International Studies
Interdisciplinary

Faculty

Eliza J. Ablavatski
Assistant Professor of History
(Eastern Europe)

Joseph A. Adler
Professor of Religious Studies
(China, Japan)

Jianhua Bai
Professor of Chinese

Jean Blacker
Professor of French (Francophone literature) (on leave)

Sarah Blick
Associate Professor of Art History
(Asia)

Sylvie Coulibaly
Associate Professor of History
(Africa)

Ruth W. Dunnell
Storer Associate Professor of Asian History (China, Japan, Central Asia)

Katherine M. Hedeen
Assistant Professor of Spanish

Jennifer Johnson
Assistant Professor of Sociology
(Latin America)

Nurten Kilic-Schubel
Assistant Professor of History
(Central Asia)

Joseph L. Klesner
Professor of Political Science (Latin America)

Alex R. McKeown
Associate Professor of Political Science (Russia, international relations)

Linda Metzler
Professor of Spanish (on leave)

Natalia Olishanskaya
Associate Professor of Russian

Mariana del Carmen Parafita-Couto
Assistant Professor of Spanish

Charles A. Piano
Professor Emeritus of Spanish

Victor Rodriguez-Nunez
Assistant Professor of Spanish

Clara Román-Odio
Professor of Spanish

David M. Rowe
Associate Professor of Political Science (comparative politics, international relations)

Kai P. Schoenhals
Professor Emeritus of History
(Russia, Middle East, Caribbean)

Edward M. Schortman
J. Kenneth Smil Professor of Anthropology (Latin America)

Vernon J. Schubel
Professor of Religious Studies
(Islam, Central and South Asia)

Marta Sierra
Assistant Professor of Spanish

Wendy F. Singer
National Endowment for the Humanities Distinguished Teaching Professor of History (India, Asia)

William Suarez-Potts
Assistant Professor of History (Latin America)

David N. Suggs
Professor of Anthropology (Africa)

Susmita Sundaram
Visiting Assistant Professor of Russian

Hideo Tomita
Associate Professor of Japanese

Patricia A. Urban
J. Kenneth Smil Professor of Anthropology (Latin America)

Stephen E. Van Holde
Assistant Professor of Political Science (environmental politics, comparative politics)

Stephen C. Volz
Assistant Professor of History (Africa)

The International Studies Program challenges students to confront an increasingly global society using the foundations of the liberal arts. It depends upon language study, experience abroad, and interdisciplinary courses here at Kenyon to provide opportunities for majors to work together to analyze, interpret, and discuss relevant issues in the modern world.

International studies majors must have an adventurous spirit and a high level of personal motivation. They study in distant countries, learn foreign languages, carry out independent research, and develop individual curricula to meet their own intellectual interests. Majors study in and learn about at least one of these world areas: Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Latin America, the Middle East, and Russia and the former Soviet bloc.

Getting Started

If you are a first-year student interested in international studies, you should take languages or area-studies courses in order to explore African, Asian, Latin American, or Russian cultures. You should also plan to take some of the program's foundation courses (listed below), and possibly one of the program's special first-year seminars, such as INST 121. Note that many of the approved foundation courses are open to first-year students. These courses, ranging from ANTH 113 (Introduction to Cultural Anthropology) to HIST 146 (Modern Anthropology), will allow you to explore the world while also exploring specific disciplines. Note, as well, the elective IN ST 121 (Globalization and Migration at Home), which introduces some themes that run throughout the major. (This course is not a major requirement.)

The key to planning your first-year curriculum is to take a wide variety of courses, leaving open all your options, including international studies. However, it is especially useful to begin
language study early and to explore a number of disciplines, particularly through semester-length courses.

It is also useful for first-year students interested in international studies to meet with the director of the program during the year for additional advice.

The Curriculum

The major has three complementary goals. It asks students: (1) to specialize in a particular place and study its language, history, culture, and society; (2) to understand that place in the larger context of global society; and (3) to learn the tools of at least one discipline, while engaging in interdisciplinary studies.

Involving faculty from every division of the College and from eight different disciplines, the international studies major offers diverse courses and perspectives. It allows students to shape their own curriculum based on the participating disciplines, which range from music to economics. The International Studies Program supports area studies by giving appropriate credit and reinforcement for students’ academic work abroad. The major provides valuable structure to guide students in selecting appropriate courses and integrating their interests.

