Globalization, or the integration of the different peoples and cultures of the world through actions and communications, has proceeded at such a rapid pace that the world has become almost one ‘global village’. Countries and other actors in the international system have become dependent upon one another regardless of geography and nationalities. Consequently, international issues have become a major part of nearly every area of study — and an important educational need of any student planning to play an active role in our society.

Thus, the International Studies program is designed to study global and regional problems from an interdisciplinary perspective. Related activities help to broaden students’ international horizons and assist them in the development of expertise in their area of interest.

Why International Studies at Illinois Wesleyan?

• Choose a Geographic Area Concentration (Africa, Asia, Latin America, Russia and Eastern Europe or Western Europe) or a Functional Area Concentration (Developmental Studies or Diplomatic Studies).

• Study global and regional problems from an interdisciplinary perspective: the program pulls together courses from anthropology, economics, English, the languages, history, philosophy, political science, sociology, religion and other disciplines.

• Supplement your education with numerous study abroad options. Nearly half of IWU students study abroad for a semester, full year or May Term, and students have the opportunity to study in hundreds of locations in over 75 countries.

• Explore several disciplines that address the cultural, economic, historical, political and social problems which transcend national boundaries. This exploration will serve the educational and career needs of students who are interested in studying issues from a transnational perspective, and who are planning careers international organizations, foundations and agencies of the public and private sectors.

Learning from Across Academic Disciplines

• Scott Sheridan, Professor of French and Italian and Director of International Studies
  Ph.D. — University of Iowa
  Areas of interest include Childhood and Globalization, stereotypes of foreigners and identity, Nineteenth Century French Studies, Francophone literature of Quebec, Africa and the Caribbean, and art history/interarts discourse.

A Sampling of Courses Available for the International Studies Program

- International Studies 240: Introduction to International Studies
- International Studies 322: International Human Rights
- International Studies 488: Senior Seminar
- History 122: Modern Global History
- Economics 352: International Finance
- Environmental Studies 360: Comparative Environmental Politics
- Religion 204: Native American and African Religions
- Business 451: International Business
- Anthropology/Environmental Studies 274: Peoples and Cultures of East Africa
- French 317: French Civilization III: France Since the Revolution
- German 417: Beyond the Wall: German Culture Since 1989
- English 249: Writing in the Third World
- Religion 307: Voodoo Santaría and Candomblé
- Anthropology 355: Race, Racism and Anthropology
- Religion 330: Buddhism in India and Tibet
- History 243: Colonial Identity in the Atlantic World

—continues
The International Studies Program is designed to help students develop a comprehensive framework for studying different countries, regions, and issues in the world. The faculty involved with the program prepare students for responsible citizenship and leadership in our global community.

Students have the opportunity to work with faculty on special research projects that can lead to their participation in research conferences as well as give them the opportunity to write research honors projects. All of the students are required to study abroad — their on-hand knowledge of different cultures makes them active and engaged global citizens.”

Scott Sheridan
Director of the International Studies Program

Putting Learning into Practice

- Each spring two first-year or sophomore students travel to Japan cost-free for two weeks as part of the Technos International Week. The itinerary includes a four-day program at Technos International College, tours of the City of Tokyo, villages, country sides and a mountain resort.
- Graduates pursue additional study at renowned institutions including American University, Georgetown, University of Chicago, Johns Hopkins, and Rotary International.
- Alumni have careers with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Dept. of Justice, Dept. of State, the non-profit sector, and in law, banking, consulting, hotel management, marketing and education.

- Marina Balina, Isaac Funk Professor and Professor of Russian Studies
  Ph.D. — University of Leningrad
  Research involves Soviet children’s literature, particularly fairy tales. She teaches all levels of Russian language, as well as numerous courses in Russian literature and culture in translation.

- Christopher Callahan, Professor of French
  Ph.D. — Indiana University
  Dr. Callahan is both a linguist and medievalist. He brings expertise in phonetics, translation and medieval lyric poetry to the program.

- Daynali Flores-Rodriguez, Assistant Professor of Hispanic Studies
  Ph.D. — University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana
  Specializes in Caribbean and U.S. Latino/a Studies.

- Thomas D. Lutze, Professor of History
  Ph.D. — University of Wisconsin-Madison
  Specializes in Asian history and teaches a wide variety of courses ranging from introductory surveys of China and Japan to focused courses on 20th Century Asia, including WWII in the Pacific, the Chinese Revolution, modern Japan, and the Vietnam War.

- Rebecca Mafazy, Professor of Anthropology
  Ph.D. — University of Florida
  Research is on non-western music and dance performance traditions. Her area of interest is East Africa.

- W. Michael Weis, Professor of History
  Ph.D. — The Ohio State University
  Specializes in U.S. foreign relations, recent U.S. history, and Latin American history, with a special interest in Brazil.

- William Munro, Professor of Political Science
  Ph.D. — Yale University
  Research interests include the politics of state formation and development in the global south as well as popular organizations in the international food economy.

ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

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