The Bachelor of Global Studies (BGS), is geared to students who aspire to be leaders in creating social change. You’ll learn how to critically analyse global challenges facing cultures and communities throughout the world. You’ll learn how to apply your knowledge to these challenges and devise innovative solutions to help solve them.

The course has a number of exciting features that set it apart. Core units provide leadership development, and project-based learning includes the opportunity to work in collaboration with global organisations and NGOs.

You’ll have access to the Monash Arts Global Immersion Guarantee as part of the required overseas study component. You can do an internship with industries and organisations who are leading advocates for social change around the world. And there are a broad range of electives that train you to think across different disciplines. You can choose to focus your learning in:

- Global health and disease
- Environment, cities and sustainability
- Crisis, conflict and disaster, or
- Commerce, technology and consumption.

Plus you have the option of three double degrees to choose from.

BACHELOR OF GLOBAL STUDIES

How do we conceptualise the most important challenges facing our global communities, devise new and innovative solutions to these challenges and communicate the solutions effectively?

WORK TOWARDS A REWARDING CAREER

As a Bachelor of Global Studies student you will develop sharp analytical skills together with imaginative and well-informed approaches to the complexities underlying global challenges. You will gain a rich understanding of the interplay between local, regional and global forces.
Doing a double degree allows me to have greater choice in career paths after I graduate, and gives me a much greater breadth of knowledge that I can take with me into any career I choose. Studying a Bachelor of Global Studies together with Science means I can pursue both passions of mine at the same time, and I can graduate with two degrees in four years. The BGS has given me the opportunity to travel overseas twice, improve my proficiency in French, and understand the importance of language in a multicultural world. With all this so far, I can’t wait to see what the future holds!

Georgia Santomartino
WHAT YOUR COURSE WILL LOOK LIKE

The course is made up of twenty-four units taken over three years if studying full time and six years if studying part time.

The units are divided up as follows:
» Three core units on ‘Leadership for social change’*
» Twelve specialisation units including three to four taken overseas
» Eight elective units
*One of these units is a double unit.

The core units

Leadership for social change
These units are exclusive to the Bachelor of Global Studies and are taken over three years. You will gain an understanding of forms of leadership, drivers of social change and how to apply your learning in practical and professional real-life contexts. Classes are primarily delivered through workshops where you will engage in problem-based learning.

Leadership for social change develops key capabilities that are highly valued in today’s global work environment. These include creativity, teamwork, cross-cultural collaboration, critical thinking, self-learning and analytical writing skills.

The specialisations

You can choose to specialise in one of four areas:
» Cultural competence
» Human rights
» International relations
» International studies.

Cultural competence
This specialisation allows students to deepen their cross-cultural skills and knowledge through intensive language study. Our students benefit from the fact that Monash offers the most comprehensive language program in the country and all languages are taught from beginners level through to honours. That means even if you have never studied a language before you can still apply for the course and start at beginners level. Our focus on incorporating cultural competence into the acquisition of language skills adds depth and diversity to our program. You’ll build intercultural communication skills by applying your knowledge in real world contexts. Languages available include Chinese, French, German, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Korean or Spanish.
**Human rights**

You’ll examine the history and nature of human rights and how an understanding of it helps to address issues such as global poverty, unequal access to medicine, warfare, terrorism, torture, surveillance and more.

**International relations**

International relations examines the dynamics of global politics and economies including the relationships between political institutions, international organisations, governmental and non-governmental agencies. International relations at Monash specialises in four broad areas: international security studies, global governance, international political economy and foreign policy.

**International studies**

International studies is an interdisciplinary field of study that focuses on the lived experience of people in a variety of social and cultural settings. In order to compete in the international marketplace of products, ideas and knowledge, we need to understand and respect the cultures and beliefs of others. This specialisation develops this understanding by exploring the issues and events that have shaped and continue to shape our world.

**Elective units**

The eight elective units allow you to take advantage of the exceptional choice available within the Arts faculty or from outside the faculty. For example you could study marketing or information technology. Alternatively you may choose to do an internship or take one of our many overseas study units.

**Overseas study component**

We believe that there is no better way to learn about a country than to experience the culture and lifestyle from within. There are a range of study abroad options available that can be taken during semester or over the summer and winter breaks. You can take a semester abroad with one of our partner institutions, go on intercampus exchange to Monash Malaysia, take an in-country language program or study a range of intensive units at the Monash Prato Centre in Italy.

It is compulsory to take at least three overseas study units in the Bachelor of Global Studies but you can take more if you want. Overseas study is normally taken in second or third year.

**Global Immersion Guarantee**

Being a student in the Bachelor of Global Studies means you’ll have access to the Monash Arts Global Immersion Guarantee – an opportunity to spend two weeks studying in China, India, Indonesia, Italy or Malaysia with airfares and accommodation funded as part of your degree!

[arts.monash.edu/global-immersion-guarantee](https://arts.monash.edu/global-immersion-guarantee)

**TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIP**

There are travel scholarships of up to $3,000 to assist with costs associated with the international study component of your degree.

You can see if you are eligible for this scholarship on the Global Scholars Program website [arts.monash.edu/learning-abroad/global-scholars-program](https://arts.monash.edu/learning-abroad/global-scholars-program)

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**Bachelor of Science or Commerce and Bachelor of Global Studies**

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- Bachelor of Science or Commerce
- Core units
- Specialisation
We’re engaging with industry

With its own Advisory Board the Bachelor of Global Studies is in a unique position to draw on the advice and dynamic perspectives of industry experts.