Linking the Major to Other Programs

Because international studies is interdisciplinary and cross-cultural, many of the courses in the international studies major permit students to complete most of the requirements of some of Kenyon’s concentrations, minors, and even majors with little extra effort. The major lends itself particularly well, for example, to studies of issues relating to the African diaspora, Asia, gender, and the environment—all areas in which the College offers academic concentrations and other academic programs. Students can productively combine these programs with a major in international studies. The possibilities are discussed in greater detail below.

The African diaspora. A number of international studies majors choose to focus on the African diaspora. Some study abroad in Africa, particularly in West Africa, which contributed large populations to the slave trade. Others study in Latin America or the Caribbean, where several programs focus on Afro-Latin American culture. Students may study Spanish or French as part of their program; those who study in West Africa learn an African language as well. The College’s concentration in African and African-American studies is a logical complement to these interests. Many courses within the concentration meet requirements of the international studies major as well. In addition, students should take American Studies 110 plus .5 unit of coursework in African-American studies to complete the program. For advice on African and African-American studies concentration, students should contact its director, Theodore Mason.

Comparative Asian studies. International studies majors interested in Asia focus on one region or country, such as China, Japan, India, Vietnam, or Indonesia. Their choice of specialization is guided by their language training and study abroad experience. However, this approach might be enhanced by a comparative study of Asia as offered in the Asian studies concentration. International studies majors often benefit from the capstone course in Asian studies, “Asia in Comparative Perspective” (Asia 490), which deals with a different theme each year. Students interested in the Asian studies concentration should consult with its director, Joseph Adler.

Gender in global perspective. Women and development issues, the study of gender from cross-cultural perspectives, and comparative women’s studies are all relevant concerns to international studies majors. Linking the women’s and gender studies concentration to the international studies major requires taking Women and Gender Studies 111 or an equivalent and WMS 481, plus four more courses on women and/or gender studies either at Kenyon or abroad. Students should look for courses that meet the requirements of both the major and the concentration and should consult with Laurie Finke, the director of the women’s and gender studies program.

The global environment. Students interested in global environmental issues may major in international studies with a concentration in environmental studies. The two programs can work together to provide students with the opportunity to study environmental issues abroad. Particularly, the Center for Field Studies offers several study-abroad programs focused on the environment in Africa and the Caribbean. Students should plan early and select courses that meet requirements in both programs, when possible. It is important to take language in advance of studying abroad because not all field-studies programs provide sufficient language training. In addition, students should use Environmental Studies 112 as one of the foundation courses in international studies and Biology 112 to fulfill other College and major requirements. Students should consult with Jay Corrigan or Siobhan Fennessy, codirectors of the environmental studies concentration.

Other programs. See the directors or chairs of applicable programs to talk about ways of integrating them into the international studies major. Students are especially encouraged to take methodology courses in disciplines that interest them; this may lead to a minor or double major.

Requirements for the Major

The curriculum for the major has eight elements designed to ensure that each student fashions a balanced interdisciplinary and global education. All majors specialize in a region of the world—Africa, China, Japan, India, the Middle East, Latin America, the Caribbean, or Russia (or areas of former Soviet influence, including Central Asia). They learn relevant languages and study abroad. They
must also focus on a single discipline, and they must take two required interdisciplinary courses. The major requirements often overlap with one another, and the number of courses a student must complete to meet the major varies from person to person.

The requirements for the major in international studies major are:

1. **Foundation courses**
   Students must take four of these courses. No more than two foundation courses in a single department will count toward the major. A foundation course can be counted to meet the “disciplinary concentration” requirement (see number 3). Foundation courses cannot, however, be counted as meeting the “area concentration” requirement (number 3). The foundation courses are as follows:

   - **ANTH 113 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology**
   - **ECON 101 Principles of Microeconomics and Public Policy**
   - **ECON 102 Principles of Macroeconomics and International Trade**
   - **ENVS 112 Introduction to Environmental Studies**
   - **HIST 121 Modern Latin America**
   - **HIST 146 Modern Africa**
   - **HIST 156 History of India**
   - **HIST 160 Modern East Asia**
   - **MUSC 103 Introduction to Ethnomusicology**
   - **PSCI 101 Principles of Political Science**
   - **PSCI 240 Modern Democracies**
   - **PSCI 260 International Relations**
   - **RLST 101 Introduction to the Study of Religion**
   - **RLST 240 Classical Islam**
   - **RLST 250 South Asian Religions**
   - **RLST 260 Buddhist Thought and Practice**
   - **RLST 270 Chinese Religions**
   - **RLST 275 Japanese Religions**
   - **SOCI 101.02 Human Society**
   - **SOCI 101.08 Society in Comparative Perspective**
   - **SOCI 101.09 Culture and Society**

2. **Sophomore course**
   This course, INST 201 (The Expansion of International Society), is offered during the second semester in 2007-08.

