Concentration in Global Cultural Studies (IAS)

The Major in International and Area Studies — Concentration in Global Cultural Studies

This track focuses on the practical and theoretical issues arising from cross-cultural encounters around the world. It studies these by examining traditional cultural products (literature, film, visual art and music), but also by investigating their broader political and social contexts. This track addresses compelling issues of cultural interchange for students interested in cultures for their own sake, as well as in careers in NGOs and international business and law. It is committed to interdisciplinary approaches to contemporary problems, and students may take courses in the traditional language-and-literature disciplines, as well as in anthropology, art history, film, history, music and philosophy.

This track requires 36 units of course work:

- 6 units of disciplinary introductions and methods course work
- 6 units of world area course work (any level)
- 24 units of advanced course work from a minimum of three academic disciplines (at least one course must focus on gender, race or class, and at least two must be at the 400-level)

A single course may satisfy more than one of these distribution requirements. Some of these requirements may be completed while abroad.

Additional requirements and regulations:

- Completion of all IAS course work with a grade of C+ or higher.
- Students must satisfy the foreign language requirement: the successful completion of four semesters of one language appropriate to their concentration.
- One semester of language must be completed before declaring the major.
- We strongly encourage students to study abroad. For those students who do not study abroad, an additional 3-unit course at the 300- or 400-level is required.
- We strongly prefer students to select a study abroad location consistent with their chosen language of study (e.g., students who wish to study in Latin America must satisfy their language requirement with either Spanish or Portuguese).
- No more than 3 credits may be from directed readings, research or independent study excluding the honors thesis.
- The advanced credits must be unique to the IAS major.

- All prime IAS majors must complete a capstone experience.

**Disciplinary introductions and methods** (choose two from this list*; 6 units):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anthro 160B</td>
<td>Introduction to Cultural Anthropology</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anthro 204B</td>
<td>Anthropology and the Modern World</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Art-Arch 111</td>
<td>Introduction to Asian Art</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Art-Arch 215</td>
<td>Introduction to Modern Art, Architecture and Design</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comp Lit 204</td>
<td>Crossing Borders: An Introduction to Comparative Literature</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comp Lit 211</td>
<td>World Literature</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comp Lit 213E</td>
<td>Introduction to Comparative Arts</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Film 220</td>
<td>Introduction to Film Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>History 164</td>
<td>Theory and Practice of World History: Health and Disease</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>IAS 127</td>
<td>Migration in the Global World: Stories</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>IAS 155</td>
<td>Freshman Seminar: Mapping the World: Introduction to Human Geography</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>IAS 260</td>
<td>Migrations in Past and Present: Introduction to Migration Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>IAS 270</td>
<td>Sophomore Seminar: Globalization and Its Discontents</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>IPH 205C</td>
<td>Literary Modernities: Text and Tradition</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Introduction to Literature courses as appropriate (English, Comp Lit or foreign language)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Music 1021</td>
<td>Musics of the World</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phil 120F</td>
<td>Problems in Philosophy</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phil 131F</td>
<td>Present Moral Problems</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>WGSS 100B</td>
<td>Introduction to Women and Gender Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>WGSS 105</td>
<td>Introduction to Sexuality Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* Students may petition to have courses that are not listed count for this requirement.

**World area courses**:

Throughout the course of completing the Global Cultural Studies major, students must show **depth** in at least one world area by taking a minimum two courses focused on the same area, and **breadth** by taking a third course focused on a different area. We consider world areas to be Africa, East Asia, Europe, Latin America, Middle East and South Asia.

Of these three courses, one must be at advanced level and will count toward the 24 credits of advanced work needed to complete the major.

The other two courses may be taken at any level; however, if advanced courses are used to fulfill any of these 6 credits, they will not be counted toward the required 24 credits of advanced course work. See below for examples of lower-level classes that may be used to satisfy this requirement.
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East Asia 227C Chinese Civilization 3
History 102C Western Civilization 3
History 2157 Freshman Seminar: The Meaning of Pakistan: History, Culture, Art 3
IAS 135 Freshman Seminar - Chinatown: Migration, Identity, and Space 3
IAS 165C Survey of Latin American Culture 3
IAS 208 Introduction to Jewish Civilization 3
IAS 209B African Studies: An Introduction 3
IAS 210C Introduction to Islamic Civilization 3
IAS 215C Introduction to Russian Civilization 3
IAS 216 Introduction to South Asian Civilization 3
IAS 223 Korean Civilization 3
IAS 226C Japanese Civilization 3
IAS 244 Introduction to European Studies 3

Advanced courses (choose eight courses from current relevant internationally focused course offerings in the following departments. All courses must be approved by the student’s IAS adviser in order to count for the major):

• African and African-American Studies
• American Culture Studies
• Anthropology
• Art History
• Dance
• Drama
• Economics
• Film and Media Studies
• History
• Interdisciplinary Project in the Humanities
• International and Area Studies
• Languages and Literatures
• Music
• Political Science
• Religious Studies
• Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies

Additional Information

Language Requirement for the Major in Global Cultural Studies/International and Area Studies: All IAS majors and minors must satisfy a foreign language requirement that entails the successful completion of four semesters of a language appropriate to their concentration while at Washington University. For some students, this may mean the first four semesters of a language; for others who place into advanced language classes this may include literature, culture, oral communications and linguistic courses in the target language, once they complete the basic language sequence. Advanced courses in literature, social sciences and culture used to satisfy this requirement may be counted as advanced credit for IAS majors and minors as long as they are cross-listed with IAS or approved for IAS study abroad credit and are not applied toward a language major or minor. A maximum of two of these classes may be completed while abroad on a Washington University approved program in the target language (may be within the same semester abroad). Native speakers of a foreign language must satisfy the four-semester requirement in another language appropriate to their concentration. Heritage speakers must seek appropriate placement by the coordinator of the language program and complete the four-semester requirement.

Study Abroad: Majors are strongly encouraged to study abroad in one of Washington University’s Overseas Programs during junior year or the summer. Some credit for courses taken abroad may be applied to the major. For those who do not study abroad, an additional 3-credit course at the 300- or 400-level is required.

Senior Honors: Students must confidently expect to graduate with an overall GPA of 3.65 or higher in order to qualify for Senior Honors. Students should enroll in IAS 485 Preparation for IAS Honors Thesis in the fall of senior year (under the corresponding section number of the faculty member overseeing their thesis), and in IAS 486 IAS Senior Honors Thesis in the spring of senior year in order to be properly tracked by the IAS capstone coordinator.