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## Independent Interdisciplinary Major

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In choosing a major, a student may propose a program that combines academic work in several departments. The proposal requires the support of at least two departments and one member of each supporting department who will agree to serve on the student's major committee. This program shall be limited to a total of about 30 students in the College of Arts and Sciences. An independent interdisciplinary major must be declared before the end of the student's junior year.

Students who wish to develop a proposal for an independent interdisciplinary major should consult the Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs.

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### Courses of Instruction

#### IIM 98b Senior Essay

Usually offered every year.  
Staff

#### IIM 99d Senior Research

Usually offered every year.  
Staff

An interdepartmental program

## International and Global Studies

Courses of Study:  
Minor  
Major (B.A.)

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### Objectives

International and global studies (IGS) 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. After a set of four foundational courses (a gateway introductory survey and three core courses), students specialize in a key area: Cultures, Identities, and Encounters; Global Economy; Global Environment; Global Governance; Global Media and Communications; Inequalities and Poverty; or an independent specialization. To gain a deeper understanding of other cultures, IGS majors take one additional language course (beyond the University requirement) and complete either study abroad or an internship abroad (or some combination of the two). The IGS program thus combines a set of rigorous foundational courses, an opportunity to focus on a key problem of globalization, and a combination of superior language skills and international residency (study or work) for meaningful, firsthand experiential learning.

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### How to Become a Major or Minor

Students who wish to major or minor in international and global studies may choose an advisor from any faculty member teaching in the IGS program, but are encouraged to work with the head of the specialization that they choose. Although IGS fulfills the University requirements as a major, students will often find it highly advantageous to combine it with another major or minor in a specific discipline or area studies curriculum.

Students should take Introduction to International and Global Studies (IGS 10a) during their first or second year; this course provides a systematic introduction to the key issues of contemporary global change, provides an overview of the specializations (from which the student will later choose), and gives an orientation to the options for international internships and study abroad. In addition, students must take three core courses in the disciplines of anthropology (ANTH 1a, Introduction to the Comparative Study of Human Societies), economics (ECON 8b, Global Economy or IGS 8a, Economic Principles and Globalization), and politics (POL 15a, Introduction to International Relations). These foundational courses should be completed by the end of the sophomore year.

**Committee**

**David Engerman, Chair**  
(History)

**Gary Jefferson**  
(Economics)

**Chad Bown**  
(Economics)

**Steven Burg**  
(Politics)

**George Ross**  
(Sociology)

**Faith Smith**  
(African and Afro-American Studies and  
English and American Literature)

**Marion Smiley**  
(Philosophy)

**Janet McIntosh**  
(Anthropology)

**Dan L. Perlman**  
(Biology)

**Requirements for the Major**

**A. Gateway Course:** IGS 10a (Introduction to International and Global Studies)

**B. Core Courses:** ANTH 1a (Introduction to the Comparative Study of Human Societies), ECON 8b (Global Economy) or IGS 8a (Economic Principles and Globalization) and POL 15a (Introduction to International Relations).

**C. Four courses within one of the following specializations:** Cultures, Identities, and Encounters; Global Economy; Global Environment; Global Governance; Global Media and Communications; Inequalities and Poverty; or an independent specialization approved by the faculty executive committee. Courses selected for an independent specialization must meet the following criteria: (a) the subject matter is international, comparative, or provides a theoretical framework suitable for the analysis of global issues; and (b) at least a third of the course pertains to the proposed field of study. Within each standard specialization, there are one or more required or strongly recommended courses. With the approval of the undergraduate advising head of the program, a student may substitute no more than two courses for courses listed within any specialization.

**D. Electives:** At least two additional courses from another area of specialization, none of which may be listed under the student's primary area of specialization. Students are encouraged to choose foundational courses from other specializations.

**E. Auxiliary Language Study:** One course beyond the University foreign language requirement, normally in the student's primary language of study, the instruction must be in the foreign language. This may be fulfilled by enrolling in an additional language course at Brandeis or during study abroad. This requirement will be waived if a student is exempted from the University foreign language requirement.

