on three main areas – development, security, and governance – the Institute leverages Brown's tradition of true interdisciplinarity to foster innovative, policy-relevant scholarly activities. From Latin America to China, from the Middle East to Southeast Asia, the strongest theoretical models emerge through observations in the field.

3. [CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY](#)

[Global Studies](#) is an interdisciplinary major designed for students interested in humanistic approaches to understanding past and present processes of globalization. Global Studies students seek both curricular and metacurricular opportunities to develop a critical understanding of global issues in order to become engaged "citizens of the world."

4. [CORNELL UNIVERSITY](#)

In this increasingly interdependent world, many of the issues we confront today are transnational, indeed global, in scope. The Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies plays an important role in Cornell's mission to produce graduates and future leaders who have cross-cultural awareness, and who grasp and live the adage that in this global environment, we human beings need to understand each other better. Thematic studies programs focus on policy issues, theoretical problems, or development issues. Many of these programs utilize comparative methods to find resolutions. Questions may be as narrow as what causes anomalous wealth of nations or as broad as how material processes affect and are affected by culture, politics, natural resources, and a host of other societal conditions.

5. [DUKE UNIVERSITY: CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES](#)

The Literature Program's major in Global Cultural Studies is an exciting course of study for undergraduates interested in investigating the forms of life and culture produced in today's interconnected, globalized world. The International Comparative Studies Major is a program with a focus on global and transnational studies. Interdisciplinary region coursework and study away experiences offer ICS majors knowledge in the culture(s), history, politics, and language relevant to one geographic area of the world or region concentration.

6. [GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY: ELLIOT SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS](#)

The Elliott School offers bachelor of arts degrees in international affairs, Asian studies, Latin American and hemispheric studies, and Middle East studies. All students complete a core curriculum of courses in the liberal arts — humanities, social sciences, math, science, and foreign languages — during the first two years. During the third and fourth years, students take coursework focusing on international issues within their chosen field. Emphasizing a core curriculum of advanced fundamentals and regional foundations, our International Affairs major allows students to study global issues from the disciplines of political science, history, economics, anthropology, and geography, before focusing their studies through a functional or regional concentration.

7. [JOHNS HOPKINS](#)

International Studies is an interdisciplinary major drawing on the diverse strengths of the Johns Hopkins University in the fields of political science, history, economics, anthropology, sociology, and languages. Study abroad is an integral part of the International Studies Program. The program has a variety of options that extend beyond the degree itself, offering a five-year BA/MA program with the School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) in Washington, D.C., or Bologna; a five-year BA/MA program with Sciences Po Paris; junior year programs with SAIS Bologna and Sciences Po Paris; and a wide range of study abroad opportunities across the globe.

8. [MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY \(MIT\)](#)

Global Studies and Languages (GSL) is committed to promoting research agendas that will transform international cultural studies for the 21st century while also training students to be the next generation of engaged global citizens. To accomplish these goals, we offer a rich collection of courses, seminar series, and research projects that explore global connection and local differences. Contrary to some early predictions, globalization has not eliminated cultural diversity. Rather, global engagement requires sensitivity to enduring national distinctiveness in terms of language, culture, history, politics, and more. We aim to be a hub for research and teaching on subjects that investigate international diversity. Subject offerings allow students to attain both linguistic competence and a solid understanding of cultural and historical contexts.

9. [MONTEREY INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES \(A MIDDLEBURY INSTITUTION\)](#)

Our Monterey Way curriculum will challenge you to grapple with global issues and create sustainable, culturally competent solutions. Students and qualified alumni have the opportunity to earn both a bachelor's degree at Middlebury and a master's degree at the Monterey Institute in just five years in five different program areas. [More on Middlebury.](#)

10. [PRINCETON: WOODROW WILSON SCHOOL](#)

The Woodrow Wilson School offers a multidisciplinary liberal arts major for students who are passionate about public policy. To enable students to acquire the tools, understanding and habits of mind necessary to pursue policy problems of their choosing, the major is largely self-designed but with the structure and guidance needed for an education that is both broad and deep. The curriculum is founded upon WWS courses — cross-listed with multiple departments — that are relevant to the study of policy making, policy analysis and policy evaluation. Students take courses in at least four disciplines, including economics, history, politics, psychology, sociology and science for public policy. One course in ethics is also required.

