

Submitted by: Margaret E. Winters, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

## ESTABLISHMENT OF A BACHELOR OF LIBERAL ARTS WITH A MAJOR IN GLOBAL STUDIES

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Board of Governors approve the establishment of a Bachelor of Arts with a major in Global Studies in the Department of Classical and Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (CMLLC), within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS), effective Fall 2016.

### **Background**

The Global Studies degree was developed in response to the 2013 external review of the International Studies co-major. The new Global Studies curriculum took into account three criticisms of the International Studies co-major: 1) lack of a foreign language requirement beyond the College's three semester requirement; 2) lack of coherence and structure to the degree; and 3) lack of upper-level classes within the core courses. The Global Studies model is a recent and necessary innovation to International Studies, which is proving dated in its conception of the world today.

### **Program Description**

Compared to other programs in southeast Michigan, the WSU Global Studies major is particularly innovative, and with its emphasis on "global," more contemporary than the local International Studies programs. Uniquely, this program integrates undergraduate research as a requirement for the major and requires a global experience in the form of study abroad or an internship.

The major is organized into three parts: 1) language courses; 2) core Global Studies courses; and 3) focus area courses. Majors will be required to take a total of six semesters or a minimum of 21 credit hours of language courses. Students can fulfill this requirement by taking either six semesters in one language or three semesters each in two different languages.

The three core Global Studies courses prepare students to approach globalization through the perspective of individuals (GLS 2700: Introduction to Global Stories), the institutional (GLS 2800: Introduction to Global Issues and Institutions), and the theoretical (GLS 3700: Globalization: Theories, Practices, Implications). Although grounded in humanities (GLS 2700) and the social sciences (GLS 2800 and 3700), all three courses integrate material from different regions, countries, and time periods, providing students with a broad interdisciplinary perspective of the field.

Students then may specialize in one of three focus areas: 1) Global Politics and Economies; 2) Global Health and Environment; and 3) Global Identities and Cultures. For each focus area, courses across CLAS departments have been identified. Finally, students will fulfill the "global experience" requirement through: 1) an internship at a global organization; 2) study abroad; or 3) an internship abroad.

### **Admission Requirements**

Admission requirements to the major in Global Studies are satisfied by the general requirements for undergraduate admission to the university.

### **Curriculum Requirements**

The Global Studies program requires students to complete a minimum of thirty-three credits: 1) a minimum of 9 credits or three courses beyond the basic foreign language sequence in the same language or completing the basic sequence in a second foreign language; 2) 9 credits of core courses; 3) a minimum of 15 credits (4-5 courses) in a focus area. Students must also complete a “Global Experience,” which can be paired up with fulfilling the language component of the program by studying abroad or can be an internship in Metro Detroit or Abroad.

### **Graduation Requirements**

All coursework must be completed in accordance with Wayne State regulations governing undergraduate scholarship and degrees.

### **Program Administration**

The program will be located in the Department of Classical and Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (CMLLC). The program will be overseen by a program director, who will work with an interdisciplinary advisory board and report to the chair of CMLLC.

### **Budget and Resource Requirements**

No costs are associated with this program with the possible exception of a teaching reduction and summer stipend to support the director. All other administrative responsibilities (advising, course scheduling, budget and personnel) will assumed by the current staff in CMLLC.

### **Accreditation**

No accreditation is required or will be sought.

### **Approvals**

This proposal was approved by the faculty and Chair of the Department of Classical and Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures; the CLAS Faculty Council; the Office of the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; and the Office of the Provost.