Why “Global Studies”?

The increasing interconnectedness among peoples around the world is indisputable. As a society, we are increasingly aware of the ways global trends and processes reach beyond the confines of local, regional, national and even international boundaries. Binghamton University’s Global Studies Minor (GSM) offers students important academic preparation for recognizing and exploring the ways interrelated processes connect with their major field of study. The GSM has a flexible curriculum aimed at preparing global graduates for entry into a diversified world full of complex challenges and opportunities.

What is the Global Studies Minor?

The GSM provides Binghamton University undergraduate students with an interdisciplinary program of study through which they can examine the pressing issues confronting today’s world.

The GSM complements all majors and is open to all undergraduate students who wish to increase their documented global competency by adding a formally-recognized global dimension to their
program of study. Students may use the Global Studies minor to help steer their choice of electives; to provide a global studies foundation within their major; or to expand their future options on the basis of acquired international knowledge, intercultural proficiency, and global awareness.

Because it builds upon the University’s existing requirements in language and in “Global Vision”, the GSM requires only 24 credits beyond the credits required to meet General Education “Creating A Global Vision” and Foreign Language requirements. Some of these credits may also count toward other General Education requirements or for a given student’s major(s) and other minor(s). The GSM brings globally and internationally focused course work together with international learning opportunities, across campus and across the world, to serve as the underpinning of an internationalized education.

**What are the requirements for the Minor?**

The Global Studies Minor is intended to provide students with flexibility in meeting the 24-credit minimum. Students enrolled in the GSM have the opportunity to shape their course work to their own needs and career goals. This is particularly apparent in section C of the requirements.
**Requirements**

The **GSM** is comprised of the following areas of study:

A) Language Study & Use
B) Global & International Content
C) Additional Credits
   Any combination of courses from areas A and/or B in any way students choose
D) Study Abroad Experience
   D1) Pre-Departure and In-Country Online Seminar
   D2) Study/Research/Internship Abroad Credits
   D3) Global Studies Capstone Course

**Requirement A:**

**LANGUAGE STUDY AND USE**

The goal of this requirement is to encourage students to employ and increase their language skills beyond the University’s Foreign Language General Education requirement. Students must first complete the language requirement for their school. Once the Gen Ed FL requirement is complete, students have several ways to meet the additional three credits required by the GSM. The options can be divided into two groups:
A) Successfully Completing FL Classes

In this case, students' options will depend on how they fulfilled their Gen Ed FL requirement:

- If you met the Gen Ed requirement in High School, or by Exam Credit, you can take a 4th-semester college-level course in the same language used to meet the Gen Ed requirement; or take 1 college-level course in some other language.

- If you are meeting the Gen Ed requirement by taking 2nd-semester college-level courses in each of two foreign languages, then you'll need to take 1 course at the 3rd-semester level in at least one of those foreign languages.

- If your major has no General Education Foreign Language Requirement, you must complete 1 course at any level in a foreign language.

B) Demonstrating Proficiency

Under this option, students engage in academic work that requires a minimum of third-semester college proficiency as a prerequisite. The following are the students’ options:

- Appropriate courses include those where the language of instruction is not English, whether taken at Binghamton, during study abroad, or at another institution of higher education.

- Students may also count demonstrated language use during study abroad in a non-Anglophone environment through a formal internship serving people who can communicate only in a language other than English.
- A third option includes participation in 3 non-English Languages Across the Curriculum (LxC) study groups.
- A fourth option to fulfill this requirement is to incorporate a substantial amount of research materials in a language other than English into the final project for GLST 490B (4 credit Capstone Seminar). Details of this option will be worked out with the advice and consent of the instructor.

Desired learning outcomes in
Language Study and Use:

- Functional proficiency in a language other than English, intercultural communication skills, and firm basis for further study and use of that language or any other as needed
- Proven ability in and documented appreciation of the use of non-English sources to ascertain and employ international perspectives in the scholarly exploration of issues in the student’s major and other academic study
**Requirement B:**

**KNOWLEDGE OF GLOBAL/INTERNATIONAL CONTENT**

GSM students must complete **at least 8 credits** (a maximum of one course may be at the 100 level) with substantial global and international content.

Requirement B adds to the University’s commitment to expand the “Global Vision” of its graduates by broadening their range of knowledge about global issues, regional concerns, and the interdependencies of all nations.

