Comparative International Studies

In the College of Arts and Letters

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Faculty

Faculty assigned to teach international studies courses are drawn from the disciplinary departments and area studies centers in the College of Arts and Letters.

Program Director and Undergraduate Adviser: Eniko Csomay
(Linguistics and Asian/Middle Eastern Languages)

Committee: Blanco (Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Literatures), Donadey (European Studies), Guang (Asian and Pacific Studies, Political Science), Kuru (Center for Islamic and Arabian Studies, Political Science), Perez (Anthropology)

Offered by Comparative International Studies

Major in comparative international studies with the B.A. degree in liberal arts and sciences.

The Major

Comparative international studies is an interdisciplinary program that offers a broad view and understanding of international and global forces in a wide range of human activities and across the disciplines included in the humanities and social sciences. The major provides students with the opportunity to engage in a comparative study of two world regions, learn a foreign language, experience international contexts through study abroad, and conduct research. Students majoring in comparative international studies are prepared for a rapidly changing, linguistically diverse, and multi-ethnic world. Students choose this major because they can learn about cultures and societies outside the United States and because it prepares them to work in a variety of social, cultural, and economic environments.

The program requires students to take three of the four thematically organized courses that aim to integrate theoretical knowledge about global processes and knowledge about comparative methods including analytical techniques used to study them. The four themes are identified as follows: human and social development, culture and society, populations and borders, institutions and change. Students are also required to take courses on two world regions, identified as a primary and a secondary area of focus, selected from the following areas: Africa, Asia (China) or Asia (General), Europe, North Africa and West Asia (Middle East), and Latin America and the Caribbean. Knowing one or more foreign language is believed to be essential in order to effectively communicate with people of another culture, understand another culture, or conduct research. Therefore, the international studies major requires students to complete a minor in a foreign language.

Graduating majors will gain insights into complex world issues from a comparative perspective and will acquire broad knowledge, skills, and (language) tools necessary to function well in the age of globalization. Those completing the major will be prepared to meet the challenges of the new era of globalization, including careers in local, state, and national government, in national and international non-profit organizations such as social service providers, cultural organizations, or international development agencies, and in areas such as international education, commerce, tourism, and communications. Majors will also be prepared to pursue graduate level education in liberal arts and sciences, in regional studies, or in a particular discipline within the areas in the humanities and social sciences, and with a solid foundation in a foreign language.

Advising

Students are required to meet with the undergraduate adviser in order to declare the major. All students admitted to the university with a declared major in comparative international studies are urged to meet with the undergraduate adviser either prior to or during their first semester.

Impacted Program

The comparative international studies major is an impacted program. To be admitted to the comparative international studies major, students must meet the following criteria:

- Complete preparation for the major;
- Complete a minimum of 60 transferable semester units;
- Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0.

To complete the major, students must fulfill the degree requirements for the major described in the catalog in effect at the time they are accepted into the premajor at SDSU (assuming continuous enrollment).

Major Academic Plans (MAPs)

Visit http://www.sdsu.edu/myimap for the recommended courses needed To fulfill your major requirements. The MAPs website was created to help students navigate the course requirements for their majors and to identify which General Education course will also fulfill a major preparation course requirement.

Comparative International Studies Major

With the B.A. Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences (Major Code: 22997) (SIMS Code: 117002)

All candidates for a degree in liberal arts and sciences must complete the graduation requirements listed in the section of this catalog on “Graduation Requirements.”

A minor in a foreign language is required with this major. See list of foreign language minors in the General Catalog. Students are encouraged to contact their minor adviser to discuss the benefits of taking a foreign language oral proficiency test administered by the American Council on Teaching Foreign Languages (ACTFL). The program also requires at least one preapproved study abroad experience.

Courses in the major cannot be double-counted.

Preparation for the Major, (15 units)

Choose three units from each of the groups A, B, and C:

(A) Humanities: Comparative Literature 270A or 270B, History 100 or 101, Humanities 101, Religious Studies 101, Women Studies 102;

(B) Social Sciences: Anthropology 102, Geography 102 or 106, Linguistics 101, Political Science 103, Women’s Studies 101;

(C) Statistics: Economics 201, Political Science 201, Sociology 201 or equivalent.

