

Students Explain Why International Studies

By Jesse McCarl '12



Juliet Wiebe-King '13

Where are you from? Richmond, Virginia.

Are you enrolled in another major? Anthropology major, Spanish minor

What drew you to the international studies major? I am fascinated with different cultures of the world, especially Latin America (which is why I'm an anthropology major as well). I was going to add Latin American studies as a minor, but I found out that I could major in international studies with a concentration on Latin America.

At least three hours of international credits are required. Where did you/do you plan to study abroad? I went on a UNCW spring break study abroad trip to Guatemala and Belize last spring for nine days. This past summer, I studied Spanish in Úbeda, Spain with UNCW's Dr. Jess Boersma. This spring semester, I am studying abroad in Antigua, Guatemala. At the end of the semester, I will be traveling to Chile, Colombia and Argentina.

Where do you see yourself in five years? I plan to be living and working in Central/South America but I'm not sure what exactly my job will be.

What do you consider the biggest global concern right now? I think the biggest global concern right now is overpopulation. This continuing increase of people produces many pressing issues such as the scarcity of resources (water, food, land, loss of ecosystems, mass extinctions, starvation, malnutrition) and pollution.

Place you'd love to visit but would never want to live? One of my many dreams is to backpack through Southeast Asia and be able to experience many of the incredible sights there such as Angkor Wat in Cambodia and the Land of Temples in Burma.

Dream place to retire to? Costa Rica. I have traveled there three times and the pace of life is completely different than the United States. The people I have met there are amazing and the land is beautiful.

Last song played on your MP3 player? "Babylon of the Orient" by The Shanghai Restoration Project.

DANIELLE RODE

The new international studies major offers the knowledge and skills to stay relevant in an increasingly globalized job market.

The major works in tandem with basic liberal arts classes, in which many students have already enrolled, and additional classes with a focus on global awareness. Those enrolled in the major pick either a thematic or geographic focus, and required credit hours studying in a foreign country of their choice. In the first two months the major was available, 25 students registered.

Jordan Eicher '12

Where are you from? Apex, in the Raleigh area

Are you enrolled in another major? Yes, I am also a political science major.

What drew you to the international studies major? The world is increasingly interconnected, and as such, the implications of almost all actions are seen globally. Understanding this better has not only helped my understanding as a political science major, but it has made me more competitive in the global job market.

What is your planned concentration within international studies? I have a concentration in the Middle East because I feel that it is a corner of the world that is often misinterpreted here in America, at least among the youth. It is interesting to see how different the U.S. is from the Middle East, yet so very similar.

At least three hours of international credits are required. Where do you plan to study abroad? I am studying abroad at the University of Jordan in Amman, Jordan, for an Arabic language and Arab culture program.

Where do you see yourself in five years? I would like to imagine that I will be working on international diplomacy or intelligence with the region of my concentration, but with the increasing speed at which the world changes—especially politically—as we have seen with the recent Arab Spring, I would be open to work anywhere.

What do you consider the biggest global concern right now? It is hard to say. I do not believe there is one overarching threat, but there are numerous things that scare me: proliferation of nuclear weapons to belligerents, mass starvation, incredible political corruption and political violence, religious and ethnic persecution, as well as widespread environmental degradation and pollution, to name a few.

Place you'd love to visit but would never want to live? I would love to visit the Seychelles and experience the beauty of their beaches.

Dream place to retire to? I can't say. I assume my interests will be different when I retire, but I can tell you that it will need to be somewhere warm.

Last song played on your MP3 player? The last song I listened to was "Cowboy Casanova" by Carrie Underwood.... Don't judge me.



JORDAN DENARI