

Global Studies Strand Descriptions

International Conflict:

Study of conflicts between nations and/or between groups existing within nations. Taking an interdisciplinary approach, students in this strand may explore various factors contributing to conflict, histories of conflict, and policies for resolving conflict and promoting peace. Examples of past Connecting Experiences in this strand include:

- Genocide and foreign policy.
- The role of the United Nations in conflict resolution.
- History of international conflicts.

Transnational Security and Terrorism:

This strand focuses on issues related to terrorism and transnational security. Unlike the International Conflict strand, which focuses primarily on conflict between and among states, this strand explores violence and conflict that is often perpetrated by non-state and transnational actors. Examples of past Connecting Experiences in this strand include:

- International Law related to Guantanamo detainees.
- Terrorism and security issues in borderlands.
- Counterterrorism policies and their effectiveness.

International Political & Economic Development:

Students in this strand study development within a global or regional context. Development in this context should be thought of as strategic intervention for the betterment of society. Examples of past Connecting Experiences in this strand include:

- The challenges of aid organizations in Central America.
- Research on the impact on local communities of electronic waste dumping in India.
- Effectiveness of microfinance loans to combat poverty.
- Internships with the United Nations, USAID, or The World Bank.

International Trade:

Study of economics and business relations among and across nations, both globally and regionally. Examples of past Connecting Experiences in this strand include:

- Research on the geopolitics of oil in China and the Middle East.
- The impact of global trade patterns on US Foreign Policy in the 1960s.
- Research on the role of international trade in the economic development of Chile.
- Internship with a European energy policy think tank to better understand international trade issues as they relate to climate change, natural resources and security.

Cultures in Context:

This strand focuses on how cultures evolve and change in a regional and global context. Unlike the International Political & Economic Development strand, this strand is not interested in intervention. Examples of past Connecting Experiences in this strand include:

- Research on female participation in Omani politics and various perceptions within Oman and surrounding countries on women in politics.
- Human Rights advocacy in Latin American.
- Development of free press in Latin America.