

GLOBAL AFFAIRS, MA

Banner Code: LA-MA-GLOA

Academic Advising

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The Global Affairs MA is an interdisciplinary program offering students the opportunity to engage in advanced study of a broad range of global issues. Students complete a core curriculum that provides the knowledge and skills to think and act globally. Students also pursue specializations that include relevant courses from academic departments across the university. All students in the program take part in a residency abroad, typically two weeks in duration, and complete a capstone seminar. Graduates enter the workforce or move forward in their already-established international and domestic careers in the public sector, non-governmental organizations, and business.

This is a Green Leaf program (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/student-services/green-leaf-programs-courses/>).

Admissions & Policies

Admissions

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in Graduate Admissions (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/admissions/graduate-policies/>). For specific information, see Application Requirements and Deadlines (<http://globalaffairs.gmu.edu/programs/application/LA-MA-GLOA/>) on the departmental website.

Policies

For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP.6 Graduate Policies (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/>).

Students who wish to pursue study abroad in addition to the required core course GLOA 710 Seminar Abroad must receive prior approval and may not use more than 3 credits earned while abroad towards their specialization. A maximum of 3 credits of GLOA 695 Internship can be applied to the specialization.

Students must maintain a 3.00 cumulative grade point average with no more than two grades below B.

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Total credits: 30

This is a Green Leaf program.

Students should be aware of the specific policies associated with this program, located on the Admissions & Policies tab.

Core Courses

Code	Title	Credits
GLOA 600	Global Competencies	3
GLOA 605	Interdisciplinary Research Methods	3
GLOA 610	Economic Globalization and Development	3
GLOA 615	Case Studies in Globalization	3
GLOA 710	Seminar Abroad	3
Total Credits		15

Specialization

Students choose to specialize in one of eight fields by completing 12 credits in that field selected from the courses listed. The specialization is developed in consultation with an advisor. Students who wish to design their own specialization must submit a one-page proposal and receive written approval from the director.

- Global Conflict and Security
- Global Culture and Society
- Global Economics and Development
- Global Education
- Global Governance and Public Management
- Global Health
- Global Media and Information Technology
- Global Population and Geography

Global Conflict and Security

Code	Title	Credits
GLOA 615	Case Studies in Globalization (different topic from that meeting core requirement)	3
or GLOA 599	Issues in Global Affairs	
Select 9 credits from the following:		9
BIOD 610	Advanced Topics in Global Health Security (minimum of 3 credits)	
BIOD 621	Ethics and International Security	
BIOD 705	Intelligence: Theory and Practice	
BIOD 706	Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Weapons Policy and Security	
BIOD 709	Nonproliferation and Arms Control	
BIOD 722	Examining Terrorist Groups	
BIOD 725	Terrorism and Weapons of Mass Destruction	
CONF 501	Introduction to Conflict Analysis and Resolution	
CONF 652	Conflict Analysis and Resolution for Prevention, Reconstruction, and Stabilization Contexts	
CONF 653	World Religions, Diplomacy, and Conflict Resolution	
CONF 658	Diversity and Difference in Conflict Analysis and Resolution	
CONF 659	Leadership in Conflict Analysis and Resolution	

CONF 720	Ethnic and Cultural Factors in Conflict Resolution	
CONF 736	Globalization and International Conflict	
GOVT 742	International Negotiation	
GOVT 745	International Security	
PUAD 634	Management of International Security	
PUBP 650	International Conflict and Crisis Response	
PUBP 651	Peace and Stabilization Operations	
or other course approved by the program director		
Total Credits		12

Global Culture and Society

Code	Title	Credits
GLOA 615	Case Studies in Globalization (different topic from that meeting core requirement)	3
or GLOA 599	Issues in Global Affairs	
Select 9 credits from the following:		9
ANTH 580	Environmental Anthropology	
ANTH 635	Regional Ethnography	
ANTH 721	Culture, Power, and Conflict	
CONF 707	Gender and Violence	
CONF 720	Ethnic and Cultural Factors in Conflict Resolution	
ENGH 665	Seminar in Global Culture	
GOVT 530	Comparative Politics	
GOVT 725	Democratic Theory	
GOVT 739	Issues in Comparative and International Politics	
HIST 510	Approaches to Modern World History	
HIST 535	Problems in Global History	
HIST 615	Problems in American History	
MUSI 640	Topics in World Musics	
RELI 632	Interreligious Dialogue	
RELI 633	Issues in Religious Ethics	
SOCI 623	Racial and Ethnic Relations: American and Selected Global Perspectives	
SPMT 551	Sport in the Global Marketplace	
WMST 640	Transnational Issues of Gender and Race	
or other course approved by the program director		
Total Credits		12

Global Economics and Development

This specialization is best suited for students with an academic background in economics or for students who have taken microeconomics, macroeconomics, and calculus with a minimum grade of 3.00 in all three.

