



# GLOBAL GREAT BOOKS

Explore fundamental questions  
unconstrained by borders



**Huron**  
AT WESTERN

ASK QUESTIONS THAT  
**MOVE THE**  
**WORLD**  
**FORWARD**

DISCOVER THE WONDER OF CONTEMPLATION THROUGH GLOBAL GREAT BOOKS. ENGAGE WITH PEERS AND FACULTY, ACROSS VARIOUS DISCIPLINES, AND OPEN THE DOOR TO HOW DIFFERENT CULTURES GRAPPLE WITH SOME OF HUMANITY'S MOST PRESSING QUESTIONS.

**HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED ABOUT THE NATURE OF HAPPINESS OR THE MEANING OF LIFE? DO YOU SOMETIMES WISH YOU KNEW MORE ABOUT THE DIVERSE CULTURES THAT SHAPE OUR WORLD?**

Do you want to have meaningful discussions about the perennial questions that animate human life? While we read what some of the greatest minds have thought about the human condition, you will discover a diverse set of answers to life's biggest questions, giving you the opportunity to discern the best path for yourself.

This program will not only develop your ability to think globally, it will also enrich your sense about how to navigate the complexities of human life, find meaningful solutions to perennial problems and inspire others to do the same.

*"The themes we observe through the literary works we study are universal and applicable. The books may be from centuries past, but they're still relevant. We study practically unanswerable questions, such as the meaning of life and love, but we debate and discuss them. Our classes are thought provoking and engaging. Most of our classes are discussions and that's what makes Global Great Books so different, the student engagement."*

**QIANYANG PERIN CHENG | STUDENT**

Major, Honors Specialization in Political Science,  
Minor in French  
Barcelona, Spain



## THE GLOBAL ADVANTAGE

Questions about happiness, love, hatred and justice are universal, and the ways human beings attempt to navigate them tell us a lot about who they are and what motivates their actions.

Whether you lead within a boardroom or operating room, if you want to positively influence others, you must understand how they engage with the world. Global Great Books' interdisciplinary courses create the unique opportunity to engage with profound questions and ideas to understand, in deep and meaningful ways, the perspectives of other people.

Huron's strategically-small classrooms create the perfect environment for vibrant discussions to lead you towards answers that will increase your agency over yourself and position you to build more meaningful relationships with others.

You will receive one-on-one mentorship and support from a wide variety of internationally-recognized professors whose unique areas of expertise will enable you to delve into a breadth and depth of material that is extremely rare within Canada's post-secondary landscape.

**BE BETTER PREPARED TO WORK TOWARDS PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL GOALS – INDIVIDUALLY AND COLLABORATIVELY – TO LEAD A MORE WELL-ROUNDED AND ENRICHING LIFE.**



***“Global Great Books works so well because it’s so interdisciplinary. It goes beyond simple English, History or Philosophy and transverses different domains. It’s questioning all these bigger unanswerable questions that all these disciplines have tried to answer in their own ways. My worldview is challenged every time I step into class. If you absolutely love to learn and your passion is learning, this is the course for you.”***

**GILLIAN HUNNISETT | STUDENT**

**Double Major, Global Great Books  
and French Studies  
Orillia, Ontario**

# WHAT DO OUR GRADS DO?

Our world is becoming increasingly global. You can no longer be a successful leader if you work in isolation from the diverse ideas and cultural influences of others. Global Great Books empowers you to extend your empathy, compassion and leadership far beyond your local community – and even your country’s borders.

Some examples of where Global Great Books grads go include:

- Politician
- Humanitarian
- Lawyer
- Professor
- Business executive and strategist
- Journalist
- Diplomat
- Teacher
- Marketer or public relations professional
- Salesperson
- Social worker
- Lobbyist
- Community activist and service worker
- Non-profit professional

## FIRST YEAR: THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS

**IN THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD, WE DOWNPLAY THE IMPORTANCE OF HAPPINESS AND TEND TO FOCUS ON OUR INDIVIDUAL STRUGGLES OR THE PROBLEMS FACING OUR WORLD. WHILE THESE ARE IMPORTANT, AT THE END OF THE DAY, WE ALSO ALL ASPIRE TO BE HAPPY.**

At Huron, we recognize happiness is not something that “just happens.” It’s hard enough to know what will make you happy, let alone how to achieve it. Happiness is serious business. This interdisciplinary first-year course explores human happiness by reading a diverse set of books, from philosophy to literature, from authors around the world.

During your exploration you will learn how different people define happiness and aim to attain it. In so doing, you will be asked to think about what it might take to make you truly happy and how to get there.