**F. Study Abroad and International Internship:** Students may satisfy this requirement by one semester of study abroad, by participating in an approved international internship, or by some combination of the two. Although one semester of study abroad is sufficient by itself, it is highly desirable that students participate, simultaneously, in a part-time internship. The international internship ordinarily must be for a minimum of two months (either in the summer or regular term); it must be approved by the undergraduate advising head. In special cases, and with the approval of the undergraduate advising head, students may perform the international internship at an agency that is located in the United States but directly engaged in international and global issues. Students who participate in an independent internship may apply to receive course credit for the internship by submitting, upon their return to the University, a substantial analytical paper about their experience.

**G. Senior Thesis (optional):** Students have the option of undertaking an honors thesis, which is required for degrees granted with distinction. Ideally, but not necessarily, a student's thesis will be based on his or her internship or on research conducted during his or her study abroad. By undertaking and completing an honors thesis, students will receive credit for two courses.

**H. No more than five courses from any one department will be counted towards the major.**

**Requirements for the Minor**

**A. Gateway Course:** IGS 10a (Introduction to International and Global Studies)

**B. Core Courses:** ANTH 1a (Introduction to the Comparative Study of Human Societies), ECON 8b (Global Economy) or IGS 8a (Economic Principles and Globalization) and POL 15a (Introduction to International Relations).

**C. Electives:** Two courses from two different areas of specialization.

**D. No more than three of these courses may count toward another minor.**

**Courses of Instruction****(1-99) Primarily for Undergraduate Students****IGS 8a Economic Principles and Globalization**

[ ss ]

*Students who have previously taken ECON 2a or ECON 8b may not receive credit for IGS 8a.*

An introduction to basic economic principles needed to understand the causes and economic effects of increased international flows of goods, people, firms, and money. International economic institutions (World Trade Organization, International Monetary Fund, World Bank). Strategies for economic development. Globalization controversies (global warming, sweatshops). Usually offered every year.  
Mr. Coiner

**IGS 10a Introduction to International and Global Studies**

[ ss ]

"Globalization" touches us more every day. Introduces the challenges of globalization to national and international governance, economic success, individual and group identities, cultural diversity, the environment, and inequalities within and between nations, regions of the globe, gender, and race. Usually offered every year.  
Mr. Freeze and Mr. Ross

**IGS 92a Global Studies Internship**

Usually offered every year.  
Staff

**IGS 92b Global Studies Internship**

Usually offered every year.  
Staff

**IGS 98a Independent Study**

Usually offered every year.  
Staff

**IGS 98b Independent Study**

Staff

**IGS 99d Senior Research**

Seniors who are candidates for degrees with honors in IGS must register for this course and, under the direction of a faculty member, prepare an honors thesis on a suitable topic. Usually offered every year.  
Staff

**Core Courses****ANTH 1a**

Introduction to the Comparative Study of Human Societies

**ECON 8b**

The Global Economy

**IGS 8a**

Economic Principles and Globalization

**IGS 10a**

Introduction to International and Global Studies

**POL 15a**

Introduction to International Relations

**Cultures, Identities, and Encounters****Required Specialization Course****HIST 61a**

Cultural Encounters and Conflict in Historical Perspective

**Electives****AAAS 18b**

Africa and the West

**AAAS 125b**

Caribbean Women and Globalization: Sexuality, Citizenship, Work

**AAAS 145b**

What is Race?

