The Center for Global Studies
At Assumption College, we seek to understand and engage with the world around us in multiple ways, inside and outside the classroom. The Center for Global Studies at Assumption is designed to co-ordinate and facilitate the global initiatives of students, faculty and staff. It brings together an academic program – the Global Studies major and minor – with three important internationally-focused co-curricular programs: Study abroad and international student advising, the College’s partnership with Catholic Relief Services, the world’s largest humanitarian agency, and advising for the students applying to international post-graduate scholarships such as the Fulbright. The Center strengthens and deepens the connections between these programs, enhancing Assumption’s mission to create thoughtful, ethical global citizens and leaders.
“All of the faculty in my major were experts in their field and incredibly passionate about teaching. They brought that enthusiasm into the classroom and, more importantly, they encouraged students to go beyond the classroom and obtain hands-on experience.”

— DEANDRA PERRUCCIO ’08
Global Studies Major, Washington D.C.
Center Internship, Doyle Award Winner

GLOBAL STUDIES

The Global Studies experience is flexible, varied and interdisciplinary. The program is designed to help students understand how countries across the globe are linked together ecologically, economically, geographically and politically. Students take classes in geography, economics, and political science, alongside a range of electives that allow them to gain a deeper understanding of the issues and parts of the world in which they are most interested.

COURSE OF STUDY

Major in Global Studies

Students are introduced to the field through six foundational classes: Introduction to Global Studies, Human and Physical Geography, Cultural Anthropology, Principles of Microeconomics, Economic Development, Peace and War, and a choice of one World History course. Students then create their own specializations by choosing five electives from a wide range of courses across disciplines.

Minor in Global Studies

The interdisciplinary minor in Global Studies complements a variety of majors on campus, particularly International Business, Modern and Classical Languages, Economics, Political Science, and History.

Students majoring in Global Studies complete one of three options to enhance their undergraduate academic experience: a semester abroad, an internationally-focused internship (often in Washington D.C.), or a senior research project on an issue of global significance.

George A. Doyle Merit Award

The Doyle Merit Award is named for the late Professor George Doyle, who established the Economics and Global Studies program at Assumption College in 1961. Each year, the Department of Economics and Global Studies selects a senior recipient who, in the words of Dr. Doyle, is recognized for “academic success, character, well roundedness and potential within the field.” The award carries a $2,000 cash prize made possible by generous gifts to the George A. Doyle Merit Award Fund by his friends, colleagues and family.
“Thinking about how our economy works, our place in the world economy, and how economic decisions impact others clued me in to the fact that there is a bigger world than what I know and that I wanted to explore it.”

— JULIE DESPOSITO ’95
Global Studies Major

“Assumption gave me a hands-on education experience with intimate class environments. The College and the professors I had fostered a culture of accountability, thoughtfulness and genuine intellectual curiosity.”

— PATRICK WILLIAMS ’12
Global Studies Major,
Study Abroad in Uganda and Rwanda

STUDY ABROAD

Through a study abroad experience, Assumption students broaden their undergraduate education with international perspectives, gain a deeper, richer understanding of their own cultural identity, and become true citizens of the world.

Assumption’s Rome Campus
At the College’s Rome campus, students spend time walking, eating and living like a Roman as they immerse themselves in the Italian – and European – way of life. The group forms a close-knit community living and studying in Rome and exploring Italy more broadly at excursion sites like Florence, Siena, Venice, and Capri.

Global Study Abroad Programs
Assumption sends students across the globe through our trusted partnerships to take courses in their academic major and minor. Assumption students have studied at Oxford University (England), Trinity College (Ireland), Veritas University (Costa Rica) and the University of Queensland (Australia), to provide just a few examples.

The college also offers study-away options in Washington, D.C. and mid-town Manhattan.

Affordability
Study abroad is more affordable than you might think. At Assumption, all financial aid – merit and athletic scholarships included – is applied to the semester abroad.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADVISING
To accommodate our international students’ variety of needs, Assumption offers ESL courses, one-on-one advising, multicultural clubs, a first-year international student orientation and dedicated international student staff.