11. [STANFORD: GLOBAL STUDIES DIVISION](#)

The Stanford Global Studies Division provides an arena for students and scholars to explore our increasingly complex world from multiple economic, political, social, technological and cultural perspectives. Our goal is to provide students and scholars with unique opportunities to explore the complexities of our globalized world from an interdisciplinary perspective. We encourage traditional and innovative collaboration among our academic programs and centers and provide administrative and other support. SGS's programs are essential to the vibrancy of international research and study at Stanford University.

12. [TEXAS A&M](#)

The International Studies degree provides an interdisciplinary curriculum that captures the broad range of social, political, cultural, and economic forces at play in an increasingly interdependent world. Courses are linked by language, topic, and region, and class work is enhanced by a related international experience. The degree couples a thorough background in foreign language with one of five different

degree tracks: Communication and Media Studies, Commerce, Arts and Culture, Politics and Diplomacy, and Environmental Studies. All students participate in a 10 to 14 week international experience in their chosen geographic region. Upon graduation, international studies majors have the language proficiency, analytical skills, substantive knowledge, and cultural sensitivity necessary for work in government, academia, or international business.

13. [THE NEW SCHOOL](#)

Global Studies is offered as a major to undergraduate students at [Eugene Lang College](#) and The School of Undergraduate Studies at [The New School for Public Engagement](#). Undergraduate Global Studies students have unprecedented opportunities for sharing experiences and coursework with existing programs in the other Interdisciplinary Programs and with other majors at Eugene Lang College. Global Studies students can also combine their degree with an existing minor (such as Religious Studies and Gender Studies) or pursue a double major with their advisor's permission.

14. [UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA](#)

Global Studies is an emergent field concerned with understanding the historical and contemporary phenomenon of globalization in all its aspects. Although global phenomena have been studied for many decades, global studies as a field developed largely after the turn of the 21st century and has expanded exponentially since the first programs were founded in Asian, European, and American universities in the 1990s. Moving away from conventional state-based notions of international order, the field of global studies seeks to promote critical reflection on how the world works as an interlinked, interactive set of processes and relationships that operate across broad spheres of experience, from the social to the political, the economic to the cultural, the religious to the environmental, the legal to the technological, the scientific to the subjective.

15. [UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA: BERKLEY](#)

The Development Studies major focuses on social transformation or change. The problems of social transformation are urgent, massive, complex, and often transcend the boundaries of conventional academic disciplines. DS examines the problems, processes, and prospects for the development of human and material resources in what are generally thought to be the less developed areas of the world. To study comparative development effectively, one must draw upon many disciplines and construct a balanced understanding of historical and contemporary processes. Thus, studying development as a social transformation requires a blending of knowledge and perspectives from political science, economics, sociology, psychology, anthropology, geography, history, and environmental science.

16. [UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO](#)

The undergraduate program in International Studies draws on the strengths of the College faculty in a variety of disciplines and their innovative work in a number of areas of international relevance (e.g., human rights, international relations, globalization, transnationalism, area studies). It is designed to attract students who are preparing for academic, government, nonprofit, or business careers with an international focus and who value the benefits of study abroad and of cross-cultural learning. The

program is organized around courses drawn from three thematic tracks and area studies: (1) international political economy, (2) transnational processes, and (3) area and civilization studies. Students are required to study abroad for at least one quarter and gain proficiency in a foreign language. Students in International Studies—which was recently ranked seventh in the U.S. by Foreign Policy magazine—can take advantage of a new EU-focused quarter at UChicago’s [Center in Paris](#).