Code	Title	Credits
GLOA 615	Case Studies in Globalization (different topic from that meeting core requirement)	3
or GLOA 599	Issues in Global Affairs	
Select 9 credits from the following:		9
CONF 732	Conflict in Development	
ECON 611	Microeconomic Theory	
ECON 612	Microeconomic Theory II	

ECON 615	Macroeconomic Theory	
ECON 676	Comparative Economic Systems	
EVPP 642	Environmental Policy	
GCP 503	Macroeconomic Policy in the Global Economy	
GCP 504	Microeconomics and Trade Policy	
GCP 602	Global Financial Crises and Institutions	
GCP 603	Global Trade Relations	
GCP 701	Special Topics in International Commerce and Policy	
GCP 767	Political Economy and Integration in Latin America	
GOVT 743	International Political Economy	
POGO 730	Global Development and Human Security	
PUAD 504	Managing in the International Arena: Theory and Practice	
Total Credits		12

Global Education

Code	Title	Credits
GLOA 615	Case Studies in Globalization (different topic from that meeting core requirement)	3
or GLOA 599	Issues in Global Affairs	
Select 9 credits from the following:		9
EDUC 537	Introduction to Culturally Linguistically Diverse Learners	
EDUC 606	Education and Culture	
EDEP 550	Theories of Learning and Cognition	
EDEP 653	Culture and Intelligence	
ENGH 665	Seminar in Global Culture	
SOCI 845	Society and Education	
Or other course approved by the program director		
Total Credits		12

Global Governance and Public Management

Code	Title	Credits
GLOA 615	Case Studies in Globalization (different topic from that meeting core requirement)	3
or GLOA 599	Issues in Global Affairs	
Select 9 credits from the following:		9
BIOD 709	Nonproliferation and Arms Control	
GCP 701	Special Topics in International Commerce and Policy	
GCP 761	European Political and Economic Union	
GOVT 540	International Relations	
GOVT 631	Seminar in Comparative Politics and Institutions	
GOVT 741	Advanced Seminar in International Politics	
GOVT 742	International Negotiation	
PUAD 636	The NGO: Policy and Management	
PUAD 701	Cross-Cultural and Ethical Dimensions of International Management	
PUBP 502	Governance and Policy Processes	
PUBP 700	Theory and Practice in Public Policy	

PUBP 783	Global Governance	
Or other course approved by the program director		

Total Credits 12

Global Health

Code	Title	Credits
GLOA 615	Case Studies in Globalization (different topic from that meeting core requirement)	3
or GLOA 599	Issues in Global Affairs	
Select 9 credits from the following:		9

COMM 705	Intercultural Health and Risk Communication	
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GCH 543	Global Health	
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GCH 560	Environmental Health	
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GCH 571	HIV/AIDS: Concepts, Principles, and Interventions	
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GCH 611	Health Program Planning and Evaluation (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
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GCH 640	Global Infectious Diseases	
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GCH 645	U.S. and Global Public Health Systems	
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GG5 540	Health Geography	
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HAP 609	Comparative International Health Systems	
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NUTR 630	Global Nutrition	
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PUBP 757	Public Policy in Global Health and Medical Practice	
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PUBP 758	Global Threats and Medical Policies	
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Or other course approved by the program director

Total Credits 12

Global Media and Information Technology

Code	Title	Credits
GLOA 615	Case Studies in Globalization (different topic from that meeting core requirement)	3
or GLOA 599	Issues in Global Affairs	
Select 9 credits from the following:		9

COMM 630	Theories of Public Relations	
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GCP 604	New Technologies in the Global Economy	
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GCP 701	Special Topics in International Commerce and Policy	
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PUBP 503	Culture, Organization, and Technology	
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PUBP 726	Telecommunications Policy	
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PUBP 736	International Migration and Public Policy	
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Or other course approved by the program director

Total Credits 12

Global Population and Geography

Code	Title	Credits
GLOA 615	Case Studies in Globalization (different topic from that meeting core requirement)	3
or GLOA 599	Issues in Global Affairs	
Select 9 credits from the following:		9