- Courses offering comparative analysis of nations and/or national histories
- Courses exploring global perspectives on a theme or topic
- Courses examining trans-cultural phenomena whether political, cultural, social, or as part of the economy

Students may count G courses after meeting their initial General Education “G” requirement. Some “P” courses (those that incorporate an international perspective beyond discussions of U.S. pluralism) may also count toward this requirement after meeting their initial General Education “P” requirement. Please consult with the Global Studies Program Coordinator for final course approval.
Desired learning outcomes in Global / International Content Knowledge:

- Knowledge of aspects of global diversity and commonality with respect to values, beliefs, and worldview
- An understanding of both historical and contemporary issues that affect the global community
- Appreciation of how scholarship has been used to achieve understanding of international, regional, and global issues
- Awareness of the value and heterogeneity of social practices that contribute to global citizenship and global accountability

Requirement C – Additional Credits:

ANY COMBINATION OF A AND/OR B REQUIREMENTS

6–8 credits
All applicable credits towards this combination must follow the guidelines established for requirements A or B above.
Requirement D1:

**ANTH/GLST 394: THE STUDY ABROAD EXPERIENCE**

1 credit online pre-departure and in-country course in Winter or Summer Term; to begin prior to departure and to be completed during each enrollee’s time abroad.

This course is open only to students who are enrolled in the Global Studies Minor and is offered with Pass/Fail grading only.

**Description of the Course:**

This course provides knowledge and skills study-abroad participants need in order to make the most of their experience. We will explore issues such as: cultural, geographical, sociological, and historical characteristics of your study-abroad destination(s); differences between your own and the host culture’s values and customs in order to anticipate and deal effectively with differences in point of view and perception; strategies for intercultural adjustment and communication, including on-site language learning; identification and exploration of points of contact between your anticipated experience abroad and your areas of academic and career interest, including topics on which you could gather data while abroad for fuller examination and development in the completion of your Global Studies Capstone Project in ANTH/GLST 490 A/B upon your return to campus.
Desired learning outcomes in ANTH/GLST 394
Part I:
Pre-Departure:

- To stimulate greater interest & knowledge of the country/region where student will study
- To help students develop realistic expectations and to reduce pre-departure anxieties
- To promote self-reflective analysis of students’ own cultural values & behaviors in order to better understand how a member of another culture might view these
- To equip students with a working knowledge about intercultural learning, adjustment, and cross-cultural communication theory (including language-learning strategies)
- To prepare students to apply the above knowledge and theories to their own intercultural learning process during their time abroad which continues in Part II
- To provide the foundation for students to develop self-assessment skills in order to ponder the magnitude and reach of their strategies for intercultural communication
Desired learning outcomes in ANTH/GLST 394
Part II:
In-Country:

- To help students adjust to their study abroad environment
- To assist students in applying knowledge of intercultural learning, adjustment, and cross-cultural communication in the abroad environment
- Awareness of the behavioral and attitudinal requirements for responsible global citizenship
- To promote investigation of personal change and growth while in the abroad environment
- To help students connect their experience abroad to their academic area of specialization
- To foster exploration of project ideas for the ANTH/GLST 490 A/B Capstone Course
- To enhance students’ skills for negotiating the crossing back into their cultures of origin
Registration Deadlines for GLST 394:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Course Details</th>
<th>Approximate Deadlines for Registration</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spring Semester</td>
<td>GLST 394 in Winter session prior to your departure</td>
<td>Last week of November, first week of December</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer (any period between May and August)</td>
<td>GLST 394 in Summer Session I</td>
<td>Second week of March - Second week of May</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall Semester</td>
<td>GLST 394 in Summer Session II</td>
<td>Second week of March - Second week of June</td>
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For exact registration and withdrawal deadlines for Winter Intersession or Summer Sessions, refer to [http://ceo.binghamton.edu](http://ceo.binghamton.edu)

For withdrawal procedures for GLST 394 courses, refer to [http://www2.binghamton.edu/oip/global-studies-minor.html](http://www2.binghamton.edu/oip/global-studies-minor.html)
**Requirement D2:**

**STUDY / RESEARCH / INTERNSHIP ABROAD CREDITS**

At least 3 credits of academic work in a program lasting at least 4 weeks abroad

These credits will be taken while enrolled in an abroad program. Note that the courses applied to this requirement must be foreign-language or focus on global and/or international content.

