Bachelor of Global and International Studies
An abiding strength of Carleton University is its long tradition of study and research focusing on international problems and perspectives. As Canada’s Capital University, Carleton offers faculty and students opportunities uniquely linked to its location in Ottawa by providing access to a wide range of national and international institutions, associations and agencies.

Carleton’s Bachelor of Global and International Studies (BGInS) program takes advantage of Carleton’s strengths and location to provide an undergraduate education in global and international issues that can give you an advantage in today’s job market. The program has four interconnected components. The core course sequence provides all students with a common multidisciplinary foundation in global and international studies. The 13 specializations cover specific international and global themes or geographical areas, giving you the opportunity to focus your studies according to your interests. A second-language requirement and an international experience requirement are included so that you can graduate not only with new knowledge and skills, but also a transformed worldview.

The Carleton advantage
Over 80 faculty members from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and the Faculty of Public Affairs participate in the BGInS program. These faculty members include experts in a wide variety of topics related to global and international studies as well as specialists in a number of different world regions. Carleton is home to the Arthur Kroeger College of Public Affairs (the administrative home of the BGInS program), the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs (the pre-eminent graduate school of international affairs in Canada), and numerous other departments, schools and institutes with an international focus, including the Institute of African Studies and Institute of European, Russian and Eurasian Studies. Programs as varied as geography, film studies, and religion also offer credit courses taught at international locations.

The capital advantage
Where better to study the world and the relationships among its peoples than Ottawa, the national capital of Canada? The seat of the Canadian federal government, the city is home to many of
the country’s internationally-oriented institutions, including the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development. Ottawa is a thriving cosmopolitan centre where you will find a multitude of embassies, consulates, international agencies, scientific and cultural institutions, and national and local non-governmental organizations (NGOs), as well as a large concentration of globally oriented high-tech firms.

Global and international perspectives
The BGInS program draws upon the two distinct but interrelated concepts of the “international” and the “global.” Scholars with an “international” focus tend to look at the world in and through the nation-state. They address issues relating to economics, law and politics, the international state system, and associated issues of trade, human rights and conflict.

Scholars with a “global” focus look primarily at the shifting meanings of identity and belonging in the global community, especially in the face of the many changes wrought by globalization. They draw upon insights from the humanities (literature, religion, history and the arts) to look at the world outside and beyond the state, while problematizing the distinction of state and society in multiple ways.

The BGInS program is the first in Canada to emphasize both global and international approaches to the study of the world. It places these two viewpoints in creative tension with each other, allowing students to acquire a nuanced understanding of the world in which we live. It is multidisciplinary in that it examines the world through many different disciplinary perspectives; it is interdisciplinary in that it places these disciplinary perspectives in creative dialogue with each other.

Core courses
All BGInS students are required to take the core course sequence, which provides them with a strong multidisciplinary foundation in global and international studies:

**FIRST YEAR**
- Global History
- International Law and Politics
- Ethnography, Globalization and Culture

**SECOND YEAR**
- Ethics and Globalization
- Globalization and International Economic Issues
- Global Literatures

**THIRD YEAR**
- Global and International Theory
- Places, Boundaries, Movements, and Global Environmental Change

**FOURTH YEAR**
- Honours Seminar in Global and International Studies

Specializations
Specializations allow students to acquire deeper knowledge in one area of global and international studies which interests them. All students entering the BGInS program must select one specialization at the time of admission, although it is possible to change specializations after entering the program. 10 of the 13 specializations are thematically defined, while the other three are defined in terms of geographic areas of the world. Half the specializations are multidisciplinary, drawing on several academic disciplines to explore a theme or geographic area; the rest of the specializations are disciplinary, exploring the global and international dimension of a single academic discipline. The following list will give you an idea of the focus of each specialization; disciplinary associations and sponsoring academic units for each specialization are also indicated.