**“HAPPINESS IS SOMETHING FINAL AND SELF-SUFFICING, AND IS THE END OF ALL THAT WE DO.”**  
– ARISTOTLE

*“The thing about Global Great Books is that every aspect of engagement in the course is absolutely phenomenal. The environment of learning is unparalleled; it’s like you’re in a graduate seminar. I’ve taken many courses in many difference disciplines but the course I feel I’ve learned the most in, is Global Great Books. I go back to these books and these notes and these lectures all the time; I tie them into other classes.”*

**JO WINSOR | STUDENT**  
Major, Honors Specialization in English and Cultural Studies  
Toronto, Ontario

### PROGRAM OPTIONS

	Major	Minor
<b>IND: 1103F</b> The Pursuit of Happiness	✓	
<b>GGB 2000F/G*</b> Human Nature and the Meaning of Life	✓	
<b>GGB 2001F/G*</b> Friends and Lovers	✓	
<b>GGB 3000F/G</b> Justice	✓	
<b>GGB 3001F/G</b> Nature and Technology	✓	
<b>GGB 3002F/G</b> Art and the Imagination	✓	
<b>GGB 3003F/G</b> Reason and Revelation	✓	
<b>GGB 4000</b> Capstone Project	✓	
<b>GGB 2200</b> The Global Art of Love		✓
<b>GGB 3200</b> Reason and Revelation in Global Art and Music		✓
<b>GGB 3201</b> The Global Art of Justice		✓





***“In Global Great Books, we engage in conversations with some of the world’s greatest thinkers about the most important things – not only to understand their perspectives, but to better understand ourselves. What could be better than that?”***

**DR. SARA MACDONALD,**  
Professor and Coordinator, Global Great Books

## **OUTCOMES**

At the end of the Global Great Books major, you will be more familiar with the traditions that have shaped the world’s cultures. You will be prepared to think and act as a global citizen, sensitive to both the diverse histories of the world’s peoples and the shared questions and challenges that face us all.

Within dynamic learning environments, you will develop the capacity to closely analyze difficult texts, write clearly and draw together different ideas into a coherent argument. You will become more able to argue persuasively and listen carefully to the voices of others. As part of this program, you will also engage in experiential learning initiatives that include a social justice project aimed towards the betterment of our communities.

## **RELATED AREAS OF STUDY**

**As a Huron student, you can combine any program with a minor, major or specialization from another Huron program or a major or minor in many of the programs offered at Western, Brescia or King’s, such as:**

- English & Cultural Studies
- GLE
- French
- History
- Management and Organizational Studies
- Philosophy
- Political Science

## **GLOBAL GREAT BOOKS IS AS UNIQUE AS YOU ARE!**

**Our university is one of the only in Canada to offer this truly interdisciplinary, globally-focused program. Be part of a remarkable learning journey that will fundamentally change how you view the world and your place within it.**





*“At their heart, these courses are about what it means to be human, with all of the challenges and all of the triumphs that this entails.”*

**DR. JOHN HOPE**  
Professor, Jewish Studies

MEET ALL YOUR PROFESSORS AT: [huronatwestern.ca](http://huronatwestern.ca)

## EARN & LEARN

**HURON WILL CONNECT YOU WITH PAID INTERNSHIPS AND VOLUNTEER POSITIONS TO HELP YOU BUILD VALUABLE EXPERIENCE.**

**Recent examples of internships held by students of English and Cultural Studies include:**

### **SPECIALIZED INTERNSHIPS**

- Junior Analyst at Guaranteed Removals
- Assistant Librarian

### **RECENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES INCLUDED POSITIONS AT:**

- London Public Library
- Huron Literary Society
- English Representative – HUCSC
- Sidewalk Talks Volunteer

## AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

**In addition to awards open to students in all disciplines, students of English and Cultural Studies at Huron are eligible for numerous special awards and scholarships, including:**

- The Godsoe Family Scholarships of Distinction in English and Philosophy
- The Judith McMurrich Memorial Bursary
- The Mary Kathleen Brooks Prize in Poetry
- The First-Year Prize for English and Cultural Studies
- The Jared Prize
- The Modern Studies Prize
- Dr. and Mrs. Rodney Poisson English Prize

**GET INVOLVED!** By taking Global Great Books, you will have the opportunity to shape the Global Great Books Student Association, connect with other like-minded students who are interested in thinking and talking about the questions that have inspired philosophers and writers throughout history.

**Huron Underground Dramatic Society (HUDS)** gives students the opportunity to write plays or sketches, take on dramatic roles, and/or do lighting, scene design, costumes and music for HUDS performances.

**The Literary Society** annually publishes a magazine called Grubstreet featuring student work. The society also holds poetry readings, lyric-writing workshops, film screenings and other events.

**Liberated Arts:** A Journal of Undergraduate Research annually publishes an issue of undergraduate student scholarship. English and Cultural Studies students often serve as junior editors.



## FACULTY RESEARCH EXPERTISE

Huron's faculty are experienced researchers and mentors.

Here are some of their areas of expertise:

- The philosophy and literature of freedom
- Ancient and modern political philosophy
- Popular culture and political engagement
- Russian literature
- Orientalism
- The Caucasus
- Mountaineering cultural studies



## NEED A MENTOR? BE A MENTOR.

Senior students and alumni will help you plan your studies and your career. In your senior years, volunteer to mentor another student!

[huronatwestern.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/find-mentor](https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/find-mentor)



## TRAVEL STUDY

Students engaged in Global Great Books will **be well positioned to participate in travel study programs around the world.** Students will be eligible to study in Beijing at the Summer Institute in Human Rights and Law within China University of Political Science and Law. Additionally, they will have an opportunity to attend the Association of Core Text and Courses Undergraduate Conference held each year in the United States.

LEADERSHIP  
*with*  
*heart*



Huron  
AT WESTERN

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