



What Is Global Studies?: Theory & Practice

By Manfred B. Steger, Amentahru Wahlrab



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What is Global Studies, and how does it relate to globalization? Responding to this frequently asked question, Manfred B. Steger and Amentahru Wahlrab provide the first comprehensive overview of this emerging field.

Authoritative and accessible, this primer speaks to students and instructors interested not only in key theories but also in applied teaching and learning programs designed to educate "global citizens" to meet the concrete challenges of the twenty-first century. Linking the influential arguments of major thinkers in Global Studies to their own framework, the authors discuss the "Four Pillars of Global Studies": globalization, transdisciplinarity, space and time, and critical thinking.

The book, with instructive appendix materials, will appeal to readers seeking a deeper understanding of Global Studies—one of the most popular fields of study in major universities around the world.

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Editorial Review

Review

With the astounding success of the emerging field of global studies in universities around the world, questions arise about what it is and whether there are central intellectual issues at its core. This book provides those answers by tracing the historical development of the field and showing that there are central pillars in the study of the "global imaginary." This thoughtful book provides the roadmap for what global studies is and what it promises to become, and is required reading for anyone interested in this flourishing field.

Mark Juergensmeyer, *University of California, Santa Barbara*; *Author of Thinking Globally: A Global Studies Reader*

Manfred Steger and Amentahru Wahlrab have given us the most comprehensive discussion about the multiple origins of global thought and research that I know of. It sets a new standard for what it means to analyze the very diverse theorizations and debates that have generated this field.

Saskia Sassen, *Columbia University*; *Author of Expulsions: Brutality and Complexity in the Global Economy*

This is a very exciting book. It is a major discussion of the field of global studies, an arena that is rapidly becoming a crucial domain of academic work. The authors are enviably fair, address the most vital themes in the discourse of global studies, and express their views with admirable clarity. Of particular interest to readers will be the exploration of disciplinarity, the relationship between the study of globalization and global studies, the exploration of global studies as a mode of critical inquiry, and the general organization of the field.

Roland Robertson, *University of Pittsburgh and University of Aberdeen*

Steger and Wahlrab have produced a book that simultaneously introduces, describes, and interprets the new field of global studies in relation to its theories, concepts, and research methods. *What is Global Studies?* is thus a masterful survey of the global mentalité or "imaginary" that informs the field, including the "significations and articulations" that have enabled it to escape the gravitational pull of more familiar, local imaginaries. The writing is everywhere inclusive, balanced, and clear, and the structure of the whole designed to satisfy—and this is no mean feat!—both the beginning student and the seasoned scholar.

Giles Gunn, *University of California, Santa Barbara*

About the Author

Manfred B. Steger is Professor of Sociology at the University of Hawai'i-Manoa, Honorary Professor of Global Studies at RMIT University-Melbourne, and a globalization consultant for the US State Department.

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