Global Studies Program Mission:

Global Studies at Appalachian State University is an interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary academic program devoted to understanding historical, social, political, geographic, cultural, and artistic dimensions of international, transnational, and global processes. The educational objectives of the program are to prepare students to think and act with global awareness and cross-cultural understanding as a necessary part of a high–quality undergraduate education in a globalizing world.

Global Studies Program Vision:

Global Studies will embed international education firmly in an interdisciplinary curriculum to enable students to develop a practice of life-long learning in a global community. The program seeks to develop in our students the necessary ability to communicate effectively in and among a variety of disciplines, including the sciences, the visual and performing arts, the humanities, the social sciences, applied through experiential learning, through community service, and through study abroad. These disciplines are integrated through living-learning communities, through peer and faculty mentoring, through undergraduate research, and through creative international experiences. As our students work to navigate and integrate various disciplines, they will seek to create the kind of meaning out of their experiences that will enable them to participate knowledgably in, and contribute to, the communities around them.

Requirements for a Major (BA) in Global Studies:

A. Core Requirements: 5 courses
1. GLS 2000 Contemporary Global Issues
2. GLS 4000 Seminar in Global Studies
3. GLS 4510 Thesis/Project
4. Required Elective (select ONE of the following):
   - ANT 1415 Understanding Cultures
   - GHY 1020 World Regional Geography
   - PS 2240 Comparative Politics
5. Required Elective (select ONE of the following):
   - ART 2130 Renaissance through Contemporary Art
   - ENG 2040 World Literature
   - REL 1110 Religions of the World
   - MUS 2018 Introduction to World Music

B. Focus Area: 8 courses
The focus area is made up of 8 courses (24 semester hours) drawn from one or more disciplines, departments or programs, with a single coherent emphasis. See pages 2 and 3 for descriptions of available focus areas. Students may create their own focus area if the university offers courses sufficient to support it. **At least 15 s.h. of this requirement must be at the 3000 level or above.** Credit hours from study abroad or international internship may be used in the student’s focus area, as appropriate. Courses counted towards the Global Studies core requirements may not be counted in the focus area.

C. Foreign Language:
Global Studies students are required to have a foreign language minor (Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Russian, Spanish) or the equivalent (if no minor is available in the language of their choice). The language minor consists of at least 15 credit hours at the 2000-level or above; specific courses vary by language. The FL minor generally also serves to fulfill the minor requirement for the BA degree!

D. Study Abroad:
Global Studies majors are strongly encouraged to study abroad for one year, but are required to complete a **minimum of twelve consecutive weeks** in a study abroad program or international internship relevant to their program of study and approved prior to departure by the Global Studies advisor and director. This requirement may be waived by petition for those able to demonstrate a similarly significant, structured international education experience. Students for whom study abroad would pose a significant financial or personal hardship are urged to consult the Global Studies director for possible alternatives.
I love to travel and I want to study abroad; this major is a perfect combination for me!

Why choose a major like Global Studies?

Focus Areas

**African Studies**: With a focus in African studies, students will be able to gain an in-depth history of the African continent and an understanding of its cultures and its politics as well as its complex colonial and post-colonial relationships with other regions of the world. Courses in this focus area also offer insights into African thought and environmental history prior to and after 1850. Students can explore the rich diversity of cultures on the African continent; internships and study abroad opportunities are available through partner institutions in South Africa and at other locations.

**East Asian Studies**: The East Asian Studies focus area will allow interested students to explore cultures, religion, politics, geography, history and many other aspects of East Asia or selected countries in the region. Through a multi- and interdisciplinary offering of courses, students have the opportunity to study some of the oldest civilizations in the world as well as languages from the region. Courses in this focus area cover diverse topics such as Daoism, Confucianism, and Buddhism; Asian Politics; History of Modern China or Japan; East Asian Cultures; and Geography of Asia. Appalachian also has an excellent placement record with the JET Program for teaching English in Japan!

**South Asian Studies**: Students in this focus area may take a variety of disciplinary and interdisciplinary courses that study the peoples and region of the South Asian sub-continent (comprising India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka and surrounding areas). Courses on the history, anthropology, and religion of South Asia may be combined with more general companion courses such as the History of the British Empire, Asian Art, or Asian politics. Relevant languages available for study through ASU/UNC currently include Hindi and Urdu.

