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INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
(Div. II)

Chair, Associate Professor NGONIDZASHE MUNEMO

Advisory Committee: Professors: BERNHARDSSON, CAPRIO, CASSIDAY, CRANE, DARROW**, D. GOLLIN*, KUBLER, MAHON, MUTONGI*, A. V. SWAMY***, Associate Professors: BANTA, MUNEMO.

In this era of cultural, technological and economic globalization and also of pressing international crises including environmental degradation, poverty and underdevelopment, terrorism and pandemics, knowledge of the world beyond the United States is an essential part of the liberal education that is the goal of the Williams experience. Both within and outside the classroom the College provides a rich array of opportunities to pursue that goal. The International Studies Program is designed to increase awareness of those opportunities and to provide a centralizing mechanism to encourage gaining such knowledge with perspectives that are cross-disciplinary and comparative.

The program administers a number of tracks that provide students with the opportunity to pursue study of one area of the world or theme as a way of complementing the work they have done in their majors. Students will be expected to take courses in at least two departments to fulfill the requirements of a track. In addition to completing International Studies 101, they will be expected to do five courses in a track including an approved senior exercise. Students may not count a course toward more than one track in the program.

TRACKS

Tracks are of two kinds. The first type focuses either on a particular region of the world or a contact zone where several cultural traditions encounter each other. The second type is organized thematically and will explore a cultural, political, economic or technological issue globally. Each track will be administered by faculty teaching in that track in consultation with the steering committee. Each track may set an additional requirement of a level of language competency for its concentrators. Each track may also require one or the other of the elective courses to be comparative, i.e. course that might not cover material directly dealing with their area, but would enrich the student’s experience with tools for comparative inquiry. At present the program consists of the following tracks:

Area Tracks
- Thematic Tracks
  - African Studies
  - Borders, Exile and Diaspora Studies
  - East Asian Studies
  - Economic Development Studies
  - Latin American Studies
  - Urbanizing World
  - Middle Eastern Studies
  - Russian and Eurasian Studies
  - South and Southeast Asia Studies

To complete a track, students must take a section of International Studies 101, complete five additional approved courses within the track, attend the weekly International Studies colloquium and complete a senior exercise. Credit for work done on study abroad will likely provide one or more of the electives for many concentrators.

International Studies 101

All students wishing to pursue the program should take a section of International Studies 101 early in their careers. These courses will usually be team taught. The topics and regions covered will vary and be selective, but all will be designed to place cultural, political, economic and technological issues in conversation with one another to illustrate the necessity of having a broad range of disciplinary tools available to pursue an individual track. On occasion students may petition to substitute a course equivalent in scope to International Studies 101 to meet this requirement.

Study Abroad and Internships

Study abroad and/or overseas internships are an essential component of International Studies. The program in coordination with the Study Abroad Advisor and the Office of Career Counseling will advise students on opportunities in these areas. One or more courses completed on an approved study abroad program can be counted toward the five elective courses requirement.

Colloquium

Concentrators will be expected to attend fifteen sessions of the International Studies colloquia in their senior year, and are urged to do so throughout their careers at Williams. We hope that it will become a regular event for all concentrators. The colloquium meets weekly at the Center for Foreign Languages and Cultures and is designed to feature faculty, students, CDE fellows and outside speakers addressing issues of wide interest to those in International Studies.

Senior Exercise

All concentrators must also complete a senior exercise. This will be a substantial piece of writing (20-25 pages) that would allow a student to draw together both their disciplinary skills and expertise in a particular area. It might be work done either in the context of a senior capstone course in a relevant department or in the context of a shared seminar sponsored by the International Studies program. In both cases it would culminate in a public presentation by each concentrator of his/her work in class or in the context of the International Studies Colloquium.

Honors

A candidate for honors in International Studies must maintain at least a B+ average in the concentration and be admitted to candidacy by the program faculty. An honors candidate must complete her/his project in a semester (and Winter Study). An honors candidate will prepare a forty page thesis or its equivalent while enrolled in the senior thesis course. 491 or 492 (and Winter Study). This course will be in addition to the courses required to fulfill the concentration.

A student wishing to become a candidate for honors in International Studies should secure a faculty sponsor and inform the program chair in writing before spring registration of her/his junior year.

INST 101(F) The Modern Middle East (Same as ARAB 207, HIST 207, JWST 217, LEAD 207 and REL 239) (D)

(See under HIST 207 for full description.)

BERNHARDSSON

INST 101(S) The Greater Game? Central Asia and its Neighbors Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow (Same as ASST 236, HIST 216 and REL 236)

(See under REL 236 for full description.)

DARROW

Groups B and G

INST 101(S) America and the World (Same as LEAD 120 and PSCI 120)

(See under PSCI 120 for full description.)

