Global Minors

In an increasingly interconnected world, the demand for expertise in global matters continues to grow. To prepare you to respond to this need, Mason offers over a dozen minors in global processes, global cultures, and world regions. Put your electives to good use by completing one of these global minors.

Most minors require only three or four courses beyond the major. You can choose those courses from a wide range of offerings including history, international relations, economics, literature, film, religion, and more. You will have the flexibility to structure your global minor to suit your interests, complement your major, and extend your areas of expertise. Best of all, by doing a global minor, you will increase your marketability with future employers as well as your potential for graduate study.

Continue your exploration of global matters by studying one of the 11 foreign languages offered at Mason. Or participate in one of Mason’s study abroad programs. We offer programs from a week to a semester in over 60 countries.

One of the few things we know for sure about the 21st century is that global contacts and processes will become steadily more important. This means that global studies will become steadily more essential – for work credentials, citizenship, and simply taking fullest advantage, through informed understanding, of what’s going on around us.

-PETER STEARNS, PROVOST

WHY MASON?
The U.S. Department of State, Embassy Row, the World Bank, and a myriad of international organizations – just a few reasons why Mason is an ideal location to study global issues. We offer you more affordable access to learning and career opportunities than any other university in the region.

The D.C. area is not only one of the most important hubs of globally related activity in the world, Mason is recognized as one of the most culturally diverse universities in the United States. As a Mason student, you’ll be immersed in a vibrant and dynamic multicultural community.
GLOBAL PROCESSES

These minors focus on issues that span all cultures and societies. They will equip you with the knowledge and analytical skills to better understand the complex interconnectedness of today’s world.

- **Global Affairs** – Explores global processes that affect all societies through courses in politics, economics, culture, conflict, and the environment.

- **Global Systems** – Focus on global interconnections and transactions and is especially suited for majors in business, economics, government, history, and others with a global view.

- **Immigration Studies** – Explores the immigrant experience through topics such as assimilation, ethnic identity, ethnic exclusion and conflict, and refugee situations across the globe.

- **International/Comparative Studies** – Explores the forces that shape international relations and covers issues such as security, political economy, ethics, the environment, international organizations, and law.

GLOBAL CULTURES

These minors focus on cultural practices and populations, often tied to ethnicity, that are distributed across the globe.

- **Judaic Studies** – Takes a global approach to exploring the history and culture of Judaism within and beyond the Middle East.

- **Islamic Studies** – Examines Islam as a world-wide faith and civilization, with followers located in every region of the world.

- **African and African American Studies** – Explores the cultural, historic, economic, and political dimensions of people of African descent in America, the Caribbean, Africa, and throughout the Diaspora.

- **World Music** – Explores how music functions within cultural contexts and conveys multiple meanings across diverse communities.

WORLD REGIONS

These minors provide an in-depth focus on specific regions of the world – exploring them from historical and contemporary perspectives. You can enhance your understanding of the region of your choice by combining a minors with the study of a relevant language.

- **Asia Pacific Studies** – Explores the increasingly prominent role of Asia in the global economy and world politics.

- **Japanese Studies** – Explores the rich cultural history of Japan through a cross-cultural lens.

- **Latin American Studies** – Explores the turbulent history of conquest and resistance, as well as contemporary developments in Latin America.

- **Middle East Studies** – Explores the complex dynamics that shape the realities of modern Middle East leading to a fuller understanding of the political, economic, and cultural diversity of the region.

- **New Europe** – Explores the rapidly and profoundly changing nature of Europe as it continues to adapt to an increasingly interdependent global economy.