Studying the world from Carleton University

“The Institute of African Studies has given me diversity within my education. I have been lucky to participate in the study abroad course that went to South Africa to learn about healthcare, and an exchange year and placement course with a professor at the University of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania. The opportunities and experiences are incredible!”

Alana Dunbar, BA/14 in African Studies and English (photo taken on Jambiani Beach in Zanzibar)
AFRICA AND GLOBALIZATION  
(Multidisciplinary: Institute of African Studies)

African peoples, cultures, societies, places and histories have been deeply affected by the global world, while also actively contributing to it. In this multidisciplinary specialization you will study a wide range of issues as they apply to Africa, including democratization, human rights, international development, cultural change, migration and refugees, colonialism and postcolonialism, and social justice. You will also acquire an understanding of the larger issues of the politics of development and the relationship between the global north and south. This specialization is administered by the Institute of African Studies, which is the only stand-alone, degree-granting, institute devoted to the study of Africa in Canada.

EUROPE AND RUSSIA IN THE WORLD  
(Multidisciplinary: Institute of European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies)

Europe and Russia have played and continue to play an important role in shaping the world. Taught by top experts in their fields, students in this interdisciplinary specialization will study the region’s history, society, politics, economics, language, and culture, placing them in a broader global context. The program’s geographic scope is unique in treating Europe, Russia, and Eurasia together, highlighting the considerable social, cultural, economic, and political ties that span the region. You may focus your studies on particular countries, a set of countries, or regional institutions such as the European Union. You may also study thematic issues that affect the region such as migration, transnational civil society, trade, EU enlargement, foreign policy, and the impact of globalization on identity politics. The specialization is championed by the Institute of European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies, one of Canada’s oldest area studies programs that works closely with Carleton’s Centre for European Studies, a European Union Centre of Excellence.

GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT  
(Multidisciplinary: Department of Economics)

At Carleton, students pursuing the Global Development specialization will gain a multidisciplinary perspective on this broad and important field by taking foundational courses in anthropology, economics, geography, and political science. The program’s core courses together with a rich selection of electives will help students understand the way the world is unfolding in the face of increasingly urgent challenges from climate change to human security to global epidemics. This specialization will be of particular interest to students who aspire to work on development issues in various government departments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and certain types of companies operating internationally.

“My professors in Global Politics (GPOL) gave me the tools and experiences that put me a step ahead of the competition, and as a result I started working with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Bangladesh right out of my undergrad. I’ve since gone on to consult independently for UNDP and pursue my ambitions in public service, social action and writing, drawing all along from the toolbox of skills GPOL helped me to develop. The GPOL community of alumni has also been invaluable, giving me contacts across the globe and a good number of friendships too!”

Tyler Amos, BA/13 in Global Politics
GLOBAL LAW AND SOCIAL JUSTICE  
(Disciplinary: Department of Law and Legal Studies)

A key feature of the late-twentieth and early-twenty first centuries is the emergence of law as a technology for governing global identities and for framing global issues. Legal recognition and law reform are increasingly relied upon as instruments to both imagine and manage global issues and identities. This specialization focuses attention on this critical facet of globalization. You will learn about the institutional structures, objectives, and history of global law, covering topics such as immigration, trade, human rights and armed conflict.

GLOBAL LITERATURES  
(Disciplinary: Department of English)

In the twenty-first century, literature has become one of the most compelling ways to enter into the many cultural worlds that converge in contemporary societies. This BGlNS specialization responds to the dramatic rise and transformation of global literatures since the era of decolonization by exploring the following questions: How do writers express experiences of living in multiple national communities? How do we understand colonialism, diaspora and migration through literature? How can we reimagine the study of literature as a transnational and global field rather than one that is bounded by national borders? Building from the commitment of the English department to a wide range of global literatures and approaches, the specialization offers students the rich experience of looking at these literatures in dialogue with other interdisciplinary contexts in global studies.

