

International and Global Studies

Learning Goals

1. To attain advanced competency in a foreign language.
2. To be broadly exposed to the chosen region or theme from multiple perspectives and disciplines.
3. To be deeply engaged in critical thinking about global questions.
4. To study abroad.
5. To engage in a capstone senior experience.

About the major

International and global education encourages students to transcend the confines of their own backgrounds and upbringing, apprehend the world through others' eyes, and, in the process, become more informed global citizens.

The international and global studies (IGS) program aims at educating majors about regional issues and global themes from multiple perspectives. Students majoring in IGS will choose either a regional or a thematic track and be exposed to the historic, geographical, cultural, political, economic, or environmental dimensions of the region or the theme, and gain a critical perspective of the complexity of local, national, and global issues in the ever changing world.

Reasons you might choose this major

- You understand and appreciate that we live in an increasingly complex and globalized world.
- You want to better understand how societies function within their regions and how they affect the rest of the world.
- You are interested in understanding the region from multiple disciplinary perspectives, and you are interested in global issues.
- You are interested in examining in depth a global theme (security or gender, for example) and in seeing its impact on individuals and society.
- You want to delve deeply into the study of a particular language, have a deep desire to study abroad in a chosen region, and want to achieve a level of fluency sufficient to do academic and professional work.
- You want a solid foundation to approach the world with an informed perspective—one that will lead to any number of career paths and trajectories.

“As an international studies major, I developed a diverse toolkit on how to learn about global places through various disciplinary lenses. Further, Middlebury’s language immersion and study abroad programs provided valuable experiences in interacting with different people and challenging myself to lean into the unknown.”

—Maeve Whelan-Wuest '09
*Program Officer, Asia,
National Democratic Institute*



Translating Learning into Professional Competencies

Throughout your time at Middlebury, you will develop and enhance the following core professional competencies, skills, and dispositions highly valued by employers that will prepare you for leadership and success in any given field:

Critical Thinking: Exercise sound reasoning to analyze issues, make decisions, and overcome problems.

Oral/Written Communications: Articulate thoughts and ideas clearly and effectively in written and oral forms.

Teamwork/Collaboration: Build collaborative relationships with colleagues and customers from diverse backgrounds.

Leadership: Leverage the strengths of others to achieve common goals, and use interpersonal skills to coach and develop others.

Professionalism/Work Ethic: Demonstrate personal accountability and effective work habits.

Global/Intercultural Fluency: Value, respect, and learn from diverse cultures, races, ages, genders, sexual orientations, and religions.

Digital Technology: Leverage existing digital technologies ethically and efficiently to solve problems, complete tasks, and accomplish goals.

Career Management: Identify and articulate one's skills, strengths, knowledge, and experiences relevant to career goals, and identify areas necessary for professional development.

Where international and global studies majors go

Applying your learning through internships . . .

Students pursue internships and research in a variety of fields, enabling them to apply their liberal arts learning in real-world settings. Internships, research, and self-directed projects enrich your academic experience and help prepare you for life after Middlebury. Students have interned or done research at the following:

International Organization for Migration: Headquarters Office	Conservation International
Palestine Monitor	U.S. Commission on International Freedom
Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition	U.S. Embassy
Generations for Peace	Council on Hemispheric Affairs
Amigos de las Americas	Gaumont International Television
Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training	Gardens for Health International
United Nations	Inter-American Development Bank
The 1947 Partition Archive	Millennium Promise
U.S. Department of State	The James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies
Washington Office on Latin America	JPMorgan Chase
Grameen Bank	U.S. Department of Homeland Security
	Brazilian Center for International Relations

. . . leading to meaningful, dynamic, and engaging career paths.

See just some of the many interesting ways our graduates have applied their liberal arts learning to engage the world. If you want to see what other Middlebury alumni are doing now, log into Midd2Midd and search by major. [go/midd2midd](#)

Kintetsu World Express Inc.-U.S., <i>Import-Export Agent</i>	Hancock Natural Resource Group, <i>Director, Head of Global Business Development</i>
U.S. Department of Commerce, <i>Deputy Director, Office of China</i>	Brookings Institution, <i>Program Manager-Global Economy and Development</i>
Peanuts Worldwide, <i>Vice President, Communications</i>	trivago GmbH, <i>Global Website Communication and Translation Manager</i>
World Bank, <i>Consultant, Governance, and Anti-Corruption</i>	Maderia Global, <i>Cofounder and Partner</i>
Qeexo, <i>Senior Director of Operations-China Country Manager</i>	International Institute for Sustainable Development, <i>Thematic Expert/Climate change</i>
World Resources Institute, <i>Research Analyst</i>	USAID/Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance, <i>Humanitarian Assistance Advisor</i>
Google, <i>Public Policy and Government Relations-Asia Pacific</i>	The Salmon Project, <i>Executive Director</i>
United Nations Development Program, <i>Evaluation Analyst</i>	Al Jazeera English, <i>Producer</i>
U.S. Dept. of Defense, <i>Chief, Partnerships, Office of Ventures and Innovation</i>	Clinton Global Initiative, <i>Director of Commitments</i>
The Hunger Project, <i>Global Programs Manager</i>	Himalayan Cataract Project, <i>Chief Operations Officer</i>