

Horace G. Fralin Program for Global Studies at North Cross School

Graduation requirements for Global Studies Scholar diploma

The global studies program was designed to offer students new opportunities to expand their education at North Cross School. The idea of being a global citizen should be the goal of each student - not simply fulfilling requirements to earn an advanced diploma or to enhance a college application. Nonetheless, it seems important to structure the program in a way that will make clear the expectations of the school.

Because the program emphasizes both academic scholarship and experiences, these two broad categories will each contain half of the qualifications for the diploma.

Students who aspire to graduate as a Global Studies Scholar should declare their intention in the first year at North Cross (and no later than the end of September of their junior year). Those who will not spend four years at North Cross in the program must see the director to modify the program. International students who seek the diploma should work with the director to compose a custom course of study.

Academic Scholarship:

We hope students will take as many of the global studies courses as possible. It will be unusual for any student to take every global studies course. The * classes will provide students the maximum number of points toward the goal. Electives will be essential to fulfilling the scholarship element of the program. **Students must earn at least a B** in each course that will count toward the 500 points.

Introduction to Global Studies* : This class is designed for freshmen and an introduction to the whole course of study.	70 points
World History II: Students earning top grades in this class should be well prepared to succeed in AP World History.	60 points
Level 3 of French, Latin, or Spanish: We expect each student to emphasize the study and practice of a second or third world language.	45 points
AP World History*	70 points
20th-Century History	60 points
Level 4 of French, Latin, or Spanish: Students who do not get past level 4 in a language should aim to practice independently to achieve conversational ability in another language beside English. International students may get this credit based on testing.	55 points
Level 5/AP French, Latin, or Spanish: One of the primary goals of the program will be for each student to understand, write, read, and speak (except Latin) in a second language. Students taking Latin are encouraged but not required to become conversant in a modern language. The points are cumulative. In other words, if a student gets to Level 5, that is 65 + 55 + 45.	65 points
Language electives (Spanish Literature or an independent study):	55 points
AP Comparative Government*	70 points
AP Literature: This course includes reading from various cultures.	65 points
Economics and Personal Finance	20 points
Environmental Studies*	70 points
AP Human Geography: This course will be offered every other year and is a highly recommended elective.	65 points
Point total should be at least 500 points. Extra points will not count toward the 1000 points necessary to earn the diploma.	500 points

Experiential Learning: Perhaps the most compelling reason to become a global studies scholar is to apply and relate textbook learning to experiences beyond the classroom.

On-campus requirements: There will be two primary forms of learning beyond the classroom on campus. Students must fulfill these requirements each year.

Seminars will be held at least once every trimester and students must attend at least two seminars a year in which they actively participate by reading and discussing the topic of the month. Students must submit a reflection to the seminar leader prior to the group discussion.	10 points per seminar 100 points maximum
Speakers will bring fresh perspectives on world events. Students must prepare and form questions for at least seven speakers , including joining the speakers for lunch.	10 points per speaker 100 points max
Help organize and participate in International Night each year. Take at least one photo and compose a caption that explains the significance of International Night.	10 points/year 40 points max

Off-campus requirements: To test whether Roanoke is the center of the universe will be an important goal of the program. Students are encouraged to travel broadly and immerse themselves in a distant culture. We also know that the world has arrived in Roanoke, so students are also encouraged to get to know the immigrants who have enriched southwest Virginia.

Students must get to off-campus events at least three times per year as a declared Global Studies Scholar. Activities include attending lectures, performances, and cultural activities like volunteering for the Local Colors festival or the Latino festival or tutoring refugee students. Each activity must have a thoughtful, written reflection and given to the Director of Global Studies.	5 points per activity 75 points maximum
Attending the Harvard Model United Nations. This activity requires a written reflection (and photo if possible) sent by email to the Director of Global Studies.	40 points
Students must travel internationally for at least 14 days total. Students will send their five best photos with detailed captions to the Director of Global Studies. Students will make at least one five-minute presentation to the student body about their travels. We encourage students to choose trip that include home-stays with families, or emphasize service, or focus on language immersion. Students who want credit for trips abroad independently or with family must get approval for the credit before the travel happens. Any student who breaks North Cross School rules or the Honor Code while on a trip will not receive any credit for the travel component of the diploma requirements.	200 points
Students will compose an essay (at least 5 pages, single-spaced, 12 font Times New Roman) about their experiences. The essay must be richly detailed in examining various cultural contrasts and comparisons. We hope the essay will be a culminating experience, and it must be completed by May 1st of the senior year.	50 points

Other opportunities to flourish in the global studies program: Students who go beyond the expectations of the program will be eligible to earn distinction for their commitment and contributions to the program. One of the students in this category may be offered the opportunity to represent the global studies program at graduation as a speaker.

Finding a relevant project, book, or documentary that is relevant to the GS program (and the theme), making a proposal that is approved by the Director of Global Studies, and hosting the seminar (with assistance from the Director)	20 points
Finding a speaker for the program that is relevant to the GS program (and the theme) and introducing him/her before the student body. All speakers must get approval by the Director of Global Studies.	20 points
Travelling internationally more than once (must be pre-approved to earn points)	b/w 50 and 80 points
Participating in Harvard Model United Nations more than once.	20 points
Participating in tutoring more than three times per year for multiple years.	TBD individually
Hosting an exchange student for summer or partial year.	TBD individually
Hosting an exchange student for an academic year.	TBD individually
Summer Camp Counselor with International Student Summer Program	20 points
New initiatives: Please see the Director of Global Studies with any new ideas or opportunities for studies and experiences. All initiatives must be approved by the Director of Global Studies before the experience happens.	TBD individually