

GLOBAL STUDIES, B.A.

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: Berks

Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Arts degree in Global Studies, a minimum of 120 credits is required:

Requirement	Credits
General Education	45
Electives	3-6
Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements	24
Requirements for the Major	45-48

3 of the 24 credits for Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements are included in the Requirements for the Major, General Education, or Electives and 0-12 credits are included in Electives if world language proficiency is demonstrated by examination.

Requirements for the Major

A minimum of 3 credits of study abroad (meeting any requirement) and 3 credits of INTST 495 are required for the completion of this degree. At least 18 credits at the 400-level must be completed on the Berks campus. Courses taken abroad will qualify to meet a student's requirements.

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the major. To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn at least a C grade in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/>).

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
ENGL 403	Literature and Culture	3
HIST 320W	Contemporary World History and Issues	3
INTST 495	Internship	3-6
PLSC 14	International Relations	3
PLSC 440	Globalization and Its Implications	3
Additional Courses		
<i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
CAS 271N	Intercultural Communication	3
or INTST 100	Introduction to International Studies	
Supporting Courses and Related Areas		
<i>Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
Select 6 credits from Africa, Asia and the Middle East Regions:		6
ASIA 182	Asian Trade: Economy, Industrialization and Capitalism in Asia	
CMLIT 3	Introduction to African Literatures	
CMLIT 4	Introduction to Asian Literatures	
ECON 473		

HIST 175	East Asia since 1800	
HIST 181	Introduction to the Middle East	
HIST 192	Modern African History	
PLSC 443	Ethnic Conflict in Africa	
PLSC 454	Government and Politics of Africa	
RLST 107	Introduction to Islam	
Select 6 credits from Europe Region:		6
FR 139	France and the French-speaking World	
GER 100	German Culture and Civilization	
HIST 120		
HIST 435	Topics in European History	
PLSC 413	The Rise and Fall of the Soviet Union	
Select 6 credits from Latin America Region:		6
HIST 179	Latin-American History Since 1820	
HIST 250	Introduction to the Caribbean	
HIST 467	Latin America and the United States	
HIST 468	Mexico and the Caribbean Nations in the Twentieth Century	
SPAN 131	Ibero-American Civilization	
SPAN 253W	Introduction to Literary & Cultural Studies en Español	
SPAN 297	Special Topics	
SPAN 497	Special Topics	
Select 9 credits from International Transnational Issues:		9
CMLIT 153	International Cultures: Film and Literature	
ENGL 182	Literature and Empire	
HIST 488	American Diplomacy Since 1914	
IB 303	International Business Operations	
INTAG 100		
PLSC 412	International Political Economy	
PLSC/CRIMJ 439	The Politics of Terrorism	
PLSC 487	International Law and Organizations	

General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/>) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required and Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- **Quantification (GQ):** 6 credits
- **Writing and Speaking (GWS):** 9 credits

Breadth in the Knowledge Domains (Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- **Arts (GA):** 3 credits
- **Health and Wellness (GHW):** 3 credits
- **Humanities (GH):** 3 credits
- **Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS):** 3 credits
- **Natural Sciences (GN):** 3 credits

Integrative Studies

- **Inter-Domain Courses (Inter-Domain):** 6 credits

Exploration

- **GN**, may be completed with Inter-Domain courses: 3 credits
- **GA, GH, GN, GS, Inter-Domain courses.** This may include 3 credits of World Language course work beyond the 12th credit level or the requirements for the student's degree program, whichever is higher: 6 credits

University Degree Requirements

First Year Engagement

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Cultures Requirement

6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum

3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits

A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work

Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition

The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/>)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

B.A. Degree Requirements

World Language (0-12 credits): Student must attain 12th credit level of proficiency in one world language in addition to English. This proficiency must be demonstrated by either examination or course work. See the Placement Policy for Penn State World Language Courses (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/advising-planning-degree-program/course-placements/placement-policy-world-language-courses/>).

B.A. Fields (9 credits): Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Arts, World Languages, Natural Sciences, Quantification (may not be taken in the area of the student's primary major; world language credits in this category must be in a second world language in addition to English or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the first language). Credits must be selected from the list of approved courses.

World Cultures (0-3 credits): Select 3 credits from approved list. Students may count courses in this category in order to meet other major, minor, elective, or General Education requirements, except for the University Cultural Diversity (US/IL) requirement.