



Laurea / B.A. in Global Governance

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- 1. The Bachelor of Arts in Global Governance – as you can see from our Courses described in the booklet - offers interdisciplinary teaching, which aims to prepare professionals to face global challenges that require specific legal and socio-economic competencies, as well as a wide range of technical and scientific knowledge and soft skills to manage cultural integration, mediation and team dynamics. Do you have similar Bachelor programs at your University? What is your personal opinion about such type of (Liberal Arts and Sciences) programs?**

At the University of Birmingham we do have a Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Sciences which has an interdisciplinary nature: it includes humanities and social sciences. However, it could not be compared to the interdisciplinarity present at Global Governance.

Global Governance seems like a very interesting programme. What stands out is the focus on soft skills and the commitment to invite speakers to hold Global Conversations and provide students with external inputs.

- 2. One of the main goals of the 3-year B.A. in Global Governance is to support the academic education of our students with a series of professional trainings so as to better identify their potential work opportunities after they graduate. For this reason, Global Governance encourages training programs and internships within institutions, firms and organizations, both in Italy and abroad, selected on the basis of their prestige and quality of the experience. Do you think that these activities are important for the placement of our students in a University/Master program like yours or is it too early to do them during a Bachelor?**

Our students usually do internships at the graduate level, rather than undergraduate. However, in the UK undergraduate students have the opportunity to take part in an exchange year.

Given the current labour market, gaining work experience through internships is crucial because it shows that the student has gained the necessary skills to face real problems in the field, rather than just theoretical concepts.

3. Global Governance is implementing the so-called "Mentors Project". The main purpose of the project is to provide advice to students regarding choices on future studies and/or careers by putting them in touch (throughout the duration of the course) with a professional for advice and counsel. Does your University/program use Mentors or something similar to enrich your students' knowledge of the world? If so, are they effective?

The Mentors Project in Birmingham has been introduced especially this year in order to focus on the impact of covid on students. We also have a buddy system which is aimed at welcoming and guiding first-year students.

Overall, I believe the GG "Mentors Project" is a very useful initiative.

4. In order to help our students select an appropriate academic pathway to follow after they have completed the B.A. in Global Governance, the course offers three majors to choose from: Economics and Philosophy; Political Science, Law and History; Science and Technology. Do you think it is advisable to offer majors, or in other words, subject areas that students specialize in, in a Bachelor Degree? Would you give a greater attention to a candidate from one of those three paths or would you look only at other dimensions of their Bachelor studies? In case yes, which one of the 3 majors?

Offering a specialization in a specific field is the great approach. I think that Science and Technology is a really interesting major, especially following the Covid-19 pandemic and the changes it has brought about.

5. Do you think that the Global Governance graduates that the course intends to train will be in demand by the labour market and/or University graduate programs over the next ten years? If not or only partly, what do you think is missing?

This strongly depends on what labour market we are referring to because there are variations at a national level based on different skills requested. Anyway, an interdisciplinary preparation in English can provide students with an advantage in the labour market.

6. What are the competencies, skills and abilities that in general your University (or, if applicable, your Master) cherishes in an applicant?

It depends on the levels. For Master's, practical experiences are considered really valuable. Some courses focus as well on good grades. However, things like public speaking and extra curriculum activities are cherished as well and they are seen as an added value.

7. Do you think that the Global Governance graduates that the course intends to train may perform well in graduate programs at your University? Please specify the names of the programs.

There are various programmes. We do have a Master in Global Governance in my Department (Department of Social Policies, Sociology and Criminology). Public Policies and Global Governance are areas that are expanding lately. Thus, we work a lot on the energy market, poverty and welfare state, migration. We also have masters that focus exclusively on migration, international relations and politics.

8. What kind of extra training would you offer to our Bachelor students so that their skills and competences can better respond to the requirements of the graduate programs at your University?

Skills such as public speaking and writing in different formats (blogs as well as essays) are very appreciated.

9. Would you suggest any specific/special activity/project carried out in undergraduate programs at your University that could be included in the Global Governance BA?

We belong to this network called EUniWell (<https://www.euniwell.eu/>) that is financed by the EU. It is composed by both teachers and students and it concerns activities linked to well-being, both at the individual level and at the societal level. Thus, I would suggest partnerships that link different universities across Europe.

10. Would your University be interested in an Erasmus/Overseas program with the Global Governance BA? If yes, are there any specific prerequisites or competences that our students should have in order to participate?

I cannot answer precisely. At the moment, following Brexit, the situation is a bit complicated. Some contracts have expired while others have been renewed.

11. Please report here any other comment or suggestion regarding the structure and contents of the Global Governance BA

Perhaps I could provide comments or suggestions after the conversation of the 21st of May.