

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES (INST1-UC)

INST1-UC 2000 Introduction to International Studies (4 Credits)

This course will introduce students to the interdisciplinarity of the field of International Studies. Among other things, through the prism of globalization in its many forms, students will study trade and human development from a multidisciplinary perspective, international governance and the changing face of the nation-state, poverty and its relationship to health and hunger, as well as women in the global economy. Rather than covering each of these in depth, the course is meant to expose students to different regions and approaches so that, if they further specialize in their own region and discipline over the course of their college career, they will be familiar with different ways of looking at the world, as well as the ways in which other regions are different from or similar to their own region of greatest interest.

Grading: UC SPS Graded

Repeatable for additional credit: No

INST1-UC 2010 Interrogating Political Globalization (4 Credits)

This course considers political globalization and its impact on the state and state sovereignty. To begin with, then, 'globalization' is, itself, a complex, contested, fluid and flexible concept; it means different things to different people, in different contexts. What it means from a political perspective, to whom and why will be our focal points of inquiry. In particular, we will look closely at the implications of globalization for the state. This is especially salient given the traditional notion of the state as a sovereign authority in an age in which there is a proliferation of international and regional organizations, and of multi-national corporations – many of which have larger sales revenues than the entire economies of most countries in the context of a world economy that appears to be beyond the control of many states. First, we will consider various ideas of globalization, and of political globalization, and their genesis. We then turn to the literature concerned with the seeming transformation of the sovereign state, and of the social relations brought about by globalization. We will also explore ethnographic and critical approaches to the study of political globalization. Throughout the semester, we will be considering how political globalization "works" as a discourse, how it is experienced, what its attributes might be, what shifts in political-economic power relations the term denotes, and how we might develop a critical approach to its study.

Grading: UC SPS Graded

Repeatable for additional credit: No

Prerequisites: INST1-UC 2000.