SHEEETZ

INST 101 Is the World Flat? An Introduction to International Studies (Not offered 2013-2014)

The economic, technological, political and cultural processes that have been gathered together under the term ‘globalization’ have been championed by many as the inevitable face of the future of the world. Some have eloquently questioned the overlooked inequalities that arise from these processes, while still others have questioned the inevitability of the processes of the term signals. This course will approach these issues with five sustained case studies that will attend especially to the areas of international trade in cotton and textiles, economic development strategies in microfinance, global health focusing on controlling tuberculosis, democracy promotion with a focus on corruption and ethnic conflict and finally the ideology of intervention in the name of human rights. We will conclude then with a critical examination of the notion of ‘globalization’ as an economic, political, and cultural phenomenon as a way of thinking about the shape of the world in the coming decades.

Format: lecture/discussion. Evaluation will be based on three 3- to 5-page response papers and one oral presentation and one final 8- to 10-page paper.

No prerequisites; open to all. Enrollment limit: 30 (expected: 30). Preference given to first-year students.

DARROW

INST 101(S) Asia and the World (Same as ASST 201 and PSCI 100)

Asia looms large in contemporary world politics: Japan is gradually assuming an expanded regional national security role; The People’s Republic of China is emerging as a multifaceted Great Power; India is challenged by rising ethno-nationalism. This course will explore both the historical background and current dynamics of political and economic issues in the three countries, drawing on themes of imperialism, nationalism, and globalization. It is an introductory class and, therefore, no prior coursework in political science or Asian studies is necessary.

Format: predominately lecture. Requirements: two short papers and a final exam.

No prerequisites; open to first-year students and sophomores. Enrollment limit: 60 (expected: 60).

Hour: 1:10-2:25 TF

CRANE

INST 101(F) Small States in the International System (Same as PSCI 105) (D)

What is a “small state”? How do small states differ from large states? Can small states stand on their own or do they need political and economic shelter for larger states and/or international institutions? The aim of the course is to provide a theoretical and practical understanding of the position of small states in the international system. It examines how small states work within the international and regional institutions and their power potential within the United Nations (UN) and the European Union (EU). As a regional and
comparative case study, it analyzes in detail the participation of the Nordic states (Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland and Iceland) in the UN and the European integration process. What does the EU offer to small states in specific terms of survival, strategy and security? How can states exercise their powers within the EU? Do small states behave differently from the large ones within the EU? The final part examines small states in the UN and determines the ability of them to influence the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). It deals with how internal competence of small states in areas such as knowledge, initiative and diplomatic, coalition and leadership skills and their perceived neutrality at the end of the course students should have a good knowledge of the relevance of multi-lateral institutions to small states’ agendas and their strategic options; of the potential influence of small states within the UN and the EU; and of the specific reactions of the Nordic states to globalization and the European integration process.

Format: lecture. Requirements: class discussion, two short papers (3-5 pages) group projects with oral presentations and a final examination.


Hour: 1:10-2:25 MR

INST 105(F) How to Save Africa (Same as AFR 105 and HIST 105) (W)
(See under HIST 105 for full description.)

INST 117(S) Bombay/Mumbai: Making of a Modern Metropolis (Same as ASST 117 and HIST 117) (W)
(See under HIST 117 for full description.)

INST 202 Vienna 1900-2000 and Beyond (Same as GERM 202) (Not offered 2013-2014)
(See under GERM 202 for full description.)

INST 217(F) Economics of East Asia (Same as ASST 220 and ECON 217)
(See under ECON 217 for full description.)

INST 221(S) The Making of Modern South Asia: 1750-1950 CE (Same as ASST 221 and HIST 221)
(See under HIST 221 for full description.)

INST 225(F) The European Union (Same as PSCH 226) (D)
Winner of the 2012 Nobel Peace Prize, the European Union is a political and economic union of 27 states that has had a transformative effect on the European continent. The main aim of this introductory course is to provide an overview of the workings of the European Union (EU). Starting with its creation in post-war Europe, this course will then consider its enlargement and the various challenges this growth has brought. Special attention will be given to the new Lisbon Treaty and how it is changing the decision-making processes of the EU. The course will also evaluate how EU institutions function such as the European Parliament and the European Court of Justice and its main policies. Special attention will be given the Union’s financial policy, especially the creation of the Union’s single currency, the Euro, and how the EU is responding and coping with the global financial crisis. At the end of the course, students will have developed a comprehensive understanding of the history of the EU, its decision-making processes, and how it is dealing with present challenges.

Format: seminar. Requirements: class discussion, two short papers (2-3 pages), small group projects with oral presentations and a final paper (12-15 pages).


Hour: 7:00-9:40 PM M

INST 239(F) Screens of Terror: Representations of War, Terror, and Terrorism in Western Films after 9/11 (Same as COMP 239) (W) (D)
(See under COMP 239 for full description.)

SOC 269(S) Globalizing India (Same as INST 269) (D)
(See under SOC 269 for full description.)

INST 306(F) Women and Gender in Middle Eastern History (Same as ARAB 306, HIST 306 and WGSS 305)
(See under HIST 306 for full description.)

