We are continuing to offer CIP 202, which is one of UA’s inaugural Certified Experiential Learning Opportunities. I am a 2016-2017 Learning in Action fellow, and am excited about the ways in which CIP 202 is growing into a valuable experiential learning opportunity for UA undergrads! The course includes a hand-on active approach to meeting its learning objectives and outcomes of increasing cultural competency and international awareness. Students should be aware that enrollment in CIP 202 will involve regularly meeting with international students enrolled at UA’s English Language Institute. Much of this will be during regularly scheduled class times, for which attendance will be heavily weighted in final grade determination. Another 10-15 hours (over the course of the semester) will take place outside of regularly scheduled class times, for which attendance will also be heavily weighted in final grade determination. This is an ideal course for the student who prefers experiential learning over more traditional modes.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

*Introduction to Global Studies* (CIP 200 / 202), which is the introductory course for The University of Alabama’s Global Studies Certificate, sets the stage so that a student can approach all endeavors (academic, professional, & personal) with an international perspective. If a student wishes to earn UA’s Global Studies Certificate, *Introduction to Global Studies* (CIP 200 or CIP 202) should be taken first, or in conjunction with, the GSC Core courses. The introductory course will set the philosophy for the student’s approach to the entire Global Studies Certificate Curriculum, both Core and upper division Emphasis Area courses.

**GLOBAL STUDIES CERTIFICATE** (GSC) DESCRIPTION

The University of Alabama’s GSC is designed to introduce the undergraduate student to the cultural, economic, physical, and political aspects of being a world citizen in the 21st century. The emphasis of the GSC is the contemporary rather than the historical. Nine hours of the program are specified as GSC Core, and should be taken prior to the six upper division Emphasis Area hours. For more information, go here (via international.ua.edu).

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- to provide the student with vocabulary and resources appropriate for global study, which is the academic study of political, economic, social and cultural relationships between people and nations;
- to provide the student with an international perspective, from which the student’s place in the world is understood via knowledge and awareness of the ways in which culture shapes values, which in turn shape society;
- to provide this awareness via a focus on Intercultural Communication, Current Events, and Contemporary International Issues;
- to encourage the student to approach all courses with this international perspective;
- to encourage both domestic and international students to come together in an environment conducive to open dialog;
- to encourage overseas study;
- to encourage the student to graduate with a Global Studies Certificate.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon completion of this course, you will:

- be familiar with and able to access key resources for global study;
- improve your awareness of how communication varies from culture to culture;
- improve your awareness of how cultural values shape the ways in which communication takes place;
- improve your ability to interact socially, academically, and professionally with people from cultures other than your own;
- increase your awareness, knowledge and understanding of international issues and how these are viewed via diverse sets of lenses that are shaped by cultural values, which in turn are shaped by a combination of forces – including, but not limited to those revealed via global current events.