

# INFORMATION GUIDE



**BEYOND BORDERS: WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A  
GLOBAL CITIZEN (OA-MINBILD-18)**

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## **General Content Minor**

The growing interconnectedness among people, countries, and economies means that there is a global dimension to who we are. Although our world is now more connected than ever before, it also faces major challenges. Big ones. Like refugee problems, sustainability and technical (moral) dilemmas. It means that our world needs a different type of professional: people who understand the complexity of our interconnected world, who know their social, ethical and political responsibilities and who want to get involved in their local, national and global communities. Do you recognize these issues and are you interested in a minor, where you learn from other disciplines, cultures and practices in order to understand who you are or want to become in your personal and future professional life? Are you a student who values skills such as critical thinking, creativity, multiperspectivity and social engagement? Then join the minor *Beyond Borders: What It Means to Be a Global Citizen!*

## **Professional Context**

Teachers, journalists, ICT-professionals, healthcare personnel, all of them have to adapt to the current global challenges. For example, teachers have to educate their pupils to be critical and responsive to the challenges of this changing society and economy. ICT-professionals and healthcare personnel have to take a position about the (ethical) consequences of technological developments in science and health care. The key concept in this minor where you learn how to cope with these questions is 'world citizenship'. World citizenship is about important, though not always easy things: an awareness that extends beyond the borders of your local or national community, insight in (inter)national developments, empathy with and respect for people from other parts of the world, reflection on the many connections between one's personal situation and conditions elsewhere, plus the readiness to draw personal conclusions from them.

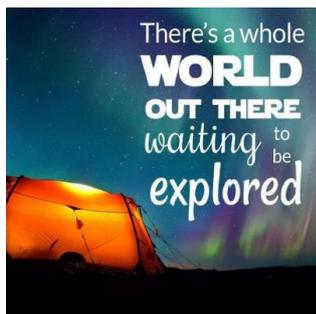
The minor has two important streams: *World citizenship* and *Bildung*. This minor is all about your personal as well as your professional position in society. Which attitude and choices do you take as a world citizen to global developments such as blurring boundaries, mounting inequality, human rights, technological and ecological change? *Bildung* in this minor is meant as personal development. For example: self-knowledge, learning from the perspective of the other and understanding your personal responsibilities in this world.

## General Outline Minor

In this minor you work on an individual basis and in subgroups on practice related study assignments. In block A you will be introduced to various global issues, from a cross-cultural and interdisciplinary approach, and we connect those global issues to your professional practice through field trips, excursions and other practice-oriented events. For example field trips to an asylum seekers center or Fort de Bilt and an international study trip to Berlin.

## Block A

### Module A: The world around you. About world citizenship (5EC)



#### Topics

- General introduction (for modules A, B and C, combined)
- World citizenship: what is citizenship and can it be global?
- Peace, conflict and world citizenship: the challenges of growing radicalism and views on global responses and responsibilities.
- Democracy and world citizenship: the issues and challenges of our global age.  
Critical Thinking, fake news.
- Technology and health care.

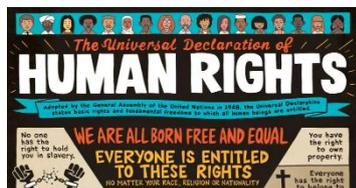
### Module B: Learning to live together. Nations, nationalism and religion in a globalized era (5EC)



#### Topics

- General introduction (for modules A, B and C combined)
- Historical background of the development of nations and nationalism in order to understand the current challenges in our society.
- Connected World: relationships and tensions between local, national and global interests. What does national identity mean in a world that is characterized by growing interconnectedness?
- The religious and the secular: past, present and future.

### Module C: Global inequality: The main challenges of our time – a human rights perspective (5EC)



#### Topics:

- General introduction (for modules A, B and C combined)
- The sustainable development goals: a blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future.
- NGO's: Who is doing what?
- Human rights: Challenges and limitations of human rights
- Migration: Refugees in the 21st century
- Polarization: The impact of stereotypes on intercultural communication
- Sustainable cities: Cities designed with consideration of the social, economic, environmental impact
- SDG's and your professional future

At the end of modules A, B and C, a joint international study trip to Berlin is organized

## Block B

### Module D: Exploring the world around you. A practice-orientated study (10 EC)



Objective: making a connection with a specific professional community or practice of the students' choice.

In block B you will be given the opportunity to apply your knowledge and skills regarding world citizenship in your professional/personal life by conducting a practice-oriented research project. This project is an internship/traineeship for 7 weeks, approx. two days a week, in an organization of your own choice (f.e. schools, press, companies). You explore how the organization and its professionals work with one of the themes of world citizenship and especially the UN sustainable development goals. Finally, students describe the results, including their recommendations in a portfolio. This minor also gives you the opportunity to explore your learning questions in a professional practice abroad.

### Module E: Personal-professional development: new perspectives for changing times (5 EC)



Students reflect on the personal significance of this minor, by comparing it with their expectations before the start of the minor (past) and how the minor has influenced their personal and/or professional development (present). They also describe the significance of this minor for their future ambitions, plans, dreams (future). This reflection will be presented in the form of a written biography.

## Assessment/course examination

Module A: Presentation (citizenship concerning specific products or themes)

Module B: Essay  
Assignment Trip Berlin

Module C: Biographical article based on an interview with an asylum seeker  
Background video showing the (in)equality of the country of origin of the asylum seeker

Module D: Portfolio of the internship

Module E: Reflection in the form of a written biography and an interview with your mentor

## Learning objectives minor

Students will:

- learn to understand and reflect on what it means to be a world citizen in our current society, by exploring recent theories, practical examples, case studies and field trips;
- develop an (historical) understanding of how the challenges of globalization, nationalism and religion influence our current society and what that means for your own profession;
- learn how to become aware of the ethical and moral dimensions of world citizenship, by exploring the concept of (in)equality in the current society and various professional disciplines;
- be able to place an existing perspective on world citizenship in a cross-cultural perspective, through an international field trip (Berlin);
- learn to connect individual knowledge and skills regarding world citizenship in their profession and/or personal life, with a professional community or practice of their choice by conducting a practice-oriented internship for about 7 weeks.
- formulate their own learning objectives and understand how the minor has influenced their Bildung by describing their reflections on their personal and/or professional development (past-present-future).

## Entry Requirements

Formal entry requirement: undergraduate degree (propaedeutic examination).

The level of language proficiency necessary to participate in the minor is a B2 in reading and writing, but these levels are not an official requirement. For Dutch students: this is the equivalent of Havo/ROC level 4).

## Required reading

1. Yuval Noah Harari: Sapiens. A brief history of humankind (€13,99)
2. Windows on the World. Canon for Global Citizenship Committee (Faculty of Geosciences, Utrecht University)  
(Additional informative will be put on the Sthubl-site)

## Costs

- Literature: about € 15
- Trip Berlin -four days/three nights  
Around €300-350

(Travel costs: about €100 to €150 (depending on type of transport)

Hotel: about €120 for three nights

Entry museums: around €25

Travel card: around €35)

### Coördinatoren Minor

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