Global Studies

The MA degree in Global Studies (GS) is a one-year Masters program. It is an interdisciplinary program designed to provide the fundamentals of contemporary international issues as well as detailed knowledge on particular world regions or countries. The MA degree in Global Studies provides wide flexibility in crafting an individual interdisciplinary program. Students tailor the content of their programs within a defined framework to suit their interests. Specific course work is chosen in consultation with a faculty adviser.

1. Students must take six courses, each at four units, to complete their 24-unit degree. (Some programs offer three-unit courses that are otherwise acceptable. If a student wishes to take a three-unit course, that student must do an additional unit’s worth of work, either by completing an additional paper, or attending additional meetings, either with the instructor of the course or with the student’s Global Studies Faculty Advisor.) At least twelve of the 24 units must be graduate-level coursework (course numbered 200-299). No more than a third of the units (8 maximum) may be taken on an S/U or P/NP grading basis. The six courses are broken down as follows: (1) Two proseminars, one in each semester, which all Global Studies students are required to take, (2) two social science courses, and (3) two area studies classes.

2. Capstone: All students must undergo a comprehensive examination, with both written and oral components. A committee consisting of three Academic Senate faculty members will direct the examination for all of the students in any given cohort, which will require synthesis of material from student coursework.

3. Advancement to Candidacy: Approval of all coursework and approval of the faculty committee must be granted by the GS MA Faculty Adviser prior to advancement to candidacy. The candidacy petition must be submitted no later than the fifth week of the semester in which the student intends to complete the degree. Final approval of candidacy petitions is granted by the Dean of the Graduate Division.

Global Studies Courses

Expand all course descriptions [+]
Collapse all course descriptions [-]

GLOBAL 210 MA Seminar for Global Studies
4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Fall 2017
This reading seminar, required of all MA students in Global Studies, will approach a particular topic in global studies each year. Covering a variety of themes, students will engage with the literature of the field, and begin to study the ways in which particular problems have been approached from a variety of disciplinary perspectives in the social sciences.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Global Studies/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.

GLOBAL 375 Professional Training: Teaching in Global Studies
2 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Fall 2017
This course is intended to prepare Global Studies MA students to be instructors in interdisciplinary/multi-departmental courses. It will serve as a forum to discuss problems and create innovative solutions to these problems. Focusing on course construction and operation, specialists from various disciplines will discuss strategies for moving outside of their areas of specialization and into broader areas of Global Studies. Graduate students will be provided training in building their own interdisciplinary courses from the ground up. Organizing syllabi, preparing lectures, devising written assignments, leading discussion sections, constructing evaluative mechanisms and grading them, will all be covered over the course of the semester.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Appointment as a graduate student instructor for one of the Global Studies or Political Economy undergraduate courses

Credit Restrictions: Required for graduate student instructors teaching in the Global Studies or Political Economy programs for the first time.

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit up to a total of 8 units.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Global Studies/Professional course for teachers or prospective teachers
Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

Professional Training: Teaching in Global Studies: Read Less [-]