



GLOBAL & TRANSNATIONAL STUDIES MINOR

Contact: Dr. Kali Wright-Smith

Email: kali.wright-smith@westminster-mo.edu

Requirements (18-21 hours):

- Required courses (9 hours): GTS 201, POL 212, and either HIS 109 *or* HIS 110
- 9 hours at the 300-level or above, including*
 - At least one upper-level Thematic course (3 hours)
 - At least one upper-level Regional course (3 hours)
- Second semester of foreign language (FLG 102)**
- A grade-point average of 2.0 or higher in courses counted toward the major

*Approved Thematic and Regional courses listed in advising worksheet for the Global & Transnational Studies Major.

**Cohorts covered by Breakthrough will fulfill this requirement as part of the general education curriculum.

Students who successfully complete GTS 401 may count it in fulfillment of one of the required upper-level electives.

Students may substitute experimental courses numbered 200 or 300 for electives listed in the worksheet with permission of the program coordinator.

Students pursuing a minor in Global & Transnational Studies are encouraged to participate in an approved off-campus program.

You can find the course descriptions for all courses required for this minor by clicking on the following links:

- [Global & Transnational Studies Course Descriptions](#)
- [History Course Descriptions](#)
- [Political Science Course Descriptions](#)

Student's Last Name

First Name

Middle Initial

Advisor

Date Minor Declared

Course #	Title of Course	Hours Required	Semester Completed	Grade
Required Courses (9 hrs)				
GTS 201	Introduction to Global & Transnational Studies	3		
POL 212	Introduction to International Relations	3		
HIS 109	Introduction to World History I	3		
or HIS 110	Introduction to World History II	3		
Upper-Level Electives (9 hrs)				
<i>Record courses taken in the spaces below. For list of approved Regional and Thematic courses, see the Global & Transnational Studies Major worksheet.</i>				
Choose 1-2 Upper Level Regional Courses (3-6 hrs)				
		3		
		3		
Choose 1-2 Upper Level Thematic Courses from any area(s) (3-6 hrs)				
	<i>Global Economic Development</i>	3		
	<i>Global Environment & Health</i>	3		
	<i>International Relations & Human Rights</i>	3		
	<i>Global Cultures</i>	3		
TOTAL HOURS FOR MINOR		18 hrs		

If any substitutions or waivers of requirements are allowed, please list below and initial.

GTS – Global and Transnational Studies

GTS 105 International Student Transition Seminar (1 hr.) International Student Transition Seminar is a one-credit hour seminar course designed for new international students. The course offers a general orientation to American culture and to Westminster College campus culture. The course covers subjects such as adjusting to American culture and communication styles, developing a successful financial plan, workplace/classroom etiquette, navigating the American health system, and more. It also covers the rules and regulations all F-1 international students must understand in order to maintain their non-immigrant status. This course is an elective course consistent with our campus commitment to developing “leaders in a global community.” CR/D/F only.

GTS 110 Introduction to Study Abroad (1 hr.) This course will introduce students to the study abroad experience. It will focus on why students should study abroad, how students go about studying abroad, and where they may want to study abroad. The course will also focus on the logistics of preparing to study and travel abroad.

GTS 115 Making Sense of Study Abroad (1 hr.) This course helps students reflect on their study abroad experience. Study abroad is a basic global experience, putting students in a different culture outside of their own cultural comfort zone. The act of spending an extended amount of time in a different culture makes the students transnational actors. The class will discuss the similarities and differences in cultures, the underlying structures of globalization that the students observed or experienced, and whether their perception of America (or their home countries) has changed. Formal writing, group interaction, and power point presentations are required for satisfactory completion of the course.

GTS 201 Introduction to Global & Transnational Studies (3 hr.) An introductory examination of the interconnected, multi-cultural, multi-national "global village" in which we live and work today, with special attention to social and cultural conflicts, problems and prospects. The course is designed to introduce and demonstrate the importance of Global & Transnational Studies in today's world and in the lives and careers of students. Students from all majors and backgrounds are welcome.

