I Global Studies

Globalisation calls for a way of understanding contemporary issues that goes beyond the boundaries of any single discipline. Global Studies is a new, multidisciplinary field of inquiry that examines the processes and effects of globalisation across political, economic, social, and cultural domains around the world. The field builds on social science concepts and area studies expertise and focuses especially on problems of profound public policy significance.

The Global Studies Programme is housed in the Department of Political Science but draws on the broader strengths of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. It provides students with the background required to understand and address the challenging policy issues confronting the world today. Students learn how the local communities and environments in which peoples live their lives are affected by national, regional, international, and transnational cultural flows, environmental processes, political ideologies, and economic relationships. Coupling broad, multidisciplinary education with a focus on policy and governance, the Programme is designed to cultivate the combination of expertise and creative, critical thinking skills that are necessary for the next generation of global leaders and citizens.

Entry Requirements

A candidate who proposes to read Global Studies should have a good pass in General Paper of the GCE ‘A’ Level Examination and other related subjects.

Subject Requirements

Cohort 2016 onwards

Single Major [BA (Hons)]

- Pass GL1101E. This will be counted towards the Faculty Core or UE requirements.

- Pass at least 92 MCs of GL modules or GL-recognised non-language modules and 16 MCs of Language Requirement (using the modular credits from the Unrestricted Elective Component) which include the following:
  - GL2101
  - GL2102
  - GL2103
  - GL3101 / SC2101 (See Note 8)
  - GL4101
  - GL4102

- Minimum of 16 MCs from ONE of the following themes (See Note 1):
  - Business and Transnational Cultures
  - Colonialism and Post-Colonialism
- Global Economics and Development
  - Global Health and Environment
  - International Communications
  - Policy Making
  - Population and Migration
  - Religion and Ethnicity
  - Technology and Globalisation
  - War and Security

- Minimum of 16 MCs from ONE of the following regions:
  - East Asia: China, Japan and Korea
  - South Asia
  - Southeast Asia
  - Europe
  - Americas

- Minimum of 16 MCs in a single language (Classified under Unrestricted Electives) (See Note 2)

- Minimum of 60 MCs of Level-3000 or higher GL or GL-recognised modules (including GL3101), with
  - minimum of 40 MCs of Level-4000 or higher GL or GL-recognised modules (including GL4101 and GL4102)
  - maximum of two Level-5000 GL or GL-recognised modules (subject to the department’s approval)

- A maximum of 16MCs may be double counted from the secondary major towards the GL major

- No more than 50% of the electives may be from a single discipline.

Note 1: Students who demonstrate strong interest in a topic that is outside of the ten themes may design their own theme in consultation with an academic advisor.

Note 2: While this is a major requirement, the 16 MCs of language modules will be classified under the student’s Unrestricted Electives which is on top of the 92 MCs required for the major.

Note 3: To qualify for honours track, students must have completed 110 MCs, including 52 MCs of major requirements AND have a minimum CAP of 3.20.

Note 4: The Honours Thesis (HT) worth three modules (15 MCs) is not compulsory for the Honours degree. Students who do not read the Honours Thesis can undertake the Independent Study Module (ISM) or other level-4000 modules in their respective majors.

I. To qualify for the HT (15 MCs):
   a. Complete 110 MCs including 52 MCs of GL/GL recognised non-language modules
   b. Obtain a minimum SJAP of 4.00 and CAP of 3.50. Students may seek a waiver of the SJAP pre-requisite from the department if they have a minimum CAP of 4.25 after completing 110 MCs.

   In order to obtain Honours (Highest Distinction), students must achieve a CAP of 4.50 and pass the Honours Thesis.
II. To qualify for the ISM (5MCs):

a. Complete at least 100 MCs, including 52MCs of GL/GL recognised non-language modules
b. Obtain a minimum CAP of 3.20

Note 6: Students may also read a Level-4000 Independent Studies Module (5 MCs). The Level-4000 ISM carries a prerequisite of 100 MCs completed, including 60 MCs in GL/GL recognised non-language modules, with a minimum CAP of 3.20. It precludes the Honours Thesis/Project

Note 7: All Level-4000 modules carry a general prerequisite of having completed 80 MCs, including 28MCs in the Major, with a minimum CAP of 3.20 OR being on the Honours track (some Level-4000 modules may have different prerequisites).

Note 8: SC2101 has been approved as a substitute for GL3101 only when the latter is not offered.

Please refer to the double counting policy at the following website:

For the latest updates, please visit the Programme website at: http://www.fas.nus.edu.sg/globalstudies

**Single Major (BA)**

- Pass GL1101E. This will be counted towards the Faculty Core or UE requirements.

- Pass at least 52 MCs of GL modules or GL-recognised non-language modules and 16 MCs of Language Requirement (using the modular credits from the Unrestricted Elective Component) which include the following:
  - GL2101
  - GL2102
  - GL2103
  - GL3101 / SC2101 (See Note 4)

- Minimum of 16 MCs from ONE of the following themes (See Note 1):
  - Business and Transnational Cultures
  - Colonialism and Post-Colonialism
  - Global Economics and Development
  - Global Health and Environment
  - International Communications
  - Policy Making
  - Population and Migration
  - Religion and Ethnicity
  - Technology and Globalisation
  - War and Security

- Minimum of 16 MCs from ONE of the following regions:
East Asia: China, Japan and Korea
South Asia
Southeast Asia
Europe
Americas

- Minimum of 16 MCs in a single language (Classified under Unrestricted Electives) (See Note 2)
- Minimum of 60 MCs of Level-3000 or higher GL or GL-recognised modules (including GL3101) (See Note 3)
- A maximum of 16MCs may be double counted from the secondary major towards the GL major
- No more than 50% of the electives may be from a single discipline.

**Note 1:** Students who demonstrate strong interest in a topic that is outside of the ten themes may design their own theme in consultation with an academic advisor.

**Note 2:** While this is a major requirement, the 16 MCs of language modules will be classified under the student’s Unrestricted Electives which is on top of the 52 MCs required for the major.

**Note 3:** Students are allowed to read Level-4000 modules subject to departmental approval.

**Note 4:** SC2101 has been approved as a substitute for GL3101 only when the latter is not offered.


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**Minor**

- Pass at least 24 MCs of modules, which include the following:
  - GL1101E Global Issues
  - GL2101 Origins of the Modern World
  - GL2102 Global Political Economy
  - GL2103 Global Governance
- A minimum of 8 MCs from Theme modules:
  - Business and Transnational Cultures
  - Colonialism and Post-Colonialism
  - Global Economics and Development
  - Global Health and Environment
International Communications
Policy Making
Population and Migration
Religion and Ethnicity
Technology and Globalisation
War and Security

- A maximum of 8 MCs may be read at level 1000

- A minimum of 4 MC must be read at level 3000 or higher*
  *Students may read level 4000 or higher modules subject to department’s approval.

- GL major students are not permitted to read the GL minor.
- A maximum of 8 MCs from the minor can be used to satisfy the requirements of a major or another minor. For information on the double counting policy please refer to

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Please refer to the double counting policy at the following website: