GLOBAL AFFAIRS (GLBL)

GLBL 101a, Gateway to Global Affairs  Emma Sky
Collaboration between faculty and practitioners to discuss key topics and themes related to diplomacy, development, and defense.  SO

GLBL 121a, Applied Quantitative Analysis  Justin Thomas
This course is an introduction to statistics and their application in public policy and global affairs research. Throughout the term we cover issues related to data collection (including surveys, sampling, and weighted data), data description (graphical and numerical techniques for summarizing data), probability and probability distributions, confidence intervals, hypothesis testing, measures of association, and regression analysis. The course assumes no prior knowledge of statistics and no mathematical knowledge beyond calculus.  QR

GLBL 159b / ECON 159b, Game Theory  Marina Halac
An introduction to game theory and strategic thinking. Ideas such as dominance, backward induction, Nash equilibrium, evolutionary stability, commitment, credibility, asymmetric information, adverse selection, and signaling are applied to games played in class and to examples drawn from economics, politics, the movies, and elsewhere. After introductory microeconomics. No prior knowledge of game theory assumed.  QR, SO

GLBL 18b / EP&E 231b / PLSC 346b, Game Theory and International Relations  Alex Debs
Introduction to game theory and its applications in political science and economics, with a focus on international relations. Standard solution concepts in game theory; case studies from important episodes in the history of international relations, including World War II, the Cuban missile crisis, and the 2003 U.S.-led invasion of Iraq. Recommended preparation: introductory microeconomics.  QR, SO

GLBL 193a / HLTH 240a, Epidemiology and Public Health  Marney White
A general introduction to epidemiology and the field of public health. Methods of epidemiological investigation, research, and practice. Emphasis on study design and the skills necessary for the conduct of mentored field research. Priority to Global Health Fellows.

* GLBL 195b / PLSC 341b, The Logic of Randomized Experiments in Political Science  Alexander Coppock
Instruction in the design, execution, and analysis of randomized experiments for businesses, nonprofits, political organizations, and social scientists. Students learn to evaluate the impact of real-world interventions on well-defined political, economic, and social outcomes. Specific focus on randomized experimentation through field and survey experiments, with design and analysis principles extending to lab and so-called 'natural' experiments. Any introductory probability or statistics course.  QR

GLBL 201b / AMST 228b / HIST 128b, Origins of U.S. Global Power  David Engerman
This course examines the causes and the consequences of American global power in the “long 20th century,” pecking back briefly into the 19th century as well as forward into the present one. The focus is on foreign relations, which includes but is not limited to foreign policy; indeed, America's global role was rooted as much in its economic and cultural power as it was in diplomacy and military strength. We study events like wars, crises, treaties, and summits—but also trade shows and movie openings. Our principal subjects include plenty of State Department officials, but also missionaries, business people, and journalists. We pay close attention also to conceptions of American power; how did observers in and beyond the United States understand the nature, origins, and operations of American power?  HU

GLBL 203a, Globalization and Domestic Politics  Didac Queralt
Examination of the political and institutional conditions that explain why some politicians and interest groups (e.g. lobbies, unions, voters, NGOs) prevail over others in crafting foreign policy. Consideration of traditional global economic exchange (trade, monetary policy and finance) as well as new topics in the international political economy (IPE), such as migration and environmental policy.

GLBL 207a / HIST 104a, The World Circa 2000  Daniel Magaziner and Samuel Moyn
The World Circa 2000 is a global history of the present since ~ 1960. The course moves thematically to consider topics including, decolonization and nation building in the global south, crises of nationalism and recurrent authoritarianism, the politics of aid, humanitarianism and neo-liberalism, technophilia, environmentalism and networked societies, climate change and ‘free trade,’ new religious fundamentalisms and imagined solidarities, celebrity, individuality, and consumerism in China, the United States, and beyond.  HU

* GLBL 215a / LAST 386a / MGRK 237a / PLSC 375a / SOCY 389a, Populism  Paris Aslanidis
Investigation of the populist phenomenon in party systems and the social movement arena. Conceptual, historical, and methodological analyses are supported by comparative assessments of various empirical instances in the US and around the world, from populist politicians such as Donald Trump and Bernie Sanders, to populist social movements such as the Tea Party and Occupy Wall Street.  SO

GLBL 219b / ECON 375b, Monetary Policy  William English
Introduction to modern macroeconomic models and how to use the models to examine some of the key issues that have faced monetary policymakers during and after the global financial crisis of 2008–2009. Prerequisites: Intermediate level macroeconomics (ECON 122 or 126) and introductory econometrics.  WR, SO

* GLBL 237a / ECON 185a, Global Economy  Aleh Tsyvinski
A global view of the world economy and the salient issues in the short and the long run. Economics of crises, fiscal policy, debt, inequality, global imbalances, climate change. The course is based on reading, debating, and applying cutting edge macroeconomic research.  SO
themes. Examples of effective law, consumer movements and corporate innovations provide optimism for the future of responsible food.