INST 315 International Trade, Globalization and Its Effects (Same as ECON 215)
(See under ECON 215 for full description.)

INST 343(F) Spectacles on His Nose and Autumn on his Heart: The Oeuvre of Isaac Babel (Same as COMP 343, JWST 343 and RUSS 343) (W) (D)
(See under RUSS 343 for full description.)

INST 370(S) Immigrant Social Movements: Bridging Theory and Praxis (Same as AMST 370, JLST 370, LATS 370 and SOC 370) (D)
See under LATS 370 for full description.)

INST 391(F) When India was the World: Trade, Travel and History in the Indian Ocean (Same as ASST 391 and HIST 391)
(See under HIST 391 for full description.)

INST 392(S) Global 1968 (Same as HIST 392)
(See under HIST 392 for full description.)

INST 397(F), 398(S) Independent Study

INST 409(F) Crescent, Cross, and Star: Religion and Politics in the Middle East (Same as ARAB 409 and HIST 409) (D)
(See under HIST 409 for full description.)

INST 491(F)-W30, W30-492(S) Senior Honors Project

Students can check with the program chair to see if other courses not listed here might count as electives.

AREA TRACKS

African Studies

AFR 200 Introduction to Africana Studies
[AFR 403/COMP 361/WGST 364 Women Writing Africa—last offered fall 2007]
[ANTH 252/AFR 252 Cultures and Societies of Sub-Saharan Africa—last offered spring 2009]
[ANTH/AFR 253 Popular Culture in Africa—last offered spring 2008]
[ANTH/WGST 370 Gender and Social Change in Modern Africa—last offered spring 2008]
[ARTH/AFR 208 Modern and Contemporary African Art—last offered fall 2007]
[ARTH/AFR 214 Arts of Africa—last offered spring 2008]
[BIOL/ENVI 134 The Tropics: Biology and Social Issues]
[ENCO 204/ENVI 234 Economic Development in Poor Countries]
[HIST 203 Sub-Saharan Africa Since 1800—last offered spring 2007]
[HIST 304 South Africa and Apartheid]
[HIST/WGST/AFR 308 Gender and Society in Modern Africa]
[HIST 483T African Political Thought]
[PSCH 243/AFR 256 Politics of Africa]
[RLLR 203/AFR 204 Introduction to Francophone Studies]

East Asian Studies

ARTH 103 Asian Art Survey: From the Land of the Buddha to the World of the Geisha
[ARTH/JAPN 270 Japanese Art and Culture]
[ARTH 274 Chinese Calligraphy: Theory and Practice]
[ARTH 276 Zen and Zen Art]
[CHIN 219 Popular Culture in Modern China]
[CHIN/ANTH 223 Ethnic Minorities in China: Past and Present]
[CHIN 251/COMP 256T/HIST 215T Crises and Critiques: The Literature and Intellectual History of Early 20th Century China]
[COMP/JAPN 255 Love and Death in Modern Japanese Fiction]
[COMP 264/JAPN 254 Japanese Literature and the End of the World]
[ECON 217/ASST 220/INST 217 Economics of East Asia]
[HIST/ASST 117 Clash of Empires: China and the West, 1800-1900]
[HIST 119 The Japanese Empire]
Economic Development Studies

ECON 204/ENVI 234 Economic Development in Poor Countries
ECON/INST 215 International Trade, Globalization and Its Effects
ECON 235 Urban Centers and Urban Systems
ECON 360 International Monetary Economics
ECON 362 Global Competitive Strategies
[ECON 212/512/INST 201/ENVI 212 Agriculture and Development Strategy—last offered spring 2009]
ECON 467/ECON 531T Development Successes
ECON 501 Development Economics I
ECON 504 Public Economics
[ECON 508 Development Finance—last offered spring 2009]
ECON 510 Finance and Development
ECON 511 Institutions and Governance
ECON 515 Developing Country Macroeconomics II
ECON 516 International Trade and Development
ECON 535 International Financial Institutions
POEC 401 Contemporary Problems in Political Economy
PSCI 229 Global Political Economy
[PSCI 327 The Global Politics of Development and Underdevelopment—last offered spring 2009]
REL 287 The Dynamics of Globalization: Society, Religion and the Environment

Urbanizing World

ARAB/COMP 353 Writing the City: Beirut and Cairo in Contemporary Arabic Literature
COMP 243/WGST 252 Modern Women Writers and the City
ECON 235 Urban Centers and Urban Systems
ECON 383 Cities, Regions and the Economy
ECON 517/ECON/ENVI 388 Urbanization and Economic Development
ENVI 101 Humans in the Landscape
GERM 202 Vienna 1900-2000 and Beyond
HIST 136 Before the Deluge: Paris and Berlin in the Interwar Years
LATS 220/AMST 221 Introduction to Urban Studies
RLFR 316/WGST 315 Paris on Fire: Incendiary Voices from the City of Light
SOC 315 Culture, Consumption, and Modernity