3. **Area concentration**
   Students must take four courses; they are usually completed during a semester or year abroad. Students who devise an area study that does not easily fit into one of the given categories may be able to design their own program. Consult the program director for advice. The area studies courses for 2007-08 are as follows (offerings in other years may differ):

   - **Africa**
     - ANTH 471 Ethnomedicine: Africa
     - HIST 146 Modern Africa
     - HIST 350 Race, Resistance, and Revolution in South Africa
   - **Asia and the Middle East**
     - ARHS 114 Introduction to Asia
     - ARHS 235 Art of China
     - ASIA 490 Asia in Comparative Perspective
   - **Latin America and the Caribbean**
     - ANTH 345 Ethnicity of Central America (taught in Honduras)
     - HIST 120 Early Latin America: 1400 to 1810
     - HIST 121 Modern Latin America: 1810-Present
     - HIST 322 Human Rights in Latin America
   - **Other Regions**
     - SPA N 392 Travel Narratives and Cultural Encounters in Latin America
     - SPA N 393 Literature of the Southern Cone

4. **Language**
   Majors must complete at least one year of language study beyond the introductory level, for any language offered at Kenyon. If you are studying abroad in a place where the local language is one not offered at Kenyon, then you must complete the Kenyon language requirement and, for the major, study as much language as possible while abroad or through summer programs. All students are required to study a local language during their study-abroad experience.

5. **Off-campus study**
   All international studies majors (except for some international students, minors) must study abroad for at least one semester; most study abroad for a year. Keep in mind that off-campus study at Kenyon is competitive and writing a strong application is critical. In order to study abroad, a student must receive approval from the College and have achieved a GPA of at least 2.75.

6. **Concentration in a discipline**
   Students must take six courses in a discipline. The aim is to learn a particular discipline well and to be able to employ its methodology in the senior exercise. Common choices are anthropology, economics, history, language and literature, political science, sociology, and religious studies. Alternatively, students who complete the entire Environmental Studies concentration may consider this their discipline. Majors are also strongly encouraged to take a methodology course in at least one discipline. These include HIST 387 (Practice and Theory of History), HIST 388 (Practice and Theory in Public Hist-
tory), RLST 390 (Approaches to the Study of Religion), and SOCY 271 (Qualitative Methods in Sociology) and SOCY 373 (Quantitative Methods in Sociology).

7. Comparative and international courses

Students must take two of these courses, which typically cover more than one region of the world. Often, students take them during senior year. Foundation courses cannot be counted toward this requirement. The offerings for 2007-08 are as follows:

- ECON 338 International Trade
- ECON 339 International Finance and Open-Economy Macroeconomics
- ENGL 331 Land, Place, Body in Literature and Film
- ASIA 490 Asia in Comparative Perspective
- ANTH 220 Anthropology of Food
- ANTH 350 Human Sexuality and Culture
- HIST 226 British Empire
- HIST 338 Middle East
- INST 121 Globalization and Migration— at Home
- MUSC 103 Introduction to Ethnomusicology
- PSCI 240 Modern Democracies
- PSCI 260 International Relations
- PSCI 361 Globalization
- PSCI 363 Global Environmental Politics
- PSCI 391.01 Immigration, Citizenship, and National Identity
- PSCI 461 U.S. Defense Strategy
- PSCI 465 International Terrorism
- SOCY 101.08 Society in Contemporary Perspective
- SOCY 229 Social Movements
- SOCY 249 Knowledge of the Other
- SOCY 291 Borders and Border Crossings

8. Senior seminar

The senior seminar, INST 401 (Contemporary Global Issues) is a comparative course that brings all international studies majors together to look at significant global problems from the various perspectives they bring based on their specializations. See the course description, below.

**Senior Exercise**

The Senior Exercise provides an opportunity for majors to undertake a project completely on their own initiative. It usually builds on their experience and research abroad and then examines it from a broadly intellectual and comparative perspective. Students are also required to look beyond their region of specialization for a comparison that illuminates work they have done either in the field or in other classes. Seniors are encouraged to consult with any faculty members in the International Studies Program. Projects usually take the form of a research paper of about twenty to thirty pages in length. They are due the Monday before spring break begins.

**Honors**

Students wishing to pursue a degree with honors in international studies should consult the director as soon as possible. It is assumed that some of the research for honors will have been completed during the junior-year experience abroad.