Ethical concerns of justice, equity, and transparency are prominent hazards, chemical contamination, food waste, dietary convergence, air pollution, energy, packaging, culinary globalization, and malnutrition, obesity, other food related human diseases, climate instability, soil loss, water depletion and contamination, microbial avoidance.

We explore relations among food, environment, health, and law. We consider global-scale manifestations. Also meets requirements for the Air Force and Naval ROTC programs.

A study of the military history of the West since 1500, with emphasis on the relationship between armies and navies on the one hand, and technology, economics, geography, and the rise of the modern nation-state on the other. The coming of airpower in its varied manifestations. Also meets requirements for the Air Force and Naval ROTC programs. 

We focus on laws that influence the world’s food system, including those intended to reduce or prevent environmental and health damages. Other laws protect rights of secrecy, property, speech, confidential business information, free trade, worker protection, equal opportunity, and freedom from discrimination. Ethical concerns of justice, equity, and transparency are prominent themes. Examples of effective law, consumer movements and corporate innovations provide optimism for the future of responsible food.
Examination of the impact of global politics and institutions on the commission, execution, prevention, and aftermath of mass atrocities.

* GLBL 284b / PLSC 167b, Mass Atrocities in Global Politics  
  David Simon

This course explores the role of the military in politics, with a focus on processes of democratization. It introduces students to concepts of civilian control, professionalization, and military intervention. The course introduces significant cases from twentieth-century history and surveys contemporary military politics. Topics include coups d’etat, responses to revolution, and democratic transition.

* GLBL 288b, Civil-Military Relations and Democratization  
  Nicholas Lotito

Examination of theoretical and empirical literature in response to questions about the insurgency and uneasy peace in Northern Ireland following the peace agreement of 1998 which formally ended the three-decade long civil conflict known widely as The Troubles and was often lauded as the most successful of its kind in modern history. Consideration of how both the conflict and the peace have been messier and arguably more divisive than most outside observers realize.

* GLBL 289a or b / HIST 245a or b / PLSC 431a or b, War and Peace in Northern Ireland  
  Bonnie Weir

Introduction to the different roles and responsibilities of modern central banks, including the operation of payments systems, monetary policy, supervision and regulation, and financial stability. Discussion of different ways to structure central banks to best manage their responsibilities. Prerequisites: Intermediate Microeconomics, Intermediate Macroeconomics, and Introductory Econometrics.

* GLBL 301a / EVST 305a / MMES 305a, Environmental Security in the Middle East  
  Kaveh Madani

A study of how consumers and firms are affected by the globalization of the world economy. Topics include trade costs, the current account, exchange rate pass-through, international macroeconomic co-movement, multinational production, and gains from globalization. Prerequisite: intermediate macroeconomics or equivalent.

* GLBL 306a / AFST 306a, Social Enterprise in Developing Economics II  
  Bo Hopkins

Focus on systemic risk, banking crises, financial stability and macroprudential policies. Additional emphasis on systemic risk and prudential policies in peripheral European economies and emerging economies. Prerequisites: ECON 115 and 116, or equivalent.

* GLBL 307a / ECON 467a, Economic Evolution of the Latin American and Caribbean Countries  
  Ernesto Zedillo

The transitional imperatives of the Next China take on new meaning in a post-pandemic, conflict-prone climate. This seminar offers a deep dive into this transition, with special emphasis on China’s AI-enabled push to indigenous innovation. Focus is also directed at reforms of debt-intensive state-owned enterprises as well as the development of a modern financial system and a fully-convertible currency. A rethinking of China’s relationship challenges, especially with the United States, is an over-arching theme of the seminar. Prerequisite: Introductory macroeconomics.

* GLBL 310a / ECON 407a, International Finance  
  Ana Fieler

Facets of contemporary economic globalization, including trade, investment, and migration. Challenges and threats of globalization: inclusion and inequality, emerging global players, global governance, climate change, and nuclear weapons proliferation. Prerequisite: background in international economics and data analysis. Preference to seniors majoring in Economics or EP&E.