GTS 212 Model United Nations Team (2 hr.) Students will develop the skills of research, writing, debate, and negotiation in order to participate in the Westminster College Model United Nations team. Students will explore one country in depth and examine a range of global issues as they prepare to represent their country at the American Model United Nations Conference in Chicago.

GTS 306 West European Government and Politics (3 hrs.) A study of the foundations, structures and functions of the governments of selected major European countries. Offered every other spring semester. Prerequisites: GTS 201 or HIS 106 or POL 112 or POL 212 or SEC 201 or permission of the instructor.

GTS 308 Post-Soviet Politics (3 hrs.) An examination of the history of the Soviet political system since 1917; the influence of ideology; the role played by the Communist Party, the bureaucracy, interest groups and other actors; political culture, socialization and participation; current economic and social policy issues; and the future evolution of the system. Prerequisites: GTS 201 or HIST 106 or POL 112 or POL 212 or SEC 201 or permission of the instructor.

GTS 310 Memory and Culture in Global Perspective (3 hr.) What do we really know about the past? How do we acquire and internalize knowledge about our own lives, our family histories, or the events that shaped the societies, nations, and other groups to which we belong? Is this storehouse of “memory” reliable? How skeptical should we be about information that is presented to us about our collective past? This seminar will begin by reviewing influential writings on the social, cultural, and historical dimensions of memory. Participants will then examine case studies from different parts of the world in which people try to come to terms with challenging, even disturbing, collective experiences. The role of social memory will be explored in connection with national and transnational identities, religion, cultural trauma (e.g. slavery, genocide), truth and reconciliation efforts, monuments and commemorations, transition justice, and related topics. Finally, we will ask whether global media and education are creating a store of shared memory that is more truly transnational than ever before in history. The seminar welcomes all students who have completed at least one introductory course in the social sciences or humanities (including interdisciplinary listings). Prerequisites: Any ONE of the following—GTS 201, SOC 111, ANT 115, HIS 109, HIS 110, PHL 101, POL 212, PSY 112, PSY 113—OR instructor permission.

GTS 320 Global Inequality (3 hr.) This seminar will examine economic inequality in global, historical, and socioeconomic perspective. After briefly reviewing classic works on the origin and nature of inequality, we will survey the broad sweep of economic history and then consider inter- and intra-national inequality from the perspective of a political economy of the world system. Although the focus is primarily on economic dimensions, there will be some attention to intersections with gender, race/ethnicity, religion, age and other axes of inequality. Writing-Intensive. Prerequisites: Any one of the following: GTS 201, BUS 340, ECN 211, ECN 212, SOC 111, POL 212, or instructor permission.

GTS 325 Middle East and North African Politics (3 hrs.) An examination of political issues within and between the countries in the Middle East and North Africa. In this course, students will examine the role of religion in politics, the causes and consequences of military conflicts in the region, efforts to promote (and diminish) the rights of marginalized groups, and the wide diversity of political institutions that exist in the area. Prerequisites: GTS 201, SEC 201, POL 212, or permission of the instructor.

GTS 330 The Global City (3 hr.) This seminar offers an intensive survey of social science literature on the city in global perspective. Topics examined will typically include: classical perspectives on urbanism and urbanization; historical transformations in the relationship between city and country; the role of cities in regional, national, and pan-national development; transnational inter-city networks; cities as platforms for collective action, including protest; as well as the impact of such factors as new inequalities, cultural flows, digital connectivity, human security, urban social problems, transnational migration, terrorism, and war. Prerequisites—any one of the following: GTS 201, ECN 110, ECN 211, POL 212, SOC 111, or instructor permission.