Of course, research continues at Kenyon. Candidates for honors will ordinarily submit an informal proposal in the spring of their junior year, or, if abroad, then immediately upon returning to the College in the fall. Honors candidates enroll in INST 497-498 and write an extended essay (thesis), which is defended before an outside examiner in May. Students are also required to pursue honors.

**Year Course**

**Senior Honors**

INST 497Y-498Y (1 unit) 
Staff

The honors program is designed to recognize and encourage exceptional scholarship and to allow able students to do more independent work than is otherwise feasible. The senior honors candidate works with a member of the International Studies Committee to prepare an extended essay (thesis) on a topic of mutual interest, which is defended before an outside examiner in May. Note: students standing for honors also take the senior seminar. Prerequisite: permission of the International Studies Committee.

**First-Semester Courses**

**China in Transition**

INST 131 (.5 unit) 
Mod

In this first-year seminar we will explore the exploding changes in China over the last twenty years. China provides an excellent introduction to the steamroller effects of globalization, since the country came equipped with a very strong, capable government whose leaders were committed to containing even the smallest noneconomic changes related to its market transition. As those leaders have discovered, however, there is no way to "let in the breeze without the mosquitoes": the government has not been able to devise a "screen" to keep out influences that have profoundly changed China's politics, economics, and society. Economic and cultural globalization has transformed every aspect of Chinese society today. Religious, political, environmental, and economic protests shake the country every month, and the number of protests is skyrocketing. Pornography, prostitution, and divorce are on the rise, disrupting social life. New wealth is accompanied by destabilizing inequalities. New development, which has given some Chinese a lifestyle rivaling that of European royalty, has produced dislocation and devastation for others. From televisions and fax machines in the 1980s to the Internet in the new century, globalization has unequivocally ended China's isolation. Our focus will be on the specific transitions as well as on the universality of globalization. Students will be expected to actively participate in class and help shape discussion. Primary research on the Internet will constitute a large part of the requirements. Only to first-year students. Enrollment limited to fifteen.
Senior Seminar: Contemporary Global Issues
INST 401 (.5 unit)
Klesner, Singer
This seminar will examine some of the problems inherent in cross-cultural comparison and will explore the ways in which a variety of disciplines grapple with these difficulties by investigating contemporary themes in international affairs. These themes will include some or all of the following: (1) ethnic conflict; (2) comparative perspectives on development; (3) religion and socioeconomic development; (4) contemporary environmental problems; (5) the ethics of armed intervention; (6) the emergence of a world popular culture and its consequences for national cultures; (7) the challenges of democratization in the countries of the former Soviet bloc; and (8) perceptions of the United States, Americans, and U.S. foreign policy abroad. Open only to international studies majors with senior standing.

Other First-Semester Courses Offered in Departments
See the departmental listings for complete descriptions. In addition to language courses, which are an important component of the major, the following courses provide credit toward the international studies major:

- ANTH 113 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
- ANTH 220 Anthropology of Food
- ANTH 350 Human Sexuality and Culture
- ECON 101 Principles of Microeconomics and Public Policy
- ECON 102 Principles of Macroeconomics and International Trade
- ECON 338 International Trade
- HIST 120 Early Latin America: 1400 to 1810
- HIST 156 History of India
- HIST 226 British Empire
- HIST 260 Medieval Islamic Empires
- HIST 262 Japan to 1850
- HIST 338 Middle East
- MUSC 103 Introduction to Ethnomusicology
- PSCI 240 Modern Democracies
- PSCI 260 International Relations
- PSCI 361 Globalization
- PSCI 391.01 Immigration, Citizenship, and National Identity
- RLST 101 Introduction to the Study of Religion
- RLST 240 Classical Islam
- RLST 270 Chinese Religions
- SO CY 101.02 Human Society
- SO CY 101.08 Society in Comparative Perspective
- SO CY 101.09 Culture and Society
- SO CY 229 Social Movements
- SO CY 249 Knowledge of the Other: Journey to the East
- SO CY 291 Borders and Border Crossings
- SPA N 325Y Introduction to Spanish-American Literature
- SPA N 371 Gender, Identity, and Power in Women’s Works from Latin America
- SPA N 391.01 Queering Spanish-American Literature and Film
- SPA N 391.02 History of Spanish Language
- SPA N 392 Travel Narratives and Cultural Encounters in Latin America
- INST 201 (.5 unit)
  Van Holde

Second-Semester Courses
Globalization and Migration—at Home
INST 121 (.5 unit)
Singer
Story 1: When the writer Amitav Ghosh left India and first arrived in Egypt, he did not know what parts of himself to share with his new community and what should remain hidden. As he became more acculturated to Egyptian life, his questions changed: What makes me Indian? How do I understand what it means to be Egyptian? And can I?

