

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Newsletter

Fall 2016

Colorado State University

Director's Address: What is International Studies?



By Andrea E. Williams, PhD

Students come to International Studies from many different backgrounds and for a variety of reasons. Yet, you have a lot in common. In this address, I hope to give INST majors a clearer understanding of what your degree stands for, and what it can do for you.

What does International Studies mean?

International Studies is an interdisciplinary field that focuses on international and global issues. Its approach to these issues distinguishes it from a disciplinary field. Unlike the latter, International Studies consciously draws on

the tools, perspectives, and methodologies of multiple disciplines. It combines the approaches of numerous disciplines in order to gain a greater understanding, to see the bigger picture. Disciplines most closely associated with International Studies include Anthropology, Economics, Geography, History, Language and Cultural Studies, and Political Science. However, there is no limit to its academic reach. International Studies is often confused with International Affairs, but the two subjects are distinct. While International Affairs is primarily concerned with political issues, International Studies explicitly combines culture and politics, taking a broader approach.

What do INST majors share?

Students of International Studies share a curiosity about the wider world and a yearning to understand it better. You exhibit broad interests and an appreciation for the bigger picture. You appreciate the connections between history, culture, and politics, and you recognize the multifaceted nature of global issues. Many of you hope to travel or work abroad, and you all strive to make the world a better place.

What is the value of an International Studies degree?

A degree in International Studies is a great stepping stone to a wide range of careers. Many alumni continue their education in law school or graduate school in International Studies or a related field. Many work internationally as teachers or entrepreneurs or secure employment with the US Department of State. Many serve in the Peace Corps or a non-profit organization. But these are just a few of your options. The skills you gain through this degree, such as leadership, critical thinking, communication (written, oral, and cross-cultural), and global awareness, will be valuable in any career.

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MEET JOHN KITCHENS, PHD

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES PROFESSOR



John Kitchens received his B.A. in English from Colorado State University, and he has happily returned to teach at his alma mater. In addition to teaching the International Studies capstone class, he also teaches courses for the Liberal Arts Department and Honors Program. He has an M.Ed. in Secondary English Education from Louisiana State University and an M.F.A. in Creative Writing from Northern Arizona University. He also earned his Ph.D. in Education from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. He taught at Whitman College for four years before taking a break from teaching to travel. He and his black and tan coonhound, Waylon, moved back to Fort Collins in 2013. John is thrilled to be teaching again, but during his break from the academy he started a condiment company in Fort Collins that produces hot sauces, ketchups, and spicy mustards.

John has traveled extensively throughout Europe and says he's discovered a trend that he visits Europe to study history, art, and literature, but when in North America, his travels usually involve outdoor adventure. He has made special trips to visit Nietzsche's house in Weimar; the Van Gogh museum in Amsterdam; Cabaret Voltaire in Zürich, the oft-called home of Dada; and The Keats House above the Spanish Steps. He's also been to Stratford-upon-Avon, Stonehenge, the Dali Museum in Barcelona as well as the numerous museums in Paris, London, and Rome. Other favorite spots include Prague, Copenhagen, St. Petersburg, and Berlin. He's also presented his research at various academic conferences in places like Montreal and Tampere, Finland. These travels match

much of his teaching and research interests, which include the philosophy and literature of European modernism and postmodernism.

He spent a summer working at a school in the Bolivian rainforest teaching the indigenous peoples low-impact agricultural. He's also visited Costa Rica and Mexico, but most of his travels in the New World have been seeking out the National Parks and outdoor sanctuaries in North American. He's been to Banff and Jasper National Parks in Canada as well as visiting Vancouver on multiple occasions. Within the U.S., he's been from the Everglades National Park in southern Florida to Olympic National Park on the northwestern tip of Washington State, and many, many places in between. He's been sea kayaking on both coasts and visited all but nine of the U.S. states. Originally from Alabama, John appreciates Southern literature and history (he's also made deliberate trips to Faulkner's house in Oxford, Flannery O'Connor's house in Georgia, and Hemingway's house in Florida). And now that he's spent several years in the Southwest, he's come to appreciate Southwestern art and literature as well. While he's enjoyed his many trips in the mountains of the Cascades and the Rockies, he's found he prefers the red rock canyons of the Southwest. From Canyonlands to the Grand Canyon, he says he likes the desert environment most of all.

All of John's travels and education have helped prepare him to teach international studies, especially since travel and place are common themes in his classes. For his doctorate he specialized in cultural studies and interdisciplinary education, and this informs his approach to teaching international studies. He believes cultural understanding is learned best through various disciplinary lenses, and such understanding is not only imperative for international studies majors, but for all people participating as citizens of the world.



An Evening with Award-Winning Journalist Greg Dobbs

On Tuesday, October 21, 2016, former foreign correspondent Greg Dobbs visited CSU to discuss geopolitics and US foreign policy.

Mr. Dobbs is a distinguished journalist who spent 23 years with ABC News. In this capacity, he covered many seminal moments, including the Iranian Revolution, the occupation of the U.S. Embassy, the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, the civil war in Lebanon, and the Iran-Iraq War.