GTS 346 Chinese Politics and Influence (3 hrs.) An examination of how China's emergence as an economic, diplomatic, and military heavyweight is shifting the global balance of power, shaping the responses of governments and intergovernmental organizations, and posing fundamental questions about the nature of world order itself. Prerequisites: GTS 201, SEC 201, POL 212, or permission of the instructor.

GTS 401 Research Seminar (3 hr.) This interdisciplinary seminar is open to any student with an interest in national, transnational, and global issues and who has met the specified prerequisites. Its core objective is to cultivate an ability to comprehend, discuss, and produce scholarly research at an advanced undergraduate level. Required readings cover seminal works and exemplary texts in transnational and international studies. In class meetings, students work as a collaborative team to analyze assigned readings and provide feedback on classmates' research. During the initial weeks of the course, students submit research proposals and begin assembling relevant scholarly sources. In the remainder of the term, students prepare cumulative portions and rough drafts of a research paper, culminating in a final draft approximately 25 pages in length. The most outstanding papers will be submitted as a session for the spring Undergraduate Scholars Forum. 3 credit hours. Prerequisites: GTS 201 or instructor permission; junior or senior status.

GTS 402 International/Transnational Studies Senior Thesis I (3 hr.) Students majoring in Global & Transnational Studies who have a cumulative GPA of 3.30 or higher in the major may elect to write a senior thesis for honors recognition. "Graduate with Honors" will be noted on their transcript provided they complete the thesis with a grade of B or better. Prerequisites: GTS 401.

HIS – History

HIS 101 British History to 1800 (3 hrs.) An introductory course covering British/British Isles social, intellectual, cultural and political history.

HIS 102 Survey of British History from 1800 to the Present (3 hrs.) An introductory course covering British social, intellectual, cultural, and political history.

HIS 103 History of the United States to 1877 (3 hrs.) A survey course covering American social, intellectual, economic and political development from pre-colonial times to 1890.

HIS 104 History of the United States since 1877 (3 hrs.) A survey course covering American social, intellectual, economic and political development from 1890 to the present. A student may take this course without having had HIS 103.

HIS 109 World History I (3 hrs.) This course will emphasize the economic, cultural, and political interrelationships between different parts of the world as well as the global issues that define the modern era.

HIS 110 World History II (3 hrs.) This course will cover global history from the Enlightenment to the present. It will lay a foundation for understanding the breadth of human experience and how that experience has shaped the world we live in. Rather than focus solely on the separate development of civilizations, this course will emphasize the connections between cultures. In other words, we will look at cross-cultural interactions and compare global reactions to common problems. Additionally, this course will expose students to historical methods, thereby enabling students to discover the complexity of past and present events, to examine the interrelationship of such factors as politics, economics, race, gender, culture, and religion, and to reflect more thoughtfully on the national and international issues that face them today.

HIS 279 African Civilization (3 hrs.) A general survey of economic, political, and cultural world of sub-Saharan Africa from ancient times to the present. Offered in alternate years.

HIS 310 Topics in Public History (3 hrs.) Public History encompasses all the ways in which the study of the past is presented to the public in a non-academic way. In other words, it is the fun way of learning history. This course offers multiple ways for students to examine the theory behind different aspects of Public History and then allows them to gain practical experience of the discipline through either high-impact, project-based, or service-learning assignments or through dedicated travel courses.

HIS 335 Topics in U.S. Social, Cultural, or Political History (3 hrs.) This course explores an aspect of domestic U.S. History which sheds light on broader issues surrounding the nation's identity. Topics are selected based on the most pressing issues facing society today. Students will gain vital research, writing, and presentation skills while engaging with thought-provoking and often challenging subjects.

HIS 340 Topics in Diplomatic and Military History (3 hrs.) Beginning as a relatively small nation of thirteen states tied to the East Coast of North America, the United States rapidly ascended to a position of global preeminence through aggressive territorial expansion and through a series of military engagements. The policies and processes involved left a profound impact on the lives of those affected and on the course of world history. This class offers a deep examination of one aspect of U.S. Diplomatic or Military History to illuminate the causes and consequences of the United States' rise to superpower status.