Story 2: In 2000, Ohio Governor George Voinovich met with his counterpart in Andhra Pradesh, India, Chief Minister Chandra Babu Naidu. They agreed on a transfer of agricultural technology to Andhra Pradesh in exchange for Indian computer software agreements with Ohio. In 2004, now Senator Voinovich introduced a bill in the U.S. Senate to restrict the use of call centers in India. What changed?

This course explores the ways in which global migration and international trade influences cultural, social, and political perceptions. We will begin by studying the scholarship on globalization and migration, using, for example Robin Cohen’s Global Diasporas, a good introductory text, and James Clifford’s Routes, which provides a more complex analysis. We will also read about experiences like the ones Amitav Ghosh describes in In an Antique Land. Then we will examine some of the economic statistics and conflicting arguments about the effects of globalization and migration. Sources will include books such as Nigel Harris’s Thinking the Unthinkable: The Immigration Myth Exposed and documents such as “Policy Matters Ohio: International Trade and Job Loss” and a proposal to increase trade links between northeast Ohio and India. In the last section of the course, we will carry out research projects on globalization in Ohio. Using oral histories of immigrant communities, externships with Ohio chambers of commerce, and media research, students will explore a range of issues that address the cultural, social, and economic influences of the global society at home. This course is open only to first-year students. No prerequisites. Enrollment is limited to fifteen.

The Expansion of International Society
INST 201 (.5 unit)
Van Holde
This course will explore the development of the modern international society of nation-states, from its beginnings in Western Europe in the sixteenth century, through the two major waves of European colonization of other areas of the world, to the decolonization following the Second World War. We will examine the roles of economic change, the spread of individualist ideas and attitudes,
and power politics in promoting the expansion of the state system, capitalism, and aspects of Western culture from Europe to the rest of the world. The political and cultural resistance of colonized peoples to European expansion and the incorporation of colonial economies into the world economy will be examined. Chronologically, topics to be considered include the rivalry between emerging European empires and Islamic empires at the beginning of Western expansion; the conquest of the New World; nineteenth-century imperialism—explanations for the new wave of imperialism and consequences of it; and the rapid growth of independent states due to decolonization in the postwar period. Finally, the political, economic, and cultural/religious consequences of imperialism and decolonization will be explored.

Other Second-Semester Courses Offered in Departments

See the departmental listings for complete descriptions. In addition to language courses, which are an important component of the major, the following courses provide credit toward the international studies major:

ANTH 113  Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
ANTH 345  Ethnicity in Central America (taught in Honduras)
ANTH 471  Ethnomedicine: Africa
ARTH 114  Introduction to Asian Art
ARTH 235  Art of China
ASIA 114  Introduction to Asian Art
ASIA 490  Asia in Comparative Perspective
CHNS 324  Modern China Through Film and Fiction
ECON 101  Principles of Microeconomics and Public Policy
ECON 102  Principles of Macroeconomics and International Trade
ECON 339  International Finance and Open-Economy Macroeconomics
ENGL 313  Land, Body, Place in Literature and Film
ENVS 112  Introduction to Environmental Studies
HIST 121  Modern Latin America
HIST 146  Modern Africa
HIST 160  Modern East Asia
HIST 322  Human Rights in Latin America
HIST 350  Race, Resistance, and Revolution in South Africa
HIST 452  Women, Gender, and State in China
INST 121  Globalization and Migration—at Home
MUSIC 103  Introduction to Ethnomusicology
PSCI 240  Modern Democracies
PSCI 260  International Relations
PSCI 346  Riots, Ballots, and Rice: Comparative Asian Politics
PSCI 363  Global Environmental Politics
PSCI 461  U.S. Defense Strategy
PSCI 465  International Terrorism
RLST 101  Introduction to the Study of Religion
RUSS 354  Masterpieces of Russian Nineteenth-Century Literature in Translation
SOCY 101.02  Human Society
SOCY 101.08  Society in Contemporary Perspective
SPAN 326  Introduction to Spanish-American Literature
SPAN 338  Survey of Contemporary Spanish-American Fiction
SPAN 354  Spanish-American Poetry Since 1880
SPAN 393  Literature of the Southern Cone