We are committed to developing innovative solutions to global challenges and with our industry Advisory Board we are building strong and mutually beneficial relationships with our external partners.

The board consists of professionals from a diverse range of backgrounds with direct links to business, government and the social sector. They provide vital guidance, advice and feedback to inform our ongoing program development and to make sure the course delivers the best outcomes for our students.

“As the complex challenges facing our world intensify, so does the need for justice oriented leadership, inter-cultural competence and humility. Global studies is a perfect entry point into the global conversation of change.”

Dr Maithri Goonetilleke, Advisory Board Chair

Board Members

Dr Susan Carland
Dr Susan Carland is Director of the Bachelor of Global Studies. She is an academic, author and social commentator. She has a BSc, BA, and a PhD in Sociology and Politics, and has books published with Oxford University Press and Melbourne University Press. In 2017, she was on the Who’s Who of Australian Women list, and has also been named a Muslim Leader of Tomorrow by the UN Alliance of Civilisations. She has participated in a DFAT-sponsored speaking tour of Malaysia, and spoken at the United Nations in Geneva as a guest of The Geneva Centre for Human Rights Advancement. Susan is an ambassador for the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre, and International Women’s Development Agency, and is also the host of SBS’ Child Genius.

Mr Victor Finkel
Mr Victor Finkel is an Associate Partner with McKinsey & Company. He has two master’s degrees from Oxford University (Economics for Development and Public Policy), and two undergraduate degrees from Monash University. Victor is a Rhodes scholar and a world debating champion.

Dr Maithri Goonetilleke
Dr Maithri Goonetilleke is Chair of the Industry Advisory Board. He is a senior lecturer in the school of public health and preventive medicine and teaches global health to undergraduate and postgraduate Monash students. Since graduating in 2006 with qualifications in medicine, Dr Goonetilleke spent over a decade working in rural parts of Swaziland and Southern Africa where he founded the non-government organisation Possible Dreams International (PDI) which works in thirty-two rural communities. He has also co-ordinated single doctor primary care clinics with the Daasanach people of Northern Kenya and the Orma tribe of Eastern Kenya. Dr Goonetilleke was awarded the Carey medal in 2012 for service to the wider community and in 2016 was recipient of a Vice Chancellors award for commitment to Inclusion and Diversity at Monash University.

Dr Chrisanta Muli
Dr Chrisanta Muli is the Research Team Leader at Oxfam Australia. She has worked both as an academic researcher and a community development practitioner with poor and marginalized communities in Africa, Asia and the Pacific. Her research interests are focused on a wide range of social justice issues, including: gender, poverty alleviation, refugees and forced migration issues, HIV/AIDS in Africa, and transformative approaches to community development.

Mr Oliver Perovich
Mr Oliver Percovich moved to Afghanistan from Australia, and founded Skateistan, a grassroots ‘Sport for Development’ project on the streets of Kabul. Today, Skateistan has more than 580 employees worldwide and is an award-winning international organisation with projects in Afghanistan, Cambodia and South Africa. The organisation is the first international development initiative to combine skateboarding with educational outcomes. Skateistan is non-political, independent, and inclusive of all ethnicities, religions and social backgrounds, offering both skating and general education classes for over 2,500 boys and girls each week. Since 2009, Mr Percovich has also acted as an advisor to the president of the Afghan National Olympic Committee.

Mr Lachlan Preston
Mr Lachlan Preston is focused on developing young people to achieve their full potential, working as a Programs Manager for the Cathy Freeman Foundation and volunteering as Assistant Chief Commissioner for Scouts Victoria. He completed a degree in Arts (Global) with First Class Honours at Monash in 2013.
Double degrees

The Bachelor of Global Studies can be taken as a double degree with the Bachelor of Commerce, the Bachelor of Science and the Bachelor of Laws (Honours).

A double degree lets you study two courses simultaneously and takes less time to complete than two single courses. The double degrees with Science and Commerce take four years instead of six and the double degree with Law is taken over five years. Within these degrees you will complete the Leadership for social change units and your preferred Specialisation. As with the single degree, overseas study will be a requirement of the course.

A double degree allows you to combine two areas of interest and gain expertise in both. As a graduate you will have greater career flexibility and because a double degree is completed in a shorter timeframe than two single degrees you will be saving time and money.

Internships

There are many opportunities within the degree to take an internship where you can apply your knowledge to a professional work environment and gain valuable experience and an insight into the ‘real world’ environment.

Internships are available with a wide range of organisations and count as credit towards your degree.

More information is available here: arts.monash.edu/WIL-Internships

Career opportunities

The Bachelor of Global Studies course aims to cultivate a rich understanding of the interplay of local, regional and global forces.

Graduates can move into a wide variety of careers including:

» Defence
» Environment
» Foreign Affairs
» Government
» Intelligence
» International development
» International relations
» Journalism
» Media
» Non-government organisations
» Policy analysis
» Politics
» Trade
» Translation

Entry requirements

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* The scores provided are to be used as a guide only, and are either the lowest selection rank to which an offer was made in 2019 or an Estimate (E). For double degree courses you must meet the prerequisites for both courses. Course codes and CRICOS codes for double degrees are available at monash.edu/study.