Graduate Certificate in Global and International Studies

The Global & International Studies (GIST) certificate is a 12-unit/4-course certificate designed for KU graduate students from other disciplines and working professionals in the Kansas City area, but students located near the Lawrence campus or in graduate programs on the Lawrence campus are also welcome to consider the graduate certificate option. The graduate-level certificate coursework fits particularly well with the other graduate programs at the Edwards Campus (http://edwardscampus.ku.edu/about-ku-edwards-campus) in Overland Park and allows students to gain expertise in globalization and international issues in approximately one year (or less) of study.

Admissions for Current KU Graduate Students

Current KU graduate students must submit the following materials:

1. Online application (http://www.graduate.ku.edu/ku-graduate-application) along with a $30 application fee.
2. A letter of support from a departmental advisor.
3. A current copy of the student's KU advising report (DPR) showing a GPA of 3.00 or higher.

Admissions for Working Professionals

Working professionals seeking only the GIST certificate at KU must submit the following materials:

1. Online application (http://www.graduate.ku.edu/ku-graduate-application) along with a $30 application fee.
2. An official transcript copy from their degree-granting undergraduate institution showing a 3.00 GPA or higher. (Exceptions may be granted at the discretion of the admissions committee.)
3. A statement of purpose of 250-500 words describing the applicant's interest in Global & International Studies and their professional goals.
4. A current resume. (Optional)

Admission Deadlines

We recommend that domestic applicants apply by August 1 for fall semesters and January 1 for spring semesters. International applicants should apply by June 15 for fall semesters and November 15 for spring semesters.

Questions? Please contact one of our graduate advisors, Michelle Welch (for Edwards campus applicants) at michelle.welch@ku.edu, or Alyssa McDonald (for Lawrence campus applicants) at mcdonalda@ku.edu for more information.

The certificate requires the completion of one core course (either GIST 701 Approaches to International Studies or GIST 702 Globalization), an elective in a regional area, an elective in a topical area of focus, and one general internationally-focused elective. Students will work with the graduate advisor and graduate director to choose appropriate electives. You can view our certificate checklist here (http://global.ku.edu/sites/global.ku.edu/files/docs/CertificateChecklist_forWeb_Fall2014-Present.pdf).