HIS 350 Topics in Early World History (3 hrs.) This course uses a variety of different topics to explore traditions, change, and growing connections in the pre-modern world. Components of the course include seminar style discussions of primary sources and scholarly articles, research projects, and project presentations. Examples of topics include Medieval Pilgrimages (world religious and travel history) and the Vikings (Medieval Scandinavian, Islamic, Eastern European, and North American history with an emphasis on archaeology as history and modern political and cultural influences).

HIS 360 Topics in Modern World History (3 hrs.) This course uses a variety of different topics to explore the connections and themes of the post-1500 world. Components of the course include seminar style discussions of primary sources and scholarly articles, research projects, and project presentations. Examples of topics include Deviant and Degenerate Art (world history through culture from 1800-1980) and WWI and the Treaty of Versailles (military, diplomatic, and colonial world history from 1900-1960).

HIS 390 Historical Methods (3 hrs.) This course allows students to study the philosophy and methods of historical research, writing, and thinking. History majors and minors should enroll in this course in the Spring semester of their sophomore year. Prerequisites: Two 100-level history courses or permission of the instructor.

HIS 396 Applied History (1 hr.) This course is designed for History Majors and Minors to focus their practical and intellectual skills toward a rewarding career after graduation. The course will help students explore career/grad school options, connect them to graduates who have excelled in a variety of fields, help them find professional opportunities to present and publish their work, help them develop and refine a stellar cover letter and resume, and help them practice job talks and job market etiquette. Prerequisites: HIS 390, or with the consent of the instructor

HIS 397 History for the Public (1 hr). This course is open to History Majors and Minors who have completed - or who are currently working on - their undergraduate thesis. It introduces them to the many ways they can present their work to the public including conference presentations, op-eds, journal articles, museum displays, documentary films, and more. Students will be expected to present their work in one or more of these outlets by the end of the course. In doing so, this course will enhance both their professional skills and profile. Prerequisites: HIS 390, or with the consent of the instructor

HIS 398 Independent Study (1-3 hrs.) Systematic reading, guided by members of the department, on particular historical periods, problems, or personalities. Enrollment by permission of the instructor.

HIS 422 Senior Thesis (2 hrs.) The practical application of the techniques of historical research preparatory to HIS 423. Required of all history majors in the fall semester of the senior year. Prerequisites: HIS 390.

HIS 423 Senior Thesis (3 hrs.) The practical application of the techniques of historical research, analysis, and composition culminating in a thesis. Students will defend their theses in seminar. Required of all history majors in the spring semester of the senior year. Prerequisite HIS 422.

HIS 424 Senior Thesis (1 hr.) Rewriting the senior thesis based on faculty and student critiques.

POL – Political Science

POL 112 Introduction to Political Science (3 hrs.) An introductory study of political action, institutions and argument. Some current controversies in American politics will be considered, together with the experience of other countries where comparison is helpful.

POL 211 American Government and Politics (3 hrs.) An introduction to American government and politics through an examination of interactions between citizens and political institutions in the formation and the execution of public policies.

POL 212 Introduction to International Relations (3 hrs.) This course explores key issues in the international system including war, terrorism, human rights, and international law, international institutions like the United Nations, and theories of international relations.

POL 301 The American Presidency (3 hrs.) A study of the modern American presidency in terms of its concepts and controversies. Prerequisites: POL 211.

POL 304 American Political Theory (3 hrs.) Focuses on the political philosophies expressed in the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution. Considers the viability of these philosophies in the context of contemporary American society and politics. Prerequisites: POL 112 or 205, or permission of the instructor.

POL 305 International Law and Organizations (3 hrs.) An analysis of the nature, sources, function and development of international law and organizations with special reference to the role and function of the United Nations' system for resolving international disputes. Prerequisites: POL 212 or permission of the instructor.

