

Going Global: Professional Development for European and International Studies

EUS 3090
Spring 2025
Mondays, 3:00 – 3:50 pm
2346 Turlington Hall

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Office Hours: Wednesdays & Thursdays | 11:00 am – 2:00 pm

Course Description

There are many choices available to undergraduate students with an international studies background as they approach graduation. This 1-credit course will provide both practical and experiential learning opportunities for students to explore career opportunities. The course will cover professional development basics such as resume and cover letter writing, interviewing, and networking. In addition, the course will explore career opportunities and resources available to help in their search for jobs and graduate schools. Students will have opportunities to speak with career professionals in academia, government, non-profit, think tanks, and private industry. The course is designed to help students pursuing European studies and international studies more broadly, but is open to students in all majors and colleges.

Course Objective

Going Global will help prepare students to answer the question, “how can I pursue a job with an international focus?” As students of European Studies, and International Studies more broadly, numerous job opportunities are available in sectors from foreign service to health services. The coursework and discussions in the class are designed to help students make informed decisions on graduate schools and/or career paths. The activities are intended to provide resources and tools for students to use in job interviews, graduate school searches, and other career related discussions. After completing this course, students will be able to:

- Identify industries and jobs of interest to students wanting to pursue a career in international studies;
- Evaluate different types of graduate school programs and identify programs that best suit their career goals;
- Articulate the skills they have developed through their coursework, study abroad experiences, and extracurricular activities;
- Prepare professional documents, such as resumes and cover letters that highlight the unique skills and experiences gained through international studies.

Required Reading

There is no required textbook for the course. Readings for the course can be reviewed below and will be made available to students through Canvas.

Assignments

Attendance & Participation – 15%
Resume and Cover Letter Review – 20%
Speaker Questions – 10%
Current News – 20%
Informational Interview – 35%

Attendance & Participation – 15%

This class meets once a week and is based on in-class activities and presentations from career and academic professionals. As such, attendance is critical to the course objectives. *Students are allowed 1 unexcused absence; after the first unexcused absence 2 points will be deducted from the attendance grade for each unexcused absence.*

All students are expected to participate in class activities and discussions, including active engagement with the guest speakers through Q&A.

Resume and Cover Letter – 20%

At the beginning of the semester, students will provide a copy of their resume and a sample cover letter. The student will select the topic of the cover letter (e.g. a job posting, graduate school admission board, etc.). Students will receive the resume and cover letter back with suggested edits. Using the comments, class activities, and discussions from class, students will submit a final resume and cover letter (same topic) at the end of the semester for final review and grading.

Resume and cover letters should be submitted as a file upload via Canvas.

Speaker Questions – 10%

Students are expected to come to each guest speaker session with 2 prepared questions based on the bios provided in advance, weekly readings where applicable, and individual research on the company, industry, etc. **Questions are due by 2:00 pm day of the talk.**

Current News – 20%

Students will sign up for one week to present a review of major international news from the previous week. Students will select 4 articles representing at least 3 different world regions and 3 different news sources. Students CANNOT select articles on US domestic news.

Articles must be pulled from reputable international news sources such as *Politico (Europe, London, Berlin, or Paris), EU Observer, New York Times, BBC, The Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, Der Spiegel, Financial Times, The Economist, Radio Free Europe*, etc.

Presentations must be **submitted through Canvas by 11:00 am the day you are presenting.**

Informational Interview – 35%

Students will conduct an informational interview during the semester with a professional working in your desired career industry. From the interview and basic industry research, students will write a ~1000 - 1250-word paper overviewing the industry, background of the interviewee, and insights gained from the interview. More information provided on Canvas.

Grading Scale

Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
Score	93.4- 100	90- 93.3	86.7- 89.9	83.4- 86.6	80- 83.3	76.7- 79.9	73.4- 76.6	70- 73.3	66.7- 69.9	63.4- 66.6	60- 63.3	0- 59.9

Course Schedule

(See Canvas for weekly readings)

Week 1 – Course Introduction

Week 2 – No Class, MLK Holiday

Week 3 – Resumes & Cover Letters

Week 4 – Skills and Interviewing

Week 5 – Writing samples & Policy Briefs

Week 6 – Internships

Week 7 – Prestigious Fellowships

Week 8 – Graduate Schools: What are the options?

Week 9 – Career Industry Speaker: International Business

Week 10 – No Class, Spring Break

Week 11 – Career Industry Speakers: TBD

Week 12 – Career Industry Speakers: TBD

Week 13 – Career Industry Speakers: Teaching English Abroad

Week 14 – Career Industry Speakers: TBD

Week 15 – Conclusion & Wrap-up