**AMST 140b**

The Asian American Experience

**AMST 142b**

Love, Law, and Labor: Asian American Women and Literature

**ANTH 80a**

Anthropology of Religion

**ANTH 129b**

Global, Transnational, and Diasporic Communities

**ANTH 139b**

Language, Ethnicity, and Nationalism

**COML 111b**

Creating the Transnational Caribbean: Language, Gender, Race

**EAS 115b**

Memory and Conflict: South Asia after 1947

**ENG 111b**

Post-Colonial Theory

**ENG 155a**

Literature and Empire

**FA 192a**

Studies in Modern Art

**FREN 165b**

Francophone Literature of Africa

**GECS 160a**

In the Shadow of the Holocaust: Global Encounters

**HIST 56b**

World History to 1960

**HIST 80b**

East Asia: Nineteenth Century to the Present (China and Japan)

**HIST 148b**

Central Asia in Modern Times

**HIST 182a**

Sino-American Relations from the Eighteenth Century to the Present

**IMES 104a**

Islam: Civilization and Institutions

**MUS 31b**

Music and Globalization

**NEJS 141b**

Zionism and its Critics

**NEJS 143a**

Polish-Jewish Relations in the Twentieth Century

**NEJS 144a**

Jews in the World of Islam

**POL 127b**

Seminar: Managing Ethnic Conflict

**SECS 169a**

Travel Writing and the Americas: Columbus's Legacy

**SOC 125b**

U.S.-Caribbean Relations

**SOC 128a**

Religion and Globalization

**SPAN 104b**

Peoples, Ideas, and Language of the Hispanic World

**WMGS 105b**

Feminist Theories in Historical and Cross-Cultural Perspective

**WMGS 195b**

The Woman's Voice in the Muslim World

**Global Economy****Required Specialization Courses**

Student must choose three out of four courses:

**BUS 70a**

Business in the Global Economy

**ECON 57a**

Environmental Economics

**ECON 60b**

The Economics of International Trade Disputes

**ECON 175a**

Introduction to the Economics of Development

**Electives****AAAS 80a**

Economy and Society in Africa

**AAAS 126b**

Political Economy of the Third World

**ECON 125a**

Comparative Institutional Economics

**ECON 141b**

Technology and the Global Economy

**ECON 160a**

International Trade Theory

**ECON 161a**

International Finance

**POL 172b**

Introduction to International Political Economy

**POL 180b**

Sustaining Development

**Global Environment****Suggested Foundational Courses****AMST 20a**

Environmental Issues

**ECON 57a**

Environmental Economics

**Electives****AAAS 158a**

Theories of Development and Underdevelopment

**AMST 101a**  
American Environmental History

**AMST 102a**  
Women, the Environment, and Social Justice

**AMST 106b**  
Food and Farming in America

**ANTH 55a**  
Models of Development

**ANTH 127a**  
Medicine, Body, and Culture

**BIOL 17b**  
Conservation Biology

**BIOL 23a**  
Evolutionary Ecology

**BIOL 134b**  
Topics in Ecology

**BISC 2a**  
Human Reproduction, Population Explosion, Global Consequences

**ECON 176a**  
The Household, Health, and Hunger in Developing Countries

**ENG 60b**  
Writing about the Environment

**ENVS 15a**  
Reason to Hope: Managing the Global Commons for Peace

**HIST 100a**  
Fire and Ice: An Ecological Approach to World History

**LGLS 132b**  
Environmental Law and Policy

**POL 180b**  
Sustaining Development

**SOC 112a**  
Topics on Women and Development

**SOC 175b**  
Civic Environmentalism

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### Global Governance

#### Suggested Foundational Course

**POL 172b**  
Introduction to International Political Economy

Students following the Global Governance track must choose two courses from each sub-area below.

