

THE GLOBE IN PERSPECTIVE

A collaborative community

The Centre for Global Studies (CFGS) fosters research, reflection and action on complex issues of local, national and global importance. Located on the University of Victoria's stunning campus, it is a collaborative community of scholars and leaders that is uniquely positioned to bridge academic research with innovative knowledge mobilization and effective community engagement.

As a truly interdisciplinary research centre exploring global and Indigenous perspectives, CFGS fosters exploration, discussion and collaboration in new and unexpected ways. The CFGS is not just a research centre, it's an international community, purposefully designed to foster exchanges that lead to collaboration and innovation.

"CFGS is a truly unique gem among post-secondary institutions, fostering diverse intellectual collaborations coupled with community outreach in ways that are rewarding and innovative."

Benjamin J. Muller, PhD, Visiting Research Fellow and Associate Professor, King's University College



CORE PROJECTS

Core projects are long-term projects housed at the Centre and are a major part of our day-to-day activities.

Borders in Globalization

BIG places Canadian scholars at the core of an innovative, multidisciplinary and international partnership engaging policy makers and non-academic organizations on the management of borders in Canada and worldwide.

European Union Centre of Excellence

As a European Union Centre of Excellence, we offer courses, study abroad programs and internships that promote a thorough understanding of Europe's multifaceted history, culture, fast-changing political realities and its extraordinary role in today's world.

POLIS Project on Ecological Governance

POLIS investigates and promotes sustainability and joins academic, legal and policy research with community action to foster healthy and resilient communities, biocultural diversity, watershed governance and integrated, innovative approaches to decision-making for ecological sustainability with an emphasis on fresh water.

Water, Innovation, and Global Governance Lab

WIGG Lab is a collaborative initiative dedicated to advancing interdisciplinary research in the areas of water, social innovation and global governance—and applying that research in local and international contexts.

CENTRE FOR GLOBAL STUDIES



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Centre for Global Studies

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RESEARCH FOR A SUSTAINABLE AND EQUITABLE WORLD

Global issues, local impact

CFGS research considers the nexus of the local and global—how local concerns have global effects and how global issues manifest at the local level. Our fellows and researchers are exploring issues vital to people, places, policy and the planet and are making an impact around the world. We have specific interests in the following areas:

- Borders and migration in the 21st century
- Environmental and social policy, and ecological governance with a strong emphasis on water
- Indigeneity and reconciliation from global and local perspectives
- Social justice and participatory democracy
- Governance as an integrated process at and across scales

On the pulse of current events

The CFGS hosts conferences, workshops and speakers that promote critical citizenship in a complex and rapidly changing global environment and respond to defining events as they unfold. These events bridge the divide between academia and the community, as well as inform policy, decision makers and citizens on important issues.

Projects and programs

We collaborate on projects across faculties and departments at UVic as well as with communities, practitioners, partners and universities around the globe. These projects reflect the core themes of the Centre and bring together diverse groups of people to communicate our research through events, publications and collaborative networks. We make our boundary-pushing research accessible to policy makers, researchers and the wider community.

Fellowship program

The Centre awards fellowships to graduate students, international scholars and faculty researchers with an overarching aim to build a sophisticated and transdisciplinary network. These fellowships provide office space, a stipend for students/visiting scholars, and course and administrative release for faculty ranging from several weeks to a year in residency.

Working groups

The Centre supports a number of informal groups of community and university members who come together to explore and bring visibility to a specific issue through events and research. These groups offer opportunities to expand networks and explore concepts and ideas in detail with knowledgeable scholars and experts in their field. Groups have included:

- Global Health Research
- Global South Colloquium
- Latin American Research Group
- Middle East Discussion Group
- Property Rights and Society Discussion Group
- UVic in the Anthropocene

“CFGS is a home and more importantly, an exceptional community of researchers, scholars and fabulous peers who are occupied with tackling some of the most vexing issues across the globe and contributing to transformative change.”

Anita Girvan, former Graduate Student Fellow

CORE THEMES

CFGS research and public engagement build upon our researchers' expertise in four core themes:

Governance

Research oriented toward governance understood both in institutional and informal terms, including forms of governance not usually associated with the nation-state or other conventional political institutions and community processes where the local and global are tightly interwoven.

Social and Ecological Justice

Research engaged with social problems related to large scale political and environmental changes including themes around decolonization and reconciliation, globalization, mass migration, economic exploitation, and new forms of community governance institutions.

Culture and Identity

Research focused on changes in ethnic, religious and national cultures in a globalizing world and the challenges and opportunities posed by social and cultural forms spawned by new individual and collective identities.

Environmental Challenges

Research concerned with increasingly critical global environmental crises such as climate change, pandemics, and energy and water scarcity.



“CFGS works to connect the global to the local, whether that be in an academic or research sense or a practical, on-the-ground sense of issues of global scale manifesting in local consequences.”

Oliver Schmidtke, CFGS Director and Professor, History and Political Science