POL 306 West European Government and Politics (3 hrs.) A study of the foundations, structures and functions of the governments of selected major European countries. Offered every other spring semester. Prerequisites: GTS 201 or HIS 106 or POL 112 or POL 212 or SEC 201 or permission of the instructor.

POL 308 Post-Soviet Politics (3 hrs.) An examination of the history of the Soviet political system since 1917; the influence of ideology; the role played by the Communist Party, the bureaucracy, interest groups and other actors; political culture, socialization and participation; current economic and social policy issues; and the future evolution of the system. Prerequisites: GTS 201 or HIST 106 or POL 112 or POL 212 or SEC 201 or permission of the instructor.

POL 311 Political Parties, Voting and Campaign Strategies (3 hrs.) Reviews the evolution and role of political parties and elections in the American political system. Examines the decline-of-parties thesis and recent developments in campaign strategy. This course is offered in the Fall semester of even-numbered years and students are required to participate in political campaigns of their choice. Prerequisites: POL 112 or 211.

POL 314 American Constitutional Law and Politics (3 hrs.) This course, (1) explores how the decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court have influenced the country's understanding of the Constitution, (2) considers the political forces that shaped the decisions, as well as the political effects of those decisions and (3) details the contours of the significant rights articulated in the decisions. Prerequisites: POL 211.

POL 316 American Jurisprudence (3 hrs.) This course, (1) introduces and critiques the major philosophies of law, (2) applies these philosophies to various issues and cases and (3) orients the student to legal reasoning and other legal methods of analysis and inquiry. This course should help prepare students for the study of law, or law-related topics. Prerequisites: POL 211.

POL 324 Central Europe (3 hrs.) This course will examine the unique problems of this region from an interdisciplinary perspective. Since the demise of the Cold War in 1989, and with it the collapse of the wall between eastern and western Europe, this region has become a crucible for a changing world order and a changing Europe. Analysis of a series of current themes from a political science and a historical perspective will form the backbone of the course. We will also look at the issues from both a regional and a national point of view. These topics will include: the reunification of Germany; the ethnic/nationality question; the legacy of communism; the rise of neo-fascism; diplomatic integration into NATO or the European Union; tensions over Ukraine. Prerequisites: HIS 110, GTS 201, or POL 212.

POL 325 Middle East and North African Politics (3 hrs.) An examination of political issues within and between the countries in the Middle East and North Africa. In this course, students will examine the role of religion in politics, the causes and consequences of military conflicts in the region, efforts to promote (and diminish) the rights of marginalized groups, and the wide diversity of political institutions that exist in the area. Prerequisites: GTS 201, SEC 201, POL 212, or permission of the instructor.

POL 326 Environmental Politics and Policy (3 hrs.) This course seeks to explore and understand four broad, interrelated topics: (1) the major political processes, actors, conditions and controversies involved in the formulation and implementation of environmental policies at the local, national and international levels; (2) some of the major pieces of legislation that constitute environmental policy in the United States and the world community; (3) some of the techniques and approaches that policy analysts employ to assess the effectiveness and costs of environmental policies and (4) issues that will shape environmental politics and policies in the immediate future, such as population growth, global warming, habitat destruction and resource depletion. Offered every other fall semester. Prerequisites: POL 112 or POL 211 or ENV 105.

POL 328 National Security Agencies (3 hrs.) To understand the politics and processes of national security, we must have an understanding of the national security labyrinth at the national level. The purpose of this course is to ensure the students' knowledge about the institutional design, oversight mechanisms and shortcomings, missions, and relationship of the varied institutions of the national security bureaucracy. Prerequisites: POL 211, SEC 201, or permission of the instructor.