* GLBL 311a / ECON 480a, Banking Crises and Financial Stability  
  Sigrídur Benediktsdottir

For some developing countries, international trade has brought about rapid growth and large-scale reductions in poverty. Meanwhile for other developing countries, international trade has simply increased inequality and brought little growth. This course draws on both theoretical models and empirical evidence to better understand the reasons for these very different experiences. Topics include:
standard models of trade, trade and poverty in developing countries, the impact of trade on inequality and growth, the role of firms and multinationals in developing countries, trade policy, foreign direct investment, trade and technology transfer, the Chinese and Indian experience.

Prerequisites: Intermediate microeconomics and one econometrics/statistics course. SO

* GLBL 336a / EP&E 243a / LAST 423a / PLSC 423a, Political Economy of Poverty Alleviation Ana De La O
Overview of classic and contemporary approaches to the question of why some countries have done better than others at reducing poverty. Emphasis on the role of politics. SO

* GLBL 341b / PLSC 450b, The Geopolitics of Democracy Staff
The threats to liberal democracy are being widely debated, from the US and Europe to developing nations. In order for democracy to continue to thrive as the cornerstone of Western governance, it must adapt and be relevant to citizens of the 21st century. This course examines our appreciation of what constitutes democracy today and how to apply those understandings to the challenges of the 21st century. Our discussions look at the characteristics of democratic leaders and debate whether America, the bulwark of liberal democracy in the 20th century, is still an exporter of democracy and how that matters in today's world. We then look at how to protect and adapt democratic institutions such as free elections, civil society, dissent, and the free press in the face of a rising wave of populism and nationalism. The course examines how refuge crises from conflict regions and immigration impact democracies and debate the accelerating paradigm shifts of income inequality and technology on democratic institutions. We conclude the course with a discussion of the forms of democratic governance that are meaningful in the 21st century and the practicalities of designing or reforming democratic institutions to confront current challenges. SO

* GLBL 342b / HIST 482Jb / PLSC 321b, Studies in Grand Strategy I Beverly Gage
The study of grand strategy, of how individuals and groups can accomplish large ends with limited means. The spring term focuses on key moments in history that illustrate strategic thinking in action. During the summer, students undertake research projects or internships analyzing strategic problems or aspects of strategy. The following fall, students put their ideas into action by applying concepts of grand strategy to present day issues. Admission is by application only; the cycle for the current year is closed. This course does not fulfill the history seminar requirement, but may count toward geographical distributional credit within the History major for any region studied, upon application to the director of undergraduate studies. Previous study courses in political science, history, global affairs, or subjects with broad interdisciplinary relevance encouraged. HU, SO

* GLBL 344a / HIST 483Ja / PLSC 161a, Studies in Grand Strategy II Beverly Gage
The study of grand strategy, of how individuals and groups can accomplish large ends with limited means. During the fall term, students put into action the ideas studied in the spring term by applying concepts of grand strategy to present day issues. Admission is by application only; the cycle for the current year is closed. This course does not fulfill the history seminar requirement, but may count toward geographical distributional credit within the History major for any region studied, upon application to the director of undergraduate studies. Prerequisite: PLSC 321. Previous study courses in political science, history, global affairs, or subjects with broad interdisciplinary relevance encouraged. SO

* GLBL 345b / EP&E 344b, Ethical Challenges for Business in Developing Countries: Cases from South Africa Tumi Makgetla
This course examines critical ethical challenges confronting businesses in developing countries using cases from South Africa. These challenges include navigating comparatively weak states and regulatory demands for racial diversification, government pressure to develop local suppliers, political conflict, consumer demands for accountability, calls for environmental sustainability and trade union politics. Each week, class participants use a case drawn from South Africa related to a thematic area to debate the ethical considerations involved in doing business in a developing country context. The course combines the study of the political economy of development, with a focus on South Africa, and frameworks for ethical decision-making in the business environment. SO

* GLBL 366a, Politics of Global Health Vanessa Kerry
Interest in and attention to global health has expanded considerably in recent years. Public and private sector investments in solving global health challenges are increasing. Many of the challenges to solving global health problems though are not only in the resources required to close existing gaps. Politics, policy and power are dominant in the global health sphere. Understanding these dynamics is essential to helping to tackle the world's greatest global health challenges. This course examines the intricate and diverse politics of global health and how they shape our inclination, ability, and direction of response to global health challenges. We explore the historical and current day power dynamics affecting health burdens, and which actually have effects on the health system's ability to care for a population. We explore the principle actors in the global health space, and how they are governed. Discussions also consider how health intersects with economics, national security, the law and regulation, climate change and conflict. Finally we explore the power dynamics within "ourselves" and how health is valued on a personal level through examination of specific countries health systems; we explore how countries have embraced health as a right (or not) and designed their health systems to care for their complete populations (or not). SO