**Development and Globalization**: In this focus area, students have the opportunity to take courses that explore development and globalization issues in a global context. This focus can include courses in Sustainable Development, Anthropology and Geography in addition to courses in Political Science and History to explore the ways in which the world economy and international relations impact the lives and cultures of various populations that make up our global communities. This focus area will challenge students to think not only about how issues impact the global community but also how these issues impact themselves and their local communities.

**First Nations**: This focus area allows students a broad range of topics concerning indigenous peoples of the Americas. The courses encompass history and religion, culture and art. Students will explore the fascinating world of First Nations from Ethnic Americans to the Meso-American culture. Available courses study such a variety as topics as: Native American Art, American Indian Literature, South Asia through ethnography, indigenous resistance Movements, and agrarian studies.

**Francophone Studies**: From geography to politics to courses on literature from France, Quebec, the Caribbean and West Africa, this focus area explores the cultures of the Francophone world. Explore the history of modern France or Francophone literature and film, study abroad in a French-speaking country. This is a perfect combination with a major or minor in French.

**German Studies**: With the focus area in German Studies, students can explore German history, geography, literature, philosophy, music, customs, folklore and music: from the Nibelungenlied to the Lives of Others, from Mozart and Beethoven to Goethe and Schiller, the Brothers Grimm, Freud and Hegel. Courses also focus on Germany in the European context. While in the German Studies focus area students will be strongly encouraged study abroad in Germany or in Austria.

**European Studies**: This focus area allows students to explore the many aspects of history, culture, art, politics, literature that intersect through the countries and cultures of Europe. Courses cover topics such as: European history from the Middle Ages to the Present, Europe and the Russian Realm, European governments, the European Union, as well as International Politics. This focus area is an excellent complement for a language minor (or minors) in French or Spanish or German or Russian!
Global Arts: The Global Arts focus area allows students to study the arts in global and interdisciplinary contexts. Course include art history, literature, world music, music history, film will be able to explore art history reaching back to Prehistory all the way up to the present. Besides art history, students can study art from an array of places and in various contexts. Some of these include African Art and Music, Francophone Culture through Film, Northern Renaissance Art, or Native Art of the Americas. Also consider courses on European Languages and Culture through Film, Literature in Translation, Oceanic Art, and Art since 1945.

Global Gender Studies: In Global Gender Studies, students can study women’s issues and gender-related issues in a global context. This context is both contemporary and historical. It includes politics, religion, environmental issues, development, culture, social justice, and a variety of areas that touch the lives of men and women in their communities across the globe. Study abroad or do an international internship in places like Latin American or India or South Africa. This area is an ideal combination with Women’s Studies and other areas.

Iberian Studies: For students interested in Latin based culture and the rich history of Europe, Iberian Studies provides an in-depth range of courses. The Iberian Peninsula can be explored pre- or post 1469 through courses in history, art and literature, as well as the culture and civilization of Spain. In addition to courses that cover contemporary Spain, European governments and the EU, students also pursue a minor or major in Spanish or courses in Portuguese.

Latin American Studies: From the Mexican Revolution to land access in Guatemala or Indigenous resistance movements in Chile, the Latin American studies focus area provides ample possibilities. Students can explore the geography of Latin America, Spanish influenced literature, culture and civilization, various revolutions throughout Latin America, or US & Latin American relations. Students can also pursue a minor or major in Spanish or courses in Portuguese. The Latin American Studies focus area also provides students with the opportunity to study comparative labor history and farmworkers of the many sub-regions in Latin America. Combine this focus with a minor in Spanish; courses are also available in Portuguese.

Middle Eastern Studies: The focus area in Middle Eastern Studies will enable students to pursue language skills in Arabic while also enriching their knowledge of cultural and religious studies. Through studying the culture and history of Islamic traditions as well as Islamic literature, students will gain a deeper awareness of Middle Eastern countries and peoples. Further, students will be able to study and understand Islamic political structure, women and gender issues, and resistance movements. Upon completion of this focus area students will have gained thorough knowledge of Islamic culture.

