

Why International and Global Studies at Brandeis?

Brandeis's unique program in international and global studies (IGS) offers special opportunities to comprehend the rapidly changing world. It helps students understand what "globalization" means, not just in economic and political terms, but also for individuals, nations, cultures, and the environment. Broadly conceived to draw on Brandeis's diverse international programs and professors, IGS is a new major that has already built a strong following on campus and off.

Curriculum Overview

One of the hallmarks of the program in international and global studies (IGS) is the combination of breadth and depth. Students take a variety of courses in a subfield of their choosing, but are required to take the following core courses:

- Introduction to International and Global Studies
- Introduction to the Comparative Study of Human Societies
- The Global Economy
- Introduction to International Relations

Students may also complete a minor in IGS by taking the four core courses plus two electives.

IGS has six subfields, each taking a different approach to understanding "globalization," its origins, and impacts.

Cultures, Identities, and Encounters. Global cultural change can bring cultural enrichment, but also homogenization and/or resistance. Students learn how cultural interaction affects local identities and how various ethnic, national, and religious groups respond.

Global Economy. After obtaining the tools necessary for serious analysis, students explore in depth the links between political and economic systems and/or the economic issues behind sustainable development.

Global Environment. Because pollution and climate change know no boundaries, environmental problems are inherently global. Students investigate the scientific, political, and economic factors shaping today's environment.

Global Governance. The talk of a new global order exaggerates the decline of states in the global arena. Students in this track examine the past, present, and future roles of states in the international system.

Media, Communications, and the Arts. Students learn how new technologies and new economic circumstances have altered the structures and functions of media around the world in recent decades.

Inequalities, Poverty, and Global Justice. Globalization affects the structure of local societies—who has power and who doesn't. Students survey forms of economic, gender, racial, and ethnic inequality and the institutions working to change them.

International Experience

Students won't just study a global community; they will be a part of it. All IGS majors will undertake a significant international experience. Many students choose from dozens of approved study-abroad programs, including Universidad de Alicante (Spain), Beijing Institute of Education (China), the University of Haifa (Israel), and the University of Cape Town (South Africa).

Alternatively, students can choose an international experience connected with Brandeis's large and growing program in experiential learning. With the help of IGS faculty and the staff of the Hiatt Career Center, students can find internship programs geared to their own specific interests and desired locations. Recent internships for IGS students include:

- International Institute for Sustainable Development (Canada)
- The Green Party of England and Wales
- Center for Strategic Studies (Jordan)

Career and Education Opportunities

What can you do with an IGS major? Anything in the world! The major is designed to prepare students for jobs in the public and private sector, either overseas or in their home countries. It also provides the broad international background desired by graduate and professional schools that deal with global issues.

Faculty

Following is a list of faculty members and their areas of specialization:

- **Richard Parmentier, chair**
Semiotic anthropology, historical anthropology, material culture, language and communications, Oceania, Middle Ages,
- **Chad P. Bown**
International economics, economic development, industrial organization
- **Steven Burg**
Comparative politics, ethnic politics, East European politics, conflict resolution
- **David Engerman**
History of American foreign policy, international and cultural history
- **Janet McIntosh**
Linguistic anthropology, cognitive anthropology, psychological anthropology, religion, East Africa
- **Dan L. Perlman**
Ecology, conservation biology, animal behavior
- **Fernando Rosenberg**
Latin American literature and culture of the nineteenth and twentieth century
- **George Ross**
Political sociology, social theory, economy and society, comparative social structures, European politics and sociology, globalization
- **Marion Smiley**
Moral, social, and political philosophy