Choose six units from any combination of regions in group D:

(D) Regions; (Asia) Asian Studies 100 or 101 or 150; (Europe) European Studies 101; (Latin America and the Caribbean) Latin American Studies 101; (North Africa and West Asia-Middle East) History 100 or 101, Religious Studies 101. (History 100, 101, and Religious Studies 101 can only be included for this group if not taken for group (A) above.)

Recommended for General Education in Foundations of Learning.

Life Sciences: Anthropology 101 or Biology 101; Physical Sciences: Environmental Science 100, Geography 101, or Geological Sciences 100.
Language Requirement. Comparative international studies majors are required to complete a minor in a foreign language. The minor in a foreign language will fulfill the foreign language requirement for the major. (Contact minor adviser about the benefits of taking an ACTFL foreign language oral proficiency test.)

Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement. Passing the Writing Placement Assessment with a score of 10 or completing one of the approved upper division writing courses (W) with a grade of C (2.0) or better. See “Graduation Requirements” section for a complete listing of requirements.

Study Abroad Requirement. All comparative international studies majors are required to participate in an international experience amounting to a minimum of six weeks spent abroad and completing a minimum of three units of study abroad. To meet this requirement, majors must complete one or a combination of the following with the approval and written consent of the undergraduate adviser:
1. A CSU Study Abroad Program;
2. An SDSU Exchange Program;
3. An SDSU Semester Abroad Program;
4. An SDSU Study Travel Program;
5. General Studies 450.

See the undergraduate adviser to make arrangements to meet the study abroad requirement.

Major. A minimum of 33 upper division units to include Comparative International Studies 400 and nine units from three of the following four thematic areas selected from two or more departments:
(A) Human and Social Development: Geography 353, 573, History 441, Linguistics 551, Political Science 361, Sociology 350, 352, 433, Women’s Studies 310, 580;
(B) Culture and Society: Anthropology 303, 350, 422, 439, Geography 312, 554, Linguistics 350, Philosophy 340;
(C) Populations and Borders: Anthropology 402, Chicana and Chicano Studies 355 [or Latin American Studies 355], 554, Geography 354, Latin American Studies 430 [or Political Science 430], Political Science 380, 565, Sociology 350, Women’s Studies 581;
(D) Institutions and Change: Political Science 375, 485, 577, Sociology 457, Women’s Studies 530;

Complete 21 units from two of the six following world regions selecting 12 units from one regional area and nine units from the other regional area:

(A) Africa: Africana Studies 320, 465 [or French 465], Comparative Literature 440, Humanities 350, Political Science 364;
(B) Asia (China): Asian Studies 351 [or Philosophy 351], 458 [or Religious Studies 458] or History 420, History 421 [or Asian Studies 421], 567, 566 or Political Science 575, Political Science 365, Religious Studies 340;
(C) Asia (General): Asian Studies 300 or 320, Asian Studies 451 [or Comparative Literature 451], Asian Studies 456, 459, 460, History 570, Korean 321, Political Science 362 or 575, Philosophy 353 or Religious Studies 338 or 341 or 345, Religious Studies 315 or 339 or 342, Women’s Studies 331;
(D) Europe: Comparative Literature 513, 514, European Studies 301, 424, French 424, 501, German 320, History 408, 527, Political Science 356, Russian 310, Women’s Studies 340;
(E) Latin America and the Caribbean: Anthropology 442, Chicana and Chicano Studies 400 [or Latin American Studies 400], Comparative Literature 445, Geography 324, History 415 [or Latin American Studies 415], 416, 551, 558, Latin American Studies 307 [or Portuguese 307], Political Science 366 [or Latin American Studies 366], 370;
(F) North Africa and West Asia (Middle East): Arabic 330, History 473, 474, Political Science 363, Religious Studies 310, 320, 328, 330, Women’s Studies 560.

Courses (CINTS)

Refer to Courses and Curricula and University Policies sections of this catalog for explanation of the course numbering system, unit or credit hour, prerequisites, and related information.

LOWER DIVISION COURSE

CINTS 296. Experimental Topics (1–4)
Selected topics. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor’s degree.

UPPER DIVISION COURSES
(Intended for Undergraduates)

CINTS 400. Comparative International Studies Capstone (3)
Prerequisites: Upper division standing and completion of minimum six weeks of study abroad.
Capstone course for comparative international studies major. Completion of research project based on coursework and study abroad experience.

CINTS 496. Experimental Topics (1–4)
Selected topics. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor’s degree.

CINTS 499. Special Study (1–6)
Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.
Individual study. Maximum credit six units.