

Global Politics and Societies

SOCIAL JUSTICE MINOR

PROFESSORS: Edward A. Lynch (political science; chair, global politics and societies), Darla Schumm (religious studies)

ASSISTANT PROFESSORS: Ashleigh Breske (international studies and political science)

VISITNG ASSISTANT PROFESSOR: Heike Peckruhn (religious studies)

The Global Politics and Societies (GPS) department includes four separate major programs of study in sociology, religious studies, political science, and international studies and one minor program of study in social justice. Each of the programs uses an interdisciplinary approach with some shared courses and collaborative teaching based on the common research and teaching interests of faculty members. The social justice minor challenges students to think about power, inequality, diversity, and justice in local, national, and global contexts. For information about major programs of study, see requirements listed under the subject area of the major.

REQUIREMENTS FOR A MINOR IN SOCIAL JUSTICE:

5 courses (20 credits)

- One of the following: GWS 141: Introduction to Gender and Women's Studies; SOC 260: Race, Class, Gender; or POLS 250: Race, Class, Gender, and the Law. (4)
- Three additional courses from the list of affiliated courses below. (12)
Each of the three elective courses should be from a different discipline. Only one course can be at the 100 level and one course must be at the 300 level.
- GPS 450: Special Topics: Social Justice Senior Capstone (4)

AFFILIATED COURSES:

- COMM 270: Intercultural Communication
- COMM 322: Public Relations Principles
- COMM/INTL 380: Global Communication and Media
- ENG 320: Immigrant Literature
- ENG/GWS 345: Arab Women Writers
- ENG 346: Arab-American Literature
- ES/GWS 219: Food, Culture, and Social Justice
- ES/INTL 220/POLS 221: Globalization and Local Responses
- ES/POLS 235: Feeding Frenzy – Global Food Politics, Security, and Sustainability
- ES/INTL 304: Geography of the Global Environment
- GWS/REL 318: Sexual Ethics
- GWS/REL 362: Spiritual Activism
- HIST 221: Civil Rights Movement in America
- HIST 266: Dissent and Reform in American History
- INTL 317: Refugees and Resettlement
- INTL/POLS 332: Currents of Marxist Thought
- POLS 101: American Government
- POLS 104: Political Theory
- POLS 118: Controversial Issues in American Politics
- POLS 214: Media and Politics
- POLS 225: Conquest
- POLS 226: International Law
- POLS 310: Seminar in American Government
- POLS 311: Controversial Issues in American Politics
- POLS 345: American Voting Behavior
- POLS 363: Constitutional Law
- REL 126: Introduction to Religion in a Global Context
- REL 140: Disability, Religion, and Ethics
- SOC 234: Social Problems
- SOC 260: Race, Class, and Gender – A Reflexive Approach

COURSES IN GLOBAL POLITICS AND SOCIETIES:

GPS 216: RESEARCH METHODS IN SOCIAL SCIENCES (4)

Breske

Study of the nature, requirements, and procedures in the social sciences with emphasis on the applied skill in critical analysis of published scholarly works. Epistemological topics in concept formation, hypothesis generation, and theory construction. Offered Term 2. (*w, x, r*).

GPS 470: SENIOR SEMINAR (2)

Lynch

This course will focus on the transition from undergraduate work to the “real world.” Students will reflect on the culmination of their learning in their respective majors and assess their work skills and interests. Not offered in 2023-24.

GPS 475: SOCIAL JUSTICE CAPSTONE (4)

Department

All social justice minors are required to take this course during the spring term of their senior year. The GPS social justice minor challenges students to think about power, inequality, diversity, and justice in global, national, local, and personal contexts. Students will draw from these social justice course foundations—texts, theory, methods, skills, and practice—to more deeply explore student-directed research, writing, and engagement in social justice work. Emphasis will be placed on the senior experience of translating student immersion in academic content, substance, and structure, to professional development, life planning, and action. Offered Term 2.

GPS 480: SENIOR THESIS (4)

Breske

Students will write an integrative thesis, to be co-directed by faculty from the GPS department. The thesis will be written during the fall semester of the senior year. Offered Term 1.