Global and Area Studies (GLAS)

The Global and Area Studies major (GLAS) focuses on the study of global systems and processes as they are expressed in society. Students will be required to select an academic concentration, a cognate, a foreign language, and are strongly encouraged to study abroad, pursue an internship, and/or arrange an independent study with an instructor whose research is of interest. GLAS offers the following academic concentrations:

WORLD REGIONS
- African Studies
- Asian Studies
- Latin American and Caribbean Studies
- European Studies
- Russian and Eurasian Studies

TOPICAL AREAS
- Gender and Global Change
- International Development

By selecting one of the GLAS concentrations, students gain comprehensive knowledge of the world region, and develop an understanding of various cultures through multidisciplinary theory and practice, and through the use of methodologies, theoretical perspectives and literature of wide-ranging fields. The major also offers a disciplinary cognate that explores theories from different social science disciplines, and research methods used to study ways in which people interact, and affect and develop in their environments.

GLAS prepares students for jobs in governmental, non-governmental, business and academic organizations that are engaged with institutions inside and out of the United States.

Foreign language – Students will earn 2nd year proficiency of a language relevant to the concentration or topic, OR students may take a combination of foreign language courses in addition to completing a research paper, independent study, internship or study abroad. See the College of Social Science Experiential Learning Office for more details. http://www.socialscience.msu.edu/students/experiential-learning

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY GLAS DEGREE?
Jobs for GLAS majors can lead to a future in industry and academia anywhere in the world. Students benefit from experiences that increase the knowledge of social, economic, political, historical and geographic knowledge of other cultures. Our students graduate with a well-rounded education that meets the demands of today’s economy and job market.

Many of our students decide to go to graduate school with their GLAS degrees. Students have been admitted to graduate programs including Global Public Health, Human Rights, Gender and
Women’s Rights, Environmental Studies, International Affairs, International Policy, and International Business. GLAS degree holders make good candidates for any graduate program they choose to pursue, and many students pursue varying interests with it, such as law school, medical school, or unrelated graduate studies.

Many graduates decide to enter the workforce with their GLAS degrees. Our students are able to work in entry level positions that require a college degree. The degree serves to enhance communication skills (especially with knowledge of a second language), and understanding of human behavior in various settings from a culturally diverse perspective.

Many other students have continued to programs like Teach for America, Peace Corps, or AmeriCorps to then continue to graduate school or in most cases continue working for causes that advance social equality, and better global health services, education and other causes supported by different NGOs.

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Make an advising appointment- 
https://www.egr.msu.edu/adcalendar/