ANTH 580	Environmental Anthropology	
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GG5 505	Transportation Geography	
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GG5 533	Issues in Regional Geography	
GG5 540	Health Geography	
GG5 550	Geospatial Science Fundamentals	
GG5 590	Selected Topics in Geography	
GG5 631	Spatial Agent-Based Models of Human-Environment Interactions	
PUBP 754	Geographic Information Systems and Spatial Analysis for Public Policy	
SOCW 653	Immigration Policy	
Or other course approved by the program director		

Total Credits 12

Capstone Seminar

Code	Title	Credits
GLOA 720	Capstone Research Seminar	3

Total Credits 3

Dual Degree Options

Students interested in pursuing a dual master's program linking foreign languages or global affairs with a discipline other than that listed below should discuss their interest with the graduate program directors of both programs and review the university policies in AP.6.9.6 (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-9-6>).

Foreign Languages, MA and Global Affairs, MA Dual Degree

The Department of Foreign Languages (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/modern-classical-languages/foreign-languages-ma/#text>) and the Global Affairs Program (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/global-affairs/global-affairs-ma/#text>) offer a dual master's program where a student can earn both a Foreign languages MA (concentration in French, Spanish, or Spanish-bilingual/multicultural education) and the Global Affairs MA in a minimum of 48 credits rather than the minimum of 60 credits. This program is governed by university policy AP.6.9.6 (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-9-6>).

Application Requirements

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in Graduate Admissions (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/admissions/graduate-policies/>). For information specific to this dual master's program see Application Requirements and Deadlines (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/programs/>).

Requirements

Students pursuing a dual master's program linking the Foreign Languages MA with a concentration in French, Spanish, or Spanish bilingual/multicultural education with the Global Affairs MA can share 12 credits between the two programs.

Students interested in pursuing a dual master's program linking global affairs or interdisciplinary studies (concentration in women and gender studies) with a discipline other than that listed below should discuss their interest with the graduate program directors of both programs and review the university policies in AP.6.9.6.

Global Affairs, MA and Interdisciplinary Studies, MAIS (concentration in women and gender studies) Dual Degree

The Global Affairs and Interdisciplinary Studies Programs offer a dual master's program where a student can earn both a Global Affairs MA and the Interdisciplinary Studies MAIS (concentration in women and gender studies) in 54 credits rather than 66 credits. This program is governed by university policy AP.6.9.6 (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-9-6>)

Application Requirements

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in Graduate Admissions. For information specific to this dual master's program see Application Requirements and Deadlines (<https://globalaffairs.gmu.edu/programs/la-dual-gloa-mais-wgst/application/>).

Requirements

Total credits: 54

Required Global Affairs Courses

Code	Title	Credits
GLOA 600	Global Competencies	3
GLOA 610	Economic Globalization and Development	3
GLOA 615	Case Studies in Globalization	3
GLOA 710	Seminar Abroad	3
Select three courses from the chosen specialization for the global affairs MA		9
Total Credits		21

Required Women and Gender Studies Courses

Code	Title	Credits
WMST 630	Feminist Theories	3
WMST 640	Transnational Issues of Gender and Race	3
Select one course in critical race studies from the following:		3
INTS 537	Critical Race Studies	
INTS 538	Representations of Race	
INTS 539	Genealogy of Black Feminist Thought	
or INTS 541	Policing Black Bodies	
WMST 516	Policing Black Bodies	
WMST 550	Current Topics in Women and Gender Studies	
WMST 600	Special Topics	
Select one course in bodies and sexualities from the following:		3
WMST 504	Gender, Sexuality, and Disability	
WMST 550	Current Topics in Women and Gender Studies	
WMST 602	Queer Theory	
Select one course in transnational and global perspectives from the following:		3
WMST 507	Transnational Sexualities	
WMST 608	Gender, Sexuality, and Human Rights	
WMST 509	Sexuality, Race, and Immigration	

SOCI 804	Sociology of Globalization	
EDUC 892	Social Justice and Equity in International Education	
Select 9 credits in elective courses chosen from the following and not used to fulfill another requirement:		9
WMST 504	Gender, Sexuality, and Disability	
WMST 507	Transnational Sexualities	
WMST 509	Sexuality, Race, and Immigration	
WMST 550	Current Topics in Women and Gender Studies	
WMST 600	Special Topics	
WMST 602	Queer Theory	
WMST 608	Gender, Sexuality, and Human Rights	
WMST 695	Internship	
Total Credits		24