Peace, Conflict, and Human Rights (PCHR): There are efforts worldwide to attain greater peace, human equality, and struggles to sustain culture and livelihood. Through the Peace, Conflict, & Human Rights focus area students will explore topics such as Religion and Violence, International Security, Ethnic Conflict, Resistance Movements, and Financing Wars. Courses will also cover specific subjects such as 9/11, The UN, and International Terrorism. In an age of digital media, globalization, and high-speed travel, PCHR students combine activism with knowledge of contemporary global issues and opportunities for international experience. PCHR students have gone across the world to study and work (Peru, Morocco, South Africa, India, Germany, France—just a few examples!)

Postcolonial and Diaspora Studies: The Postcolonial and Diaspora Studies focus area offers students the opportunity to study people on the move across the global and throughout history. Exploration, imperialism, colonization, and exodus (voluntary and non-voluntary) have caused many populations of people to become dispersed and/or displaced worldwide. Students will examine the histories, cultures, politics, and social factors that have led to these movements of people and groups. Courses include: History of Colonial Latin America, History of Africa to 1850, History of the British Empire, History of South Asia, Ethnic American, and History of European Colonialism. Also, this focus area explores ways in which development issues as well as revolution and resistance play a role in diaspora.

Judaic and Holocaust Studies: In the Judaic and Holocaust Studies focus area, students will gain a greater understanding of the historical, cultural, social and political background of anti-Semitism and the Holocaust. Through studying Judaism, the Culture and Civilization of Germany, the path that led to the rise of Hitler, Religion and Violence, and the Nazi Holocaust, students will explore how and why things in history have occurred as they have. Students will also study the impact of the Holocaust in the aftermath of World War II through the present.

"I think the number one reason I love the opportunity of study abroad is because I have been able to learn from professors who are not teaching material from a book, but teaching stories of their lives. When professors talk about life under socialism, it is by personal example." (Eastern European Area Studies major studying at Corvinus University in Hungary)
The Global Connections Certificate

The **Global Connections Certificate** is an undergraduate certificate administered through the Global Studies program and available to all Appalachian State University students. The certificate will include 15-21 hours of course work, study abroad, and at least 40 hours of community service. The amount of course work required may vary depending upon foreign language choice and placement. Students may combine their certificate requirements with requirements for other programs at Appalachian.

The portfolio must be submitted by November 1 for December graduation of the same year; by April 1 for May/August graduation of the same year (i.e. submit the portfolio on November 1, 2015 if you intend to graduate in December 2015). The portfolio will be reviewed by the Global Studies Curriculum Committee.

The **Global Connections Certificate** is available to all Appalachian State University students who meet a minimum of the following criteria:

1. **Foreign Language**: Students must complete the equivalent of at least two years of sequential college level course work in foreign language (the equivalent of four courses or twelve credit hours).

2. **International Experience**: Students must participate in an international service-learning program or in a short-term study abroad program in a location related to their language of study. These programs must involve at least one three-hour course.

3. **International Content**: Students must take nine credit hours of “international content” course work in addition to the foreign language course work required above in #1. See the attached list for available courses. Students may consult the Global Studies focus areas for other international content courses: www.globalstudies.appstate.edu

4. **Outreach/Community Service**: Students must complete at least 40 hours of service or outreach related to diversity issues, multicultural issues, and/or study abroad experiences.

5. **Reflection**: Students will document their experiences in a portfolio that will include at least one final reflection paper (6-8 pages) specifically addressing the local and global connections of their experiences. The portfolio and final reflection paper will be submitted separately to the GLS curriculum committee for review.

Consult with your major advisor and with the Global Studies Program Director on ways in which the reflection and portfolio may be integrated into the capstone required for your major.

Students who complete the Global Connections Certificate will be recognized with the following:
- certificate at the University College graduation celebration in April
- designated stole at commencement
- note on your academic transcripts

How to Apply:
- When you do your grad check the semester before you plan to graduate, complete the **Global Connections Certificate Application** and send it via email to Alexandra Hellenbrand, Director of the Global Studies Program at hellenbranda@appstate.edu.

Contact Information:
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Program Director
Email: hellenbranda@appstate.edu
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