

Semester 1: Introduction to Global Studies 27½ ECTS

Theme & Project	Qualitative Methods	Quantitative Methods	Skills
20 ECTS	2.5 ECTS	2.5 ECTS	2.5 ECTS
Political Philosophy Development Sociology History Economics Law Geography	Epistemology Ontology Research design Choosing methodological approaches	Data handling with Python using Jupyter notebooks Descriptive statistics Graphing with Python	Academic writing Presentation skills Self-management Time management Global citizenship skills
GLO1111 GLO1211 GLO1341	GLO1121	GLO1221	GLO1131 GLO1231

Description

The world is a big and interconnected place, especially nowadays. What you do in your country affects many people in distant places. And your life is shaped by the choices made by other people, some of whom live far away. There is a continuous flow of goods, people, cultural norms and ideas happening. These global flows influence the economy, politics, culture, the law and the environment, as well as many other aspects of life. This means that if we intervene in our economy, it might change the flow of people in another country, which might mean that the culture of some other country is affected, which could prompt a change in the law, which might have environmental consequences for the entire region, including us.

If you want to understand our world, then you need to think very carefully about the connections between people, states, countries and disciplines. This is what Global Studies is all about. It provides the tools you need to study those connections and their effects, so that you get a better sense of what is happening and can make responsible choices about how you want to act in the world.

In this semester's theme track, you will be introduced to the field of Global Studies. We will discuss the phenomenon of globalisation and its causes and effects, but also how it can be studied by combining various academic disciplines – such as history, economics, law and geography – in an interdisciplinary fashion. We will also reflect on what globalisation means for the obligations we have towards other people, and how we should behave to meet these obligations.

Knowledge about the world is always contestable and contested. What we know is based upon how we came to know it, which in turn depends on beliefs, experiences and worldviews that we may not always take into account. Doing research to build new knowledge requires us to reflect on our perspectives and consider how they might affect the way we perform research and the outcomes it might produce.

The methods track during this semester prompts you to recognize the processes necessary to turn 'data' into 'knowledge'.

The transition from high school to university is often a rather challenging one for students, especially considering the expectations at university with regard to students' skills. We therefore want to train you from the start to take on a professional ethos in your university studies and your personal (academic) development.

In the skills trainings, you will be encouraged to take your academic and professional development into your own hands. You will learn how to develop discursive skills required to reflect on your position in a globalising world, understand the position of others, and negotiate these different backgrounds and

identities. The sessions will acquaint you with the core academic skills necessary to be successful at university, such as critical analytical reading, writing and thinking.

Contributing Faculties

- Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences
- Faculty of Health, Medicine & Life Sciences
- Faculty of Science & Engineering

Intended Learning Outcomes

Theme & Project

Students attain the ability to:

- T1. express complex ideas in a readable and understandable written format using an appropriate academic tone;
- T2. identify and summarise various definitions and theories of globalisation;
- T3. demonstrate knowledge of the role various academic disciplines, including geography, history and politics, can play in the study of globalisation, both individually and in an interdisciplinary fashion;
- T4. identify and describe the main intellectual roots of the field of Global Studies;
- T5. explain various conceptions of the moral obligations that follow from globalisation;
- T6. recognise the diversity of flows relating to the mobility of people, goods, services, capital and ideas that happen in globalisation and represent some of these using data visualisation tools;
- T7. distinguish between different ways in which relationships in global flows can be morally characterised, and how ethically appropriate principles governing these relationships can be found;
- T8. identify stakeholders who have an interest in selected global flows, classify these by their positions and interests, and compare the claims of competing stakeholders;
- P1. describe possible economic, legal, institutional, societal or cultural interventions that may be applied to the global flow of certain objects;
- P2. recognise the effects of interventions in global flows on selected stakeholders;
- P3. identify and reflect on the pros and cons of various interventions in global flows;
- P4. formulate and present a reasoned judgement for a particular intervention.

Methods

Students attain the ability to:

- M1. recognise and describe central concepts and paradigms in research methodology, including knowledge, information and data; epistemology and ontology; qualitative, quantitative and mixed method designs;
- M2. understand the different aspects of managing data and methods used in each step of the data science pipeline;
- M3. understand the principles behind creating visual representations of information;

- M4. design and create infographics;
- M5. understand the differences in measurement levels and unit of analysis levels;
- M6. identify how different units of analysis and measurement levels affect the analysis;
- M7. understand and describe the statistical properties of a quantitative data set;
- M8. understand the difference between a constant and a variable;
- M9. create a cross tabulation;
- M10. differentiate between related and unrelated variables;
- M11. understand a correlation/phi measure;
- M12. create graphs showing relationships between two variables in relation to covariance and correlation;
- M13. create graphs of single variable distributions of both continuous and categorical variables in relation to variance.

Skills

Students attain the ability to:

- S1. identify the characteristics of a 'wicked problem' and reflect upon the skills needed to work in an interdisciplinary way;
- S2. identify the skills associated with global citizenship and reflect on how they can be used for researching global issues and developing interventions;
- S3. identify values that you find important for collaborative learning and develop a cohort constitution based on a shared agreement;
- S4. demonstrate critical writing and thinking skills to analyse, interpret and evaluate information;
- S5. reflect in an in-depth way on your own functioning and positions within a group;
- S6. utilise library resources for information and research;
- S7. identify and practice efficient time management techniques;
- S8. apply strategies for exam taking;
- S9. develop effective reading and note taking approaches.