Students from all over the globe make Assumption home. We look forward to welcoming you home, too.
“Working in the interdisciplinary field of public health, I still draw from lessons I learned at Assumption. I chose this career because my mind was trained to think not only about “the haves” and “the have nots” but also about “the why”. My time at Assumption trained me to not only think critically and analytically, but to act thoughtfully and carefully.”

— JESSICA STEWART ’10
Global Studies Major

INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS
Assumption students can teach and do research abroad through international scholarship programs such as the Fulbright, the Boren and the Gates.

The Fulbright Program at Assumption College
The Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government, designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of different countries. Since 2001, 14 Assumption students have won Fulbrights to teach and do research abroad.

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES
GLOBAL CAMPUS
Assumption is a Global Campus partner of Catholic Relief Services, the largest humanitarian relief agency in the world. This partnership promotes global solidarity by giving our students, faculty and staff access to:

- Biennial academic and leadership conference for students and faculty
- Internship opportunities with CRS
- Online academic resources that explore global justice issues like climate change and migration.

The CRS Social Justice Ambassadors at Assumption organize and lead campus campaigns to raise awareness and foster dialogue on issues of global inequality, justice, and solidarity among students, faculty and staff of the College.

Assumption College is proud of our many students whose academic excellence has been recognized with prestigious Fulbright Awards. Pictured here is Stephanie Bouley ’11 on her Fulbright year in Germany.

CRS Migration Walk in solidarity with refugees and those displaced by crime, conflict and natural disasters.
PROFESSOR KEVIN HICKEY, MA, M.L. ARCH.
Director, Center for Global Studies and Associate Professor, Economics and Global Studies

Professor Hickey’s research and teaching interests focus on the intersection between the earth’s physical systems and our human adaptations to them across the globe. He studies climate change, the development of ethnic communities, and legal aspects of American land use planning. Professor Hickey is the Co-founder and Executive Director of the International Interdisciplinary Environmental Association and honorary editor of its Interdisciplinary Environmental Review Journal.

DR. ELOISE KNOWLTON
Dean of Undergraduate Studies and Director of Study Abroad

Dean Knowlton has been an advocate for international education since she studied abroad in her undergraduate sophomore year, reading history and literature at Oxford University. Since joining the college in 2006, she has sent hundreds of students abroad, either to Rome, though the College’s semester and summer program, or to locations across the globe through various providers. A member of the Board of Advisors for AIFS, she is committed to furthering experiential learning across the curriculum.

MS. ABIGAIL NOLAN
Director of ESL & Academic Support for International Students/Principal Designated School Official

With over ten years’ experience in educational settings and stamps from over 15 countries in her passports, Ms. Nolan uses her extensive knowledge of studying, living, and working internationally to advise students interested in a global education. As the Principal Designated School Official, she assists our international students with all visa-related matters. And as a three-time study abroad veteran, she has the experience to help students achieve their study abroad dreams.

DR. THOMAS WHEATLAND
Post-graduate Scholarships Advisor and Associate Professor of History

Professor Wheatland’s scholarly area of expertise is transatlantic studies, in particular the relationship between the United States and German-speaking Europe. As Assumption College’s advisor for scholarships abroad, he has been able to draw on his previous experience as an acquiring and developmental editor at Harvard University Press to advise and assist graduating seniors with their applications for prestigious scholarships such as the Fulbright, Rhodes, Marshall, Mitchell, Gates and Truman.

DR. DAVID CROWLEY
CRS Global Campus Coordinator and Associate Professor of Biology

Prof. Crowley teaches Concepts in Biology, Genetics, and Molecular and Cellular Biology. In his lab, he studies DNA repair in the halophilic archaea with undergraduate collaborators. He is the campus coordinator of the CRS Global Campus partnership at Assumption.
ASSUMPTION COLLEGE CENTER FOR GLOBAL STUDIES HIGHLIGHTS

Assumption’s Rome Campus

Global Study Abroad Programs

The Global Studies Major and Minor

International Student Advising

International Scholarships

Be part of something bigger

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