Additional credits earned abroad may count toward Part C of the Global Studies Minor requirements.

**Desired learning outcomes in Study-Abroad Experience Course:**

- Understanding of one or more contemporary issues in global or international perspective.

- Capacity to interpret affinities about cross-cultural differences in perspective with a critical approach.

- Beginnings of personal resiliency and tolerance for ambiguity and unfamiliarity in multicultural situations.

- Building critical awareness regarding one's own identity and culture in contrast and comparison to others’, including the ability to view the world, and one’s own and others’ place in it, from more than one cultural perspective.
**Requirement D3:**

**CAPSTONE PROJECT/SEMINAR (ANTH/GLST 490 A / B)**

2 credits (ANTH/GLST 490A) or 4 credits (ANTH/GLST 490B)

Interdisciplinary Global Studies Capstone Seminar

This course inspires students to engage in cross-disciplinary work to address and examine global/local issues with a holistic approach.

Students in this seminar will reflect on their own experiences abroad and work to incorporate their skills and knowledge into future professional and academic plans.

This course may be taken only after ANTH/GLST 394 is successfully completed with a grade of “P”.

Students may elect to take the 4-credit 490B ONLY with prior approval of the instructor and on the basis of a commitment to perform a final project approximately three times as demanding as the project required of students in 490A (for whom the final project is worth only 50 percent of the grade, and thus only 1 credit of the 2 given for 490A).

All students who wish to use part of their capstone to demonstrate meaningful use of
language MUST enroll for ANTH/GLST 490B (the 4-credit option).

The difference between 490A and 490B revolves primarily around the depth and breadth of the capstone project students wish to complete. A student who takes 490B commits to making the Global Studies Capstone one quarter (4 credits) of their full-time semester load (16 credits). Their final project will have to be three times the length and represent three times the work of the final Capstone required of students in 490A. In addition, students enrolled in 490B will need to meet with the instructor approximately 10 hours—probably as a group—to receive feedback regarding their Capstone Project.

Desired learning outcomes in Capstone Project/Seminar:

- Achievement of self-critical perspective on the study abroad/intercultural experience of ANTH/GLST 394
- Ability to relate one’s globally-oriented coursework, language courses, study-abroad experiences, and related studies to overall education and career/personal goals
NOTE ON DOUBLE-COUNTING AND GRADING POLICIES:

- Credits earned in the student’s major(s) and other minor(s) may count as appropriate to Global Studies Minor requirements.
- Students may double count no more than two courses (i.e. 8 credits) from their major area of study or other minor(s).
- Students must receive a letter grade of C or better in all courses counting toward the Global Studies Minor, and only letter grades (not Passes) are accepted for all courses, with the exception of ANTH/GLST 394.
Once you switch your education into *Global* gear, you will:

◊ **LEARN** about global and international issues
◊ **BUILD** your language skills
◊ **PREPARE** for your study abroad journey in our pre-departure seminar
◊ **EMBARK** on a guided-learning experience while abroad
◊ **CONNECT** with other students who have shared interests
◊ **EXPLORE** your role as a world citizen
◊ **DISCOVER** connections between your study abroad experience and issues in your major
◊ **VENTURE** beyond your corner of the world
◊ **ENROLL** today and begin your JOURNEY!
Note your Questions for the GSM Advisor:
### Planning your Global Path

When you visit us, we’ll help you select your courses, and √ them off as you complete them.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>Language Study &amp; Use</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(At least 3 credits beyond the Gen Ed FL Requirement.)</td>
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<tr>
<th>B</th>
<th>Global/International Content</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(At least 8 non-Language credits. Only 1 course may be at 100 level)</td>
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<tr>
<th>C</th>
<th>6–8 Additional Credits: Any combination of credits from A and/or B.</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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| D1 | GLST 394 (pre-departure and in-country online-seminar) | 1 |

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<tr>
<th>D2</th>
<th>Study/Research/Internship Abroad Experience</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<td>(Minimum 3 credits, 4-week programs.)</td>
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| D3 | GLST 490 A or B (capstone seminar) | 2/4 |

**Total Credits (minimum 24)**

Last revision March 28, 2011