Required Methods Course

Code	Title	Credits
Select one from the following:		3
GLOA 605	Interdisciplinary Research Methods	
WMST 610	Feminist Research Methods	
Total Credits		3

Capstone

Code	Title	Credits
Select one of the following:		3
GLOA 720	Capstone Research Seminar	
MAIS 793	Integrated Learning Experience	
Total Credits		3

Project or Thesis

Code	Title	Credits
Select one of the following:		3
MAIS 798	Interdisciplinary Studies Project (take 3 credits)	
MAIS 799	Interdisciplinary Studies Thesis (take 3 credits)	
Total Credits		3

Total Credits: 54

Accelerated Master's

Bachelor's Degree (any)/Global Affairs, Accelerated MA

Overview

Highly qualified undergraduates may be admitted to the bachelor's/accelerated master's program and obtain a BA/BS in a chosen major and an MA in Global Affairs in an accelerated time-frame after satisfactory completion of a minimum of 138 credits.

See AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degree (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-7>) for policies related to this program.

Students in an accelerated degree program must fulfill all university requirements for the master's degree. For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP.6 Graduate Policies (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/>).

BAM Pathway Admission Requirements

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in Graduate Admissions Policies (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/admissions/graduate-policies/>) and Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degree policies (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-7>). For information specific to the accelerated MA in global affairs, see Application Requirements and Deadlines (<https://globalaffairs.gmu.edu/programs/LA-MA-ACEL-gloa/>) on the departmental website.

Students will be considered for admission into the BAM Pathway after completion of a minimum of 60 credits, and after meeting the following:

- Minimum overall GPA of 3.25
- Enrolled in or have completed a foreign language course 202 or higher with a minimum grade of C- prior to graduation with the BA (or other evidence of proficiency in foreign language).

Students who are accepted in the BAM Pathway will be allowed to register for graduate level courses after successful completion of a minimum of 75 undergraduate credits.

Accelerated Master's Admission Requirements

Students already admitted in the BAM Pathway will be admitted to the MA program, if they have met the following criteria, as verified on the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition form:

- Minimum overall GPA of 3.25
- Successfully met Mason's requirements for undergraduate degree conferral (graduation) and completed the application for graduation.

Accelerated Pathway Requirements

To maintain the integrity and quality of both the undergraduate and graduate degree programs, undergraduate students interested in taking graduate courses must choose from the following:

Code	Title	Credits
Advanced Standing courses (up to 12 credits)		
Required Course		
GLOA 600	Global Competencies	3
Additional Optional Courses		
GLOA 610	Economic Globalization and Development	3
GLOA 615	Case Studies in Globalization ¹	3
GLOA 599	Issues in Global Affairs ²	1-6
Other specialization course after GLOA 600 and GLOA 605 have been completed with the permission of the program.		
Reserve Graduate Credit courses (up to 6 credits) taken while an undergraduate and will only count for the graduate degree program		
GLOA 599	Issues in Global Affairs ²	1-6
GLOA 605	Interdisciplinary Research Methods	3
GLOA 615	Case Studies in Globalization	3

500- or 600-level courses approved for student's specialization

1

First 3 credits taken to fulfill the GLOA 615 requirement. May be repeated one time for another 3 credits as a specialization course, with permission of program.

2

As a specialization course.

For more detailed information on coursework and timeline requirements see AP.6.7 Bachelor's Accelerated Master's Degree (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-7>) policies.

Program Outcomes

Program Outcomes

- Students will be able to develop an original research question based on knowledge gained through coursework and extra-curricular experiences that is relevant to global studies.
- Students will be able to apply theoretical frameworks from multiple disciplines to analyze issues and challenges relevant to globalization.
- Students will be able to summarize key questions or issues in globalization and global studies.
- Students will be able to identify and break down assumptions made about global processes or dynamics.
- Students will be able to evaluate global ethical, social, and environmental problems and challenges and the influence of human actions on them and to use necessary analytical skills to propose appropriate solutions.
- Students will be able to demonstrate familiarity with qualitative and quantitative research methods prominent in the social sciences.
- Students will be able to construct an informed research project and to conduct research in an ethical manner.
- Students will be able to synthesize information from various credible sources and present information clearly and concisely in written or oral forms that are understandable for the audience.