#### *Global Challenges*

**AAAS 60a**  
Economics of Third World Hunger

**AAAS 117a**  
Communications and Social Change in Developing Nations

**AAAS 126b**  
Political Economy of the Third World

**AAAS 158a**  
Theories of Development and Underdevelopment

**ANTH 139b**  
Language, Ethnicity, and Nationalism

**HIST 164b**  
The American Century: The U.S. and the World, 1945 to the Present

**HIST 179a**  
Globalization: Critical Historical Perspectives

**NEJS 189a**  
The Arab-Israeli Conflict

**POL 131b**  
Social Movements in Latin America

**POL 146b**  
Seminar: Topics in Revolutions in the Third World

**POL 161b**  
Causes and Prevention of War

**POL 163b**  
Gender in International Relations

**POL 172b**  
Introduction to International Political Economy

**SOC 112a**  
Topics on Women and Development

**SOC 119a**  
War and Possibilities of Peace

**SOC 121a**  
New Approaches to Development: Globalization and Human Development

*Transnational Cooperation and Conflict*

**AAAS 163b**  
Africa in World Politics

**LGLS 124b**  
International Law and Development

**LGLS 125b**  
International Law and Organizations

**NEJS 144b**  
Conflict and Consensus in Israeli Society

**PHIL 19a**  
Human Rights

**POL 127a**  
Ending Deadly Conflict

**POL 127b**  
Seminar: Managing Ethnic Conflict

**POL 153a**  
The New Europe: European Economic and Political Integration

**POL 160b**  
World Politics since 1945

**POL 163a**  
Seminar: Human Rights and International Relations

**POL 166b**  
Seminar: Issues in International Political Economy

**POL 174b**  
Seminar: Problems of National Security

**POL 175b**  
Global Civil Society

**POL 176a**  
Seminar: International Intervention

**POL 178a**  
Seminar: International Politics of the Pacific

**POL 180b**  
Sustaining Development

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### Global Media and Communications

#### Suggested Foundational Course

**ANTH 26a**  
Communication and Media

Students following the Global Media track must choose two courses from each sub-area below.

#### *Defining Media*

**AMST 134b**  
The New Media in America

**ANTH 26a**  
Communication and Media

**ANTH 153a**  
Writing Systems and Scribal Traditions

**COML 160b**  
Fiction into Film

**COML 170a**  
Working across Cultures

**FA 20b**  
Introduction to Visual Culture

**SOC 146a**  
Mass Communication Theory

*Communicating across Cultures***AAAS 134b**

Novel and Film of the African Diaspora

**AMST 132b**

International Affairs and the American Media

**ANTH 184b**

Cross-Cultural Art and Aesthetics

**COML 122b**

Writing Home and Abroad: Literature by Women of Color

**COML 165a**

Reading, Writing, and Teaching across Cultures

**ENG 17b**

African Novel

**ENG 77b**

Literatures of Global English

**ENG 127a**

The Novel in India

**ENG 127b**

Migrating Bodies, Migrating Texts

**ENG 187b**

American Writers and World Affairs

**GECS 167a**

German Cinema: Vamps and Angels

**HIST 71b**

Latin American History, 1870 to the Present

**HIST 174a**

The Legacy of 1898: U.S.-Caribbean Relations since the Spanish-American War

**RECS 149b**

The Rise and Fall of Russian Modernism: Cultural and Political Revolutions, 1900-1934

**SOC 120b**

Globalization and the Media

**THA 115b**

The Avant-Garde

**Inequalities and Poverty**

Students following the Inequalities and Poverty track must choose two courses from each sub-area below.

*Inequality and Development***AAAS 18b**

Africa and the West

**AAAS 60a**

Economics of Third World Hunger

**AAAS 80a**

Economy and Society in Africa

**AAAS 123a**

Third World Ideologies

**ANTH 55a**

Models of Development

**ANTH 163b**

Production, Consumption, and Exchange

**HS 110a**

Wealth and Poverty

**HSSP 102a**

Global Perspectives on Health

**POL 159a**

Seminar: The Politics of the Modern Welfare State: Women, Workers, and Social Citizenship

**SOC 121a**

New Approaches to Development: Globalization and Human Development

*Gender, Racial, and Ethnic Inequalities***ANTH 129b**

Global, Transnational, and Diasporic Communities

**ANTH 139b**

Language, Ethnicity, and Nationalism

**ANTH 144a**

The Anthropology of Gender

**HIST 115a**

History of Comparative Race and Ethnic Relations

**NEJS 187a**

Political Islam

**NEJS 187b**

Shi'ism and Political Protest in the Middle East

**POL 128a**

The Politics of Revolution: State Violence and Popular Insurgency in the Third World

**POL 131b**

Social Movements in Latin America

**SOC 107a**

Global Apartheid and Global Social Movements