

# Majoring in Global Studies with a Concentration in International Economics



“Think like an economist.”

The Global Studies Program and the Department of Economics are pleased to offer a major in **Global Studies: International Economics (GSIE)** through the School of Arts & Sciences. Students fulfilling this concentration will receive a specialized education in economics, within the general framework of the liberal arts, interdisciplinary major. Courses focus on world globalization from a variety of academic perspectives.

## Requirements for the Major:

Global Studies (GS) general requirements:

Enhanced Language Proficiency – two courses at 300- or 400- level foreign language<sup>1</sup>

Approved Experience Abroad of one semester in length

No grade less than C- (1.7) in coursework comprising the major.

Global Studies Core Coursework:

- GS 290: Introduction to Global Studies
- GS 400: Senior Seminar
- PLSC 240: Introduction to Comparative Politics  
or GEOG 210/GS 210 Planet Earth: People and Place

International Economics (IE) concentration required courses (3 units, chosen from list below):<sup>2</sup>

- Econ 210: The Economics of the European Union
- Econ 211: Economic Development in Asia, Africa, and Latin America
- Econ 215: International Monetary Economics
- Econ 310: International Trade
- Econ 315: Advanced International Macroeconomics

Electives (5 units): Choose *two* from section A, *two* from B, and *one* from any other course on this page.

A. Global Power, Politics, and Culture. Two units from two different departments:

- ANTH 101 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
- GEOG 345 Global Sustainability: Society, Economy, Nature
- HIST 236 Russian Empire, Soviet Union and After
- IBUS 381 International Business Environment
- MGMT 333 Cross-cultural Management
- MKT 325 International Marketing
- PHIL 337 Social and Political Philosophy
- PLSC 356 International Political Economy
- SOC 335 Feast and Famine: Inequalities in the Global Food System

B. History, Culture, Societies, Politics, and Religions of Regions or Nations in the World System  
Two units chosen from the list at [https://globalstudies.richmond.edu/major/intl\\_econ/index.html](https://globalstudies.richmond.edu/major/intl_econ/index.html).

C. Choose one other unit from courses identified above.

<sup>1</sup> Applies to students whose secondary education was in English. Students whose secondary education was not in English may satisfy the requirement with two units of world literature at the 300 or 400 level in any language.

<sup>2</sup> Econ 101 and 102 (Principles of Micro and Macro) are *prerequisites* for all of these courses. Additionally, Econ 271 is a prerequisite for Econ 310. Econ 271 and 272 are prerequisites for Econ 315.

# Economics

<https://robins.richmond.edu/undergraduate/economics/index.html>

## Requirements (Continued)

***Other Courses May Qualify as Electives:*** New relevant courses are often created on campus and there are courses offered abroad that do not have an exact equivalent here on campus. Each Global Studies (GS) concentration attempts to create depth through narrowing the focus of attention in electives. The International Economics concentration attempts to create focus by specializing the electives in modern social science courses. There are three conditions needed before approving a new elective in the International Economics track:

- (1) The course must be *international* in scope;
- (2) The course must cover the *modern* time period (19th and 20th centuries); and
- (3) The course must be taught from a *social science* perspective (many history courses would fall into this category).

### **Who Should Major in International Economics?**

This concentration is for students interested in careers in international business, government, and non-profit organizations, or as preparation for graduate school or law school. While this major is similar in some ways to the international business program, students in IS-Economics will supplement their economics education with education about the history, cultures, political systems, and languages of other countries, rather than with business disciplines such as accounting, finance, and marketing.

**Advice: Plan a Double-Major!** The Global Studies major has some wonderful strengths, such as its diversity, its multi-disciplinary approach, experience abroad, and its senior seminar to pull what you have learned together. While the GS major has great *breadth*, it has less *depth* in any one area than you would find in a traditional discipline. This is a natural consequence of the interdisciplinary nature of the major, and the fact that only a certain number of hours can be required of any major at UR. *Depth* is needed to prepare you for graduate school, to help in landing a job, and to help you develop advanced skills of critical thinking. Thus, you are strongly encouraged to complement your GS major with a double major in a standard discipline.

The issue of depth is particularly important to those GS majors concentrating in International Economics. You are strongly encouraged to consider double-majoring or minoring in Economics. For example, taking the following economics courses (in addition to the three required for GSIE majors), will earn you a **minor** in Economics:

**Economics 271: Microeconomic Theory** (*This course will help you in all applied economics courses, especially International Trade and Finance.*)

**Economics 272: Macroeconomic Theory** (*This course will help you understand the global effects of fiscal policies, monetary policies, and currency values.*)

**Why not double-major in economics?** The combination of International Economics and Economics majors works very well, providing you the depth of a solid economics major with the breadth and experience of a global studies major. You will be well prepared, and can "hold your own" in any crowd or job interview. Be ambitious for yourself, and do not take another path just because it appears "easier."

Think more about your life and career, and less about your short-term GPA.

Three years out of college, who will remember your GPA?

However, your college education will be with you your whole life!