

Global & International Studies Graduate Courses

Fall 2014

GIST 701: Approaches to International Studies (24512)

Professor Michael Wuthrich

Tuesdays 6:10-9:00 p.m.

356 Regnier Hall, Edwards Campus

This course examines approaches to the study of culture, politics, and society as applied in international studies research. Substantive and disciplinary content vary by instructor, but typically include such topics as economic development, ethnicity, religion, democratization, peace and conflict issues, and cultural studies. The study of these topics is accompanied by discussions of the principles of theory development, proper research design, choosing a research topic, construction of literature reviews, and the use of library resources in international studies research. *This course is required for all students in the Global & International Studies MA program.*

GIST 704: Global Cultures & Societies (29743)

Professor Darlene Budd

Mondays 7:10-10:00 p.m.

254 Regnier Hall, Edwards Campus

This course takes a multidimensional perspective on globalization, its unevenness, and the resistance of some countries and communities in Southeast and Northeast Asia. The course analyzes the political, economic, security, social, and cultural dimensions of globalization and local responses. Specific topics include democratization, economic growth, rising nationalism, and how processes of governance are being altered under the pressure of accelerating globalization. *Regional Focus: Northeast & Southeast Asia*

GIST 705: Globalization in History (29744)

Professor Hal Wert

Wednesdays 7:10-10:00 p.m.

152 Regnier Hall, Edwards Campus

Globalization—the spread of similar economic, cultural, and social phenomena around the globe—has become one of the major topics of contemporary discussion and intensely studied by academics around the world. Are human societies, with all their diversity, becoming fundamentally more similar? If so, where did this process come from, and how new is this process in historical terms? On the other hand, does history teach us to be cautious about just how uniform an effect these phenomena will have? Will the spread of similar economic and cultural forces provoke a backlash against change? This course is organized as a colloquium (a group readings course) intended both to engender discussion of methodological problems and consideration of the most recent scholarship and interpretive approaches. This course is grounded in reading and discussion of writings by historians and others about the processes



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that are currently brought together under the umbrella term “globalization.” Oral presentations and a research paper (which may be a chapter of your thesis) are required.

GIST 710: Interdisciplinary Research Methods for Global Contexts (26083)

Professor John Kennedy

Tuesdays 6:10-9:00 p.m.

352 Regnier Hall, Edwards Campus

This course addresses the challenges for students engaged in research in an interdisciplinary and international context. The course will take issues for research and place them within the structure of a research design process, including formulation of a general question, the appropriation of theory, the grounding of a literature review, and the positing of a testable research question and/or hypothesis. Students will also be exposed to research methodologies and how these manifest themselves through the logic of disciplines such as anthropology, sociology, geography, political science, history, and literature. With a final thesis project design in mind, students will be expected to be able to utilize the research tools of accessing primary and secondary analytical data. This course will be the precursor to GIST 898: Thesis Writing course in the spring, which will build off of the knowledge, skills, and final project of this course. **Prerequisite:** GIST 701 or consent of instructor.

This optional course is meant to replace three hours of GIST 899: Thesis credit for current students who are ready to begin writing their theses. It is strongly recommended for all continuing students.

GIST 750: Afghanistan, Pakistan, & Central Asia—Security, Cultural, & Resource Challenges in an Arc of Instability (29745)

Professor Robert Baumann

Thursdays 7:10-10:00 p.m.

151 Regnier Hall, Edwards Campus

This course will examine the current challenges confronting the peoples of Afghanistan; Pakistan; and the newly independent, post-Soviet states of Central Asia in the light of the historical trajectory of the region. Too long ignored by the West, this strategic region possesses critical energy resources, rapidly expanding populations, and geopolitical connections that have thrust it to the global center stage. At the same time, it is a cauldron of war, instability, and social discontent. Employing texts authored by scholars, diplomats, journalists, and regional analysts, students will develop an appreciation of the causes of current turmoil and the complex relationships among regional players. The course focus will also include the historic impact of international players such as the United States, Russia, and Great Britain on regional dynamics. Students will also consider current policy options in the region. *Regional Focus: Middle East & Central Asia*