GLOBAL MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION  
(Disciplinary: School of Journalism and Communication)

Media and communication technologies are engines of globalization, and shape the rapidly changing social, political, economic and cultural environments in which we live. Global media and communication affect how we access, share and exchange information, how we work, and how we see the world and our places in it. They transform relations between states and blur the boundaries (real and imagined) separating people and communities. In this specialization you will explore global media and communication in historical and contemporary contexts, drawing on a range of perspectives that will provide the knowledge and skills necessary for working in global and international settings as communicators, researchers, analysts or advocates.

GLOBAL POLITICS  
(Disciplinary: Department of Political Science)

Acquire the knowledge necessary for an engagement with the critical dimensions of global politics. This specialization takes a problem-focused and applied approach to the study of global political issues such as economic relations and the gap between rich and poor, democracy and its economic and political benefits, human rights and the different emphasis placed upon rights by different societies, war and peace, ethnic conflicts around the world, and the politics of the environment. You will gain the skills and experience necessary to better understand and engage in the myriad of arenas in which global politics takes place, including the United Nations, development banks, civil society organizations, refugee organizations, international NGOs and others.

GLOBAL AND TRANSNATIONAL HISTORY  
(Disciplinary: Department of History)

Study the global community from 1400 to the present, exploring how global connections, movements, and trends have shaped our world, with a particular focus on the non-western world. This specialization covers topics such as the nature of global interactions, major historical encounters across geographical regions, regional histories, and the dialogue between forces of global integration and a diversity of local sources of knowledge. You will gain skills in research, conceptualization, interpretation, and communication in global history and a complex understanding of the causes and consequences of the making of the modern world.
GLOBALIZATION, CULTURE, AND POWER  
(Disciplinary; Department of Anthropology and Sociology)

The discipline of Anthropology offers conceptual and methodological tools to frame the concepts of “culture” and “global” in the context of globalization processes, shedding light on issues such as cultural survival; shifting racialized, gendered, ethnic and national identities; and cultural meanings. This specialization will allow you to use Anthropology to understand globalizing processes as deeply historical and spatially situated and to become conversant with the intersection of globalization with economic inequality, ecological vulnerabilities, colonial legacies, health practices and institutions, and new visions of human rights.

GLOBALIZATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT  
(Multidisciplinary; Department of Geography and Environmental Studies)

Are you interested in global environmental issues like climate change? This specialization looks at global processes and their impact on the environment, focusing attention on the emergence of the environment as a key theme of globalization. You will have the opportunity to develop an integrated understanding of global environmental issues, processes, patterns and solutions, as well as a skill set for conducting a critical analysis of current approaches to these issues and methods to implement and effect change. You will examine global biophysical systems and human-environment interactions, and you can also choose areas of interest within the specialization (such as human geography, urban networks, global environmental politics, sustainability or environmental change).

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY  
(Disciplinary; Department of Economics)

This disciplinary specialization provides a good general understanding of the economic forces invoked by government intervention and helps students gain familiarity with current best evidence on the magnitude of these forces. The program’s relatively non-technical approach will give students with diverse backgrounds the opportunity to learn about issues related to economic globalization, international and public-sector economics, and the ways in which associated challenges might be resolved for the improvement of people’s well-being. This specialization will be of particular interest to students who aspire to work in economic policy institutions such as central banks, government finance ministries, trade policy institutions, financial regulatory agencies, macroeconomic think tanks, and international lending institutions.

LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN STUDIES  
(Multidisciplinary; Institute of Interdisciplinary Studies)

The geopolitical region of Latin America and the Caribbean has emerged as a key area of interest for Canadians. The growing ties between the two regions is shown
in the rise in trade and investment relations as well as migrant flows. Furthermore, the complex biodiversity, history and cultures of the area invite new approaches to understanding sustainable development, democracy, human rights, cultural diversity and new forms of cooperation. This specialization addresses all of these issues, and will provide you with an understanding of this dynamic and culturally rich part of the world and its engagement in the global arena.