In his talk, Mr. Dobbs outlined challenges that the next US president would face in Russia, China, and the Middle East. His talk was followed by a lively Q&A in which Mr. Dobbs revealed his extensive global experience, including many close encounters.



This event was made possible through collaboration between CSU's International Studies Program and the Denver-based CELL (Counterterrorism Education Learning Lab). To find out about other upcoming International Studies events and opportunities, visit the International Studies website at inst.colostate.edu or subscribe to the INST weekly e-newsletter at <https://lists.colostate.edu/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/inst-l>.

Spring 2017 INST Course Offerings

AUCC: CO150, ECON202, ECON204, ECON211, ECON240, GR100, POLS232, POLS241, HIST 101, HIST 170, HIST 171

INST Track D3, 4A&B

AGRI270/IE270, ANTH 100, ANTH140, ANTH330, ANTH352, ANTH413, ANTH 441, AREC 240/ECON 240, AREC 460, E142, E245, ECON 101, ECON 202, ECON 204, ECON 211, ECON 240, ECON 440, ECON 460, FIN 475, GR 320, GES101, IE 479, INST 487, INST 495, JTC 412, LB170, LB171, MGT 475, MKT 365, MU131, NRRT 320, PHIL170, POLS 232, POLS 241, POLS 332, POLS 431, POLS 435, POLS442, SOC105, SOC220, SOC322, SOC323, SPCM 434, or substitution approved by advisor.

Asian Studies (Track 1&2)

HIST120, HIST121, HIST432, HIST455, HIST465, POLS449, ART316, LCHI107, LCHI496, LJPN 250, LJPN 496, PHIL172, PHIL371, or substitution approved by advisor.

European Studies (Track 1&2)

ECON376, HIST, HIST304, HIST 331, HIST 332, HIST 339, POLS 345, POLS 420, POLS421, ART111, ART212, ART414, ART416, E276, E277, E342, E343, E444, E455, LAND120, LFRE/LSPA310, LFRE/LSPA335, LSPA345, LSPA413, LSPA437, LSPA 441, LFRE 450, LSPA454, MU335, PHIL300, PHIL301, or substitution approved by advisor.

Latin American Studies (Track 1&2)

ETST371, HIST411, HIST414, POLS331, POLS447, ANTH452, ART312, LSPA310, LSPA313, LSPA335, LSPA345, LSPA436, LSPA437, LSPA441, LSPA445, LSPA454, or substitution approved by advisor.

Middle East & North Africa Studies (Track 1&2)

HIST116, HIST421, HIST432, POLS449, ANTH315, PHIL171, or substitution approved by advisor.

INST 487— International Studies Administrative Internship

CSU's International Studies Program is seeking an administrative intern for Spring 2017.

Details: This is a one-credit, one semester, unpaid internship. It involves a time commitment of approximately three hours per week on average.

Responsibilities: The intern will work closely with the Program Director to plan and host events, edit program publications, and coordinate outreach. Interns are also encouraged to pursue projects or programming on relevant topics of their interest.

Qualifications: The ideal candidate is an International Studies major with junior or senior standing. Technical skills, interpersonal skills, and experience with social media and graphic design are preferred.

To Apply: Submit your resume and a brief cover letter via email to Dr. Andrea Williams, Director of International Studies at:

Andrea.Williams@colostate.edu.

For More Information: Contact Andrea Williams at Andrea.Williams@colostate.edu. Position will remain open until filled.

Course availability subject to change. Some courses may require prerequisites. For more information, contact your academic advisor.



NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDIES CORE COURSES

INST 200: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Globalization

This course uses the subject of globalization to familiarize students with the field of International Studies. Our investigation will revolve around a few basic questions:

- ◆ What does globalization mean?
- ◆ How does the experience of globalization differ among individuals, groups, and nations?
- ◆ What are the benefits and costs of our globalized world? What are its implications for the future?
- ◆ Is globalization an automatic process? Can we guide it? How?



Students explore these and other points of inquiry through assigned readings, written work, lectures, discussion, and presentations. This is an excellent course for anyone interested in learning more about International Studies or our globalized world.

Open to all majors. Offered on campus and online. Fulfills AUCC 3E. Required for INST Majors.

INST 301: Global Commodities across the Disciplines



This course uses an interdisciplinary lens to explore the nature and significance of global commodities. It aims to expose the cultural, political, economic, and environmental dimensions of everyday objects as well as the process of objectification. At the same time, this course familiarizes students with the research methods of International Studies, illustrating the value and applications of interdisciplinary research. Class content includes reading assignments and other media, discussion, presentations, and a research proposal project.

Required for INST Majors

Prerequisites: GR 100, INST 200 or INST 300

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

ALUMNI:

We want to hear from you! Whether you've traveled the world, served in the Peace Corps, landed your dream job, or found fulfilling work here in Fort Collins, tell us how you're putting your International Studies degree to use. Submit ideas, photos, and articles to Andrea.Williams@Colostate.edu.

Congratulations Fall 2016 Graduates!

Anais Coudouy

Annalise Decker

Beatriz Urrutia

Brooke Cowden

Chantal Chicoine

Connor Shane

David Martinez



Marina Cifelli

Nicholas Wilson

Samantha Moser

Tyler Olson

Tyler Simonsen

Victoria Cain

Zachary Rhoades