POL 332 National Security Law I (3 hrs.) The purpose of this class is to provide an understanding of the sources, impact and limitations of laws that impact the national security of the United States. We will look at the three branches of government and the roles that each plays in the legal environment related to national security. Additionally, there will be discussion of international laws and their effect on the security of the United States. Prerequisites: Any of the following: POL 211; POL 301; POL 305; POL 314; POL 362; any Security Studies course (SEC designation); OR permission of the instructor.

POL 333 National Security Law II (3 hrs.) This class delves deeply into legal issues facing national security, including traditional legal frameworks, and legal questions in emerging areas of national security law. Prerequisite: POL 211, POL 301, POL 305, POL 314, POL 362, or any Security Studies Course.

POL 335 Politics and Security of Developing Nations (3 hrs.) In this course, students will undertake a comparative investigation of the political dynamics of the developing world. Looking across Latin America, Asia, and Africa, students will identify and contrast patterns of political behavior across regions and analyze models of economic development, governance, and security challenges that occur in the developing world. By taking a policy-making perspective, students will assess problems and analyze solutions to current issues in developing nations. Prerequisites: POL 112, 212, SEC 201 or permission of the instructor.

POL 337 Human Rights and Security (3 hrs.) This course examines the evolution of the international system of human rights. It will consider fundamental legal, moral, and political debates related to human rights and look for avenues to make progress in human rights protection. It will also examine the relationship between human rights and human security and the challenges associated with the provision of human security in the 21st century, with special attention paid to human trafficking and economic development. Prerequisites: POL 112, 212, SEC 201, GTS 201, or permission of the instructor.

POL 342 U.S. Supreme Court (3 hrs.) This course is intended to provide insight into the United States Supreme Court. It will cover subjects that include, but are not limited to: understanding Supreme Court opinions; how justices are chosen to sit upon the Court; the reasons why the Supreme Court makes the decisions it does; and the impact of the Supreme Court on the political and legal landscape in the United States. Prerequisite: POL 211 or permission of the instructor.

POL 343 Congress (3 hrs.) This course will broadly examine the legislative branch of the United States government. Topics include: elections, committees, inter-branch relations, and spatial models of voting. The roles of Congress in our political system are two-fold: 1) to represent issues and concerns of the citizenry; and 2) to make policy for the nation – "to govern." How does the structure of Congress impact the behavior of its members? What makes for "quality" representation? These questions, and more, will be discussed in this course. Prerequisites: POL 112, POL 211 or permission of the instructor.

POL 345 Politics and Film (3 hrs.) Film and visual images can help us understand contemporary politics. Films often shape and illustrate the public's perception of politics. This course will examine the portrayal of politics in movies. The course will have different themes each semester it is taught, including, but not limited to, the American presidency, race and gender, legislative politics, war, terrorism, and elections. Prerequisites: Any of the following: FAR 215, HIS 104, POL 112, or POL 211.

POL 351 Women and Politics (3 hrs.) This course explores the connection between gender and politics in America and in international contexts. Topics under investigation include political participation and the exercise of political leadership by women, the evolution of social movements in support of women's rights, critical social and political issues of concern to women such as health, employment, security, and education, and debates over relevant public policies. Prerequisites: POL 112, 211, 212, WGS 210, or permission of the instructor.

POL 362 American Foreign Policy (3 hrs.) A study of the diplomatic process designed to provide a realistic insight into the stresses and demands upon modern policy-making, including the roles of the president and Department of State. The course includes an analysis of postwar American programs, policies and difficulties in foreign affairs. Prerequisites: POL 211 or 212.

POL 370 Drugs, Politics and Public Policy (3 hrs.) Examines the response of the American political system to the use of psychoactive drugs. Class will consider questions pertaining to the explanation of human behavior, the structure and dynamics of American society and politics, the formation of public policy and fundamental issues of moral and political philosophy to encourage critical and sophisticated thought regarding the actual and desired relationship of American citizens with psychoactive drugs and possible political strategies for responding to perceived issues. Prerequisites: POL 112, or 212.