**MIGRATION AND DIASPORA STUDIES**

(*Multidisciplinary: Migration and Diaspora Studies Initiative*)

We live in a world on the move. Not only are there more than 200 million people now living outside their country of their birth, but new technologies have allowed for the movement of ideas around the world and connections between communities like never before. Behind the statistics are the lived realities of migrants themselves, the contributions they make to their new societies and the links that they sustain with their countries and communities of origin. This multidisciplinary specialization is the first undergraduate program in Canada to bring together a broad spectrum of academic understandings of human mobility from the social sciences and humanities. It will provide you with knowledge of the social, economic, political, and cultural implications of the movement of peoples, and focus on key areas of interest in Migration and Diaspora Studies such as citizenship, cosmopolitanism, diversity, exile, integration, refugee communities and transnational identities.

**Language requirement**

A basic requirement for engaging with the world is the ability to speak in more than one language. For this reason, the BGInS program expects students to pass a second-language requirement. Those incoming students who do not have skills in a second language can take courses offered by our School of Linguistics and Language Studies (SLaLS) or our Department of French. Options include Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish. Those incoming students who already possess second-language skills may “test out” of this requirement. Understanding another language will not only help you become a culturally literate global citizen, but may also enhance your future employment prospects.

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“I have always looked upon my studies at Carleton University as an essential foundation for my career. I completed a BA in Political Science in 2010 and an MA in European, Russian and Eurasian Studies (EURUS) in 2013. Both programs provided unique funding and travel opportunities including three study-abroad experiences in St. Petersburg, Russia; Tampere, Finland; and in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, while also allowing me to travel extensively through Europe, Central Asia and within Canada. These have been profoundly enriching experiences that have helped propel my professional career including being selected as a Short-Term Observer for the OSCE Election Observation Mission to Ukraine in May 2014. My education at Carleton is invaluable to me and has strengthened my skillset and expertise as a young professional and academic.”

Chris Manor, BA/10, MA/13
International experience
It is one thing to study a part of the world, and another to live there. For this reason, the BGInS program features an international experience requirement as an integral part of the program. You can fulfill this requirement by studying abroad on a letter of permission, studying abroad under one of Carleton's international exchange agreements, undertaking an international work placement, completing a Carleton University course taught abroad or taking our innovative internationalization @ home course. Many students find studying abroad to be an enriching, even life-transforming experience. As well, current research shows that students who have studied abroad have a competitive advantage in the workplace.

Careers
A global perspective, intercultural understanding and second-language ability are increasingly important skills for success in the workplace. Graduates of the BGInS program will have acquired these skills through their experience of living overseas, their facility in a second language, and their knowledge of diversity and complexity in global social and cultural environments.

A BGInS degree can provide the foundation for careers in advertising, business, communications, foreign service, journalism, marketing, policy analysis, public relations, public service, sales and many other fields.

Graduate programs
The strong training in global and international studies that BGInS offers will make you a competitive applicant for a wide range of graduate programs, including both multidisciplinary programs in international affairs or public policy and programs in the various disciplines which contribute to BGInS. If you think that you may wish to pursue an advanced degree, you are encouraged to investigate graduate programs early in order to ensure that your program is suited to meet the relevant graduate-level requirements.

Admission requirements
For admission to the Bachelor of Global and International Studies (Honours) program, you must have the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) or equivalent including a minimum of six 4U/M courses. The six 4U/M courses must include a 4U course in English (or Anglais). Minimum cut-off range is 73-76%.

It is Carleton University policy to consider your best performance in any eligible course in the admissions assessment. Since the number of qualified applicants may be greater than the number of available spaces, cut-off averages and required marks may vary. Please refer to our website at admissions.carleton.ca/requirements for the current admission requirements.

Special thanks to the following Carleton student photographers:
Julia Lim, cover photo (Grand Palace in Bangkok, Thailand)
Madina Hilowle, page one photo (Manarola, Italy)
James McRae, page five photo (Kingdom of Bhutan, Himalayas)