Global Interdisciplinary Studies, B.A.

Chairperson: Chiji Akọma, Ph.D.
Office Location: 36 Garey Hall
Telephone: 610-519-6302
[Website]

About

The Department of Global Interdisciplinary Studies (GIS) provides students with a tripartite of skills, knowledge, and values that foster critical thinking, problem solving, and preparation for responsible global citizenship. Students gain an understanding of global studies, acquiring the know-how in global and digital literacy, cultural diversity and intercultural competences, interdisciplinary research, and a passion for social justice, nurtured in experiential learning.

All students must choose one specialization from the sections listed below.

The Department of Global Interdisciplinary Studies also offers minors in the following programs: Arabic Language and Cultural Studies, Chinese Language and Cultural Studies, Japanese Language and Cultural Studies, Russian Language and Cultural Studies. Visit these individual pages to view requirements.

Program: Global and Interdisciplinary Studies
Type: Bachelor of Arts
MAJOR (31-34 credits)

The central dynamic of the GIS major is the emphasis on the interdisciplinary and the global through a specialization in one of the following areas and thematic studies, namely: Africana Studies, Arab & Islamic Studies, Asian Studies, Cultural Studies, Irish Studies, Latin American Studies, and Russian Area Studies. A student may also consider an Individually Designed Specialization after meeting some requirements, including meeting with the Chair of the department. Each specialization emphasizes the core tenets of the major: Interdisciplinary research, global impact through the local, and the application of knowledge to world affairs.

• Seven Area Specializations:
  
  ◦ GIS offers seven specializations in interdisciplinary areas of study – Africana Studies, Arab and Islamic Studies, Asian Studies, Cultural Studies, Irish Studies, Latin American Studies, and Russian Area Studies. The additional requirements of each specialization are listed below. Students must indicate their specialization at the time of declaring the GIS major.

• Individually Designed Specialization:
  
  ◦ A student may opt to design a 15-credit specialization of their choosing. This specialization must be proposed at the declaration of the major, with a clear rationalization for all selected courses. The proposal must be approved by a faculty mentor and the Department Chair and include at least three courses regularly offered at Villanova University.

Program Notes:

• For GIS 5011, Team-taught Topics Student takes two different topics, the first of which counts as the Junior Research Seminar for the Major (6 credits).

Required Major Courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item #</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GIS 2000</td>
<td>Intro to Global Interd Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIS 5011</td>
<td>GIS Select</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIS 5011</td>
<td>GIS Select</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIS 6500</td>
<td>Capstone I: Research</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIS 6600</td>
<td>Capstone 2:thesis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIS 5000</td>
<td>Special Topics</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Study Abroad</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GIS: Africana Studies (18 credits) (GAFR)

Required Specialization Courses:

Six courses with the AFR attribute for a minimum of 18 credits, including the courses listed below.

Program Notes:

- Students may also combine three 1-credit IGR courses to count as one of the undesignated Africana courses.
- Courses taken as part of a study abroad program may be counted.
- A GIS 5011 with AFR attribute may be counted among the six courses, as long as the two required GIS 5011 courses for the GIS major have been fulfilled.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item #</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFR 3000</td>
<td>Constructs of Blackness</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GIS Africana Elective</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GIS: Arab and Islamic Studies (15 credits) (GAIS)

Five courses with the AIS attribute for a minimum of 15 credits, of which the following must be included:

Required Specialization Courses:

- Two courses of Arabic at the intermediate or above level (6-10 cr)
- One Political Science course with an AIS attribute (3 cr)
- One History course with an AIS attribute (3 cr)
- One Theology course with an AIS attribute (3 cr)

Program Notes:

- Courses taken as part of a study abroad may be counted.

GIS: Asian Studies (15 credits) (GAS)

Five courses with the ASN attribute for a minimum of 15 credits, of which the following must be included:

Required Specialization Courses:

- Three Chinese, Japanese, or other Asian language courses at the intermediate level or above (9 cr)
- Two non-language courses with the ASN attribute (6 cr)

Program Notes:

- Courses taken as part of a study abroad may be counted.
- One internship course may be counted.
- Coursework must be done on more than one country in Asia and in more than one discipline.
GIS: Cultural Studies (18 credits) (GCST)

Six courses with the CST attribute for a minimum of 18 credits, of which the following must be included:

Required Specialization Courses:

- CST 2100: Introduction to Cultural Studies (3 cr)
- Three Core Courses, one from each of the following three categories (9 cr):

Program Notes:

- Courses taken as part of a study abroad may be counted.
- One internship course may be counted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item #</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CST 2100</td>
<td>Intro. to Cultural Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GCST Core Courses</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GIS: Irish Studies (15 credits) (GIST)

Required Specialization Courses:

Five courses with the IS attribute for a minimum of 15 credits, of which the following must be included:

Program Notes:

- Courses taken as part of a study abroad may be counted.
- One internship course may be counted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item #</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IS 1121 or IS 2222</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENG 2450 or ENG 2500</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIS 3216 or HIS 2286</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IS Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IS Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GIS: Russian Area Studies (18 credits) (GRAS)

Six courses for a minimum of 18 credits, of which the following must be included:

Required Specialization Courses:

- Two Russian language courses at the intermediate (6 cr)
- Four Courses with the RAS attribute for a minimum of 12 credits (12 cr)

Program Notes:

- Up to two courses taken as part of a study abroad program may be counted.
GIS: Latin American Studies (18 credits) (GLAS)

Six courses with a minimum of 18 credits, of which the following must be included:

Required Specialization Courses:

- Four courses with the LAS attribute (12 cr minimum)
- Two advanced Spanish courses above 1122 (6 cr)

Program Notes:

- Courses taken as part of a study abroad may be counted.
- One internship course may be counted.