17. [UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE: INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL STUDIES](#)

The Institute for Global Studies (IGS) is a premier center for international education at the University of Delaware. We are forging partnerships in academics, research and public service around the world and educating engaged, global citizens. Our Global Initiative focuses on helping students to expand their awareness and knowledge of the economic, political, cultural and social issues facing the world—and the skills to address them. This commitment to preparing students to be global citizens embraces diversity in all of its richness, on campus, across the U.S., and in countries and cultures worldwide.

18. [UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA: INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL STUDIES](#)

The [Global Studies major](#) allows students to combine thematic and regional courses with the major’s core theoretical courses, experiential opportunities, and language study. This degree encourages the development of strong analytical skills, writing skills, and the ability to approach issues from multiple viewpoints. By combining coursework, language study, and experiential opportunities such as study abroad and internships, the major is ideally suited for students wishing to work in public, private, and non-profit organizations dealing with global and cross-cultural issues.

19. [UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL](#)

The Curriculum in Global Studies offers the undergraduate student the opportunity to develop an appreciation for and fuller understanding of the global issues within the context of a diverse, flexible, interdisciplinary curriculum in the tradition of the University’s liberal arts focus. Courses deal with topics as diverse as the global impact of nineteenth century European colonialism; globalization and economic change; migration and diasporas; environment and human rights; global health and human reproduction; global and local social movements; and technology and patterns of cultural transmission.

20. [UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA: WORLD BACHELOR IN BUSINESS](#)

The University of Southern California, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and Bocconi University have developed the World Bachelor in Business (WBB) partnership, the first undergraduate program of its kind in which students will live and study on three continents and earn degrees from three universities.

21. [UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS](#)

The International Relations and Global Studies major consists of a total of 39 hours. It has a rigorous foreign language requirement, includes a mandatory study abroad component, and culminates in a senior capstone research course. Additionally, students complete an introductory course, an upper-

division course that focuses on topics in international relations, and a series of required core courses from various academic departments.

22. [UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT](#)

The UVM Global Studies Program, one of eight areas of study within the Global and Regional Studies Program, is an interdisciplinary field whose primary focus is globalization, which are the social, political, economic, natural, and cultural relationships that extend beyond the boundaries of nation-states. A central goal of the Global Studies Program is to help students develop cross-border and holistic perspectives on global interconnections and interdependencies. At the same time, they also develop an appreciation of how globalization processes affect and express themselves in particular regions and localities, primarily through case studies, advanced language and literature study, and optional, but highly recommended, study abroad.

23. [UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON: CENTER FOR GLOBAL STUDIES \(HENRY M. JACKSON SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES\)](#)

For more than 25 years, CGS has directed an interdisciplinary social science-based, international studies curriculum for undergraduate majors, minors, and graduate students. For both undergraduate majors and graduate students, ISP core curricula provide foundational knowledge and theory in anthropology, economics, geography, history, politics, and sociology as each discipline relates to international and global affairs.

24. [UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN](#)

International Studies (IS) offers an interdisciplinary major with a broad background in international and transnational political, social, economic, commercial, and environmental affairs, together with a comparative study of politics, economics, security, and culture. The goal is to provide students with the necessary tools to understand global processes in their totality and how they are situated and lived in specific regions. The major provides an integrated program of courses that lays the foundation for professional training in a wide variety of areas. Such a foundation can be invaluable in securing a place in competitive graduate or professional schools, which, in turn, prepare students for government service, or for other careers with an international focus, including those in multinational corporations, international finance, non-governmental organizations, and institutions of teaching and research.

25. [YALE: MACMILLAN CENTER & JACKSON INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL AFFAIRS](#)

The [MacMillan Center](#) offers a number of degrees in area and international studies at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. The Global Affairs major is intended to appeal to students who want to better understand and eventually impact the world around them. The Global Affairs major offers two tracks: international development and international security. Courses from Global Affairs and other undergraduate programs are designated as electives in either track. Majors must select one of the two tracks as their focus, but all are required to take the core course for each track.