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 course work (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) A proseminar that all students are required to take, (2) two social science courses, (3) two area studies classes, and (4) a class in EITHER Social Science OR Area Studies, depending on the student’s interest.

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 course work and approval of the faculty committee must be granted by the Global Studies 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

GLOBAL 210 MA Seminar for Global Studies
4 Units
Terms offered: 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. MA Seminar for Global Studies: Read More [+]