* GLBL 376b / GLBL 532b, Asia Now: Human Rights, Globalization, Cultural Conflicts Jing Tso
This course examines contemporary and global issues in Asia (east, southeast, northeast, south), in a historical and interdisciplinary context, that include international law, policy debates, cultural issues, security, military history, media, science and technology, and cyber warfare. Course is co-taught with a guest professor. HU, SO

* GLBL 388a, The Politics of American Foreign Policy Howard Dean
This seminar addresses the domestic political considerations that have affected American foreign policy in the post-World War II world. The goals of the course are to (1) give historical context to the formation of major existing global governance structures, (2) give students
an opportunity to research how major foreign policy decisions in the past were influenced by contemporary political pressure, and (3) assess what effect those pressures have had on today's global issues. Case studies include, but are not limited to: Truman and the Marshall Plan; Johnson and the Vietnam War; Nixon and the opening of China; Reagan and the collapse of the Soviet Union, George HW Bush and Iraq, Clinton and the Balkans, and Obama and the development of a multipolar foreign policy for a multipolar world.

GLBL 392a, Intelligence, Espionage, and American Foreign Policy  Ted Wittenstein
The discipline, theory, and practice of intelligence; the relationship of intelligence to American foreign policy and national security decision-making. Study of the tools available to analyze international affairs and to communicate that analysis to senior policymakers. Case studies of intelligence successes and failures from World War II to the present.

* GLBL 393a / ANTH 386a, Humanitarian Interventions: Ethics, Politics, and Health  Catherine Panter-Brick
Analysis of humanitarian interventions from a variety of social science disciplinary perspectives. Issues related to policy, legal protection, health care, morality, and governance in relation to the moral imperative to save lives in conditions of extreme adversity. Promotion of dialogue between social scientists and humanitarian practitioners. WR, SO

* GLBL 394a / ANTH 409a / ER&M 394a / EVST 422a / F&ES 422a, Climate and Society from Past to Present  Michael Dove
Discussion of the major currents of thought—both historic and contemporary—regarding climate, climate change, and society; focusing on the politics of knowledge and belief vs disbelief; and drawing on the social sciences and anthropology in particular. WR, SO

* GLBL 395a, Data Governance in the Digital Age  Nathaniel Raymond
The information revolution is causing the rapid mass adoption of information communication technologies (ICTs) across nations, demographics, and sectors in the early 21st Century—such as mobile devices, social media platforms, “big data,” artificial intelligence (AI), and machine learning, geospatial mapping applications, and the Internet of Things (IoT). However, 20th Century international data governance policies, normative frameworks, and domestic regulations are struggling to keep pace with the disruptive impacts ICTs are having on an increasingly digitally networked world. This seminar explores critical issues, trends, and events relevant to both the adaption of existing data governance regimes to meet these challenges and the creation of new regimes by international organizations, the private sector, civil society, and national governments. The primary learning goal of the course is to equip students with the skills to critically read and apply extant international data governance policies in concrete sector-specific contexts (i.e. corporate, governmental, humanitarian, development, etc.). Additionally, students learn to identify gaps in current regimes and to be literate in the major ongoing debates on these issues at the United Nations, the EU, the United States Congress, and other critical loci of policy development. SO

* GLBL 450a, Directed Research  Sigridur Benediktsdottir
Independent research under the direction of a faculty member on a special topic in global affairs not covered in other courses. Permission of the director of undergraduate studies and of the instructor directing the research is required.

GLBL 452b, The Crisis of Liberalism  Samuel Moyn, Bryan Garsten, and Ross Douthat
Is there a "crisis of liberalism" occurring in the United States and around the world? What is liberalism? If it is in crisis, what are the features of the disorder and what are possible responses? Is it possible to believe in the further progress of liberal societies, or have they fallen into a decadent condition? This course meets twice a week and is lead by one of the instructors, followed by conversation among them. Undergraduates meet in a third session with one of the teaching assistants. SO

* GLBL 499a, Senior Capstone Project  Staff
Students work in small task-force groups and complete a one-term public policy project under the guidance of a faculty member. Clients for the projects are drawn from government agencies, nongovernmental organizations and nonprofit groups, and private sector organizations in the United States and abroad. Projects and clients vary from year to year. Fulfills the capstone project requirement for the Global Affairs major.