



BORDERS IN GLOBALIZATION SUMMER INSTITUTES 2025

Academic and Policy Research for Professionals and Students

Tuition-Free Fellowships

Call for Policy Proposals (Deadline March 31st, 2025)

Borders in Globalization (BIG) Lab at the University of Victoria is pleased to publish this Call for Policy Proposals on academic and policy research related to cross-border management issues and challenges.

We welcome any proposal subject that is related to: cross-border management, border law, trade and customs borders, human mobility across borders, Indigenous internationalisms and border crossings, border security, ecological borders, border disputes, and artificial intelligence in border management.

Students (third year undergraduate and above) and professionals from across sectors are encouraged to apply.

The awarded applicants will receive a fellowship for a Summer Institute related to their paper proposal as determined by the Selection Committee. Fellows will be supervised by professors/lecturers at the University of Victoria (British Columbia, Canada) and the papers produced may be published in our academic journal, [BIG Review](#).

Fellows will receive a participation certificate for each of the nine Summer Institutes completed. **Micro-credentials** (Professional Development Certificates) are also available for students who complete a [stream](#), consisting of Cross-Border Management in Comparative Perspective (required) plus the stream's second 5-day Institute and elective (including all policy papers).

For more information on each institute and the Micro-credential streams offered, please see [2025 Summer Institute Descriptions](#). See also our [2025 Summer Institutes webpage](#).

Submissions

Please submit a proposal (maximum 500 words) no later than Monday, March 31st at 11:45 PM (PST). Accepted applicants will be notified by the end of April 2025. Each successful candidate will be offered a tuition-free spot in one of our nine Summer Institutes in 2025.

Your proposal should include the motivation for and objective of your research, the data sets and methodologies to be used, and possible outcomes. Selected applicants will draft their policy paper under the supervision of a faculty member, or members, at BIG Lab.

Please note that supervision includes mandatory participation in a Summer Institute (either online or in-person). Those not accepted to receive a fellowship this year are still welcomed to register for and join the Summer Institutes of their choice at the standard tuition rate.





To apply:

To respond to this Call for Papers, please [submit your application online at this link](#). Proposals must be uploaded to the online application as a PDF document containing the following:

File name: Last name, First name_2025 BIG Summer Inst Proposal

- Full proposal should be a maximum of 500 words, including title and biography
- Discuss the motivation for, objective and possible outcomes of your research
- Explain the datasets and methodology to be used in your research

Papers should be submitted in accordance with the following requirements:

- Times New Roman 12 pt. font
- Double-spaced
- Written in English or French

Deadline for fellowship applications: March 31, 2025, at 11:45 p.m. (PST)

Borders in Globalization is grateful for the support provided by the World Customs Organization (WCO), the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), and the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union.





2025 Summer Institute Descriptions

July 7th–11th, 2025

- Cross-Border Management in Comparative Perspective
In this course you will join experts from around the world to examine local and regional changes affecting the management of the politics and policies of cross border regions and transboundary people. We will explore the challenges and opportunities in managing cross-border regions using case-studies such as The Pacific Coast Cascadian cross-border region. Professionals from the Mission Opérationnelle Transfrontalière, the Association of European Border Regions, the Pacific Northwest Economic Region, and the University of Western Washington Border Policy Research Institute, as well as leading legal and policy experts will lead workshopped discussions, presentations, and practicum sessions.
- The Law of Borders in the 21st Century
This Institute will explore the juridical complexity of borders through varying legal disciplines such as history of law, public law and international law, European law and transnational law. You will learn about the juridical history of borders and new ideas on juridical bordering through discussions of territorial delimitations, border singularities, international disputes, border controls, and the effects of the EU and globalization on contemporary borders.

July 14th–18th, 2025

- Trade and Customs Borders
Trade and customs facilitation and enforcement is influenced by politics, policies and multiple complex systems. This program will deepen your knowledge about the regulatory environment of trading networks, the practical trade applications and concerns related to artificial intelligence and machine learning and the challenges and opportunities in managing cross border regions. The courses in the program are facilitated by professionals from the Canada Border Services Agency, the Pacific North West Economic Region, and the World Customs Organization, as well as leading academics in the field of border studies.
- Managing Borders and Bodies in the 21st Century
Global and national frameworks facilitate and regulate human mobility across borders. In this course you will learn about the various ways that international actors and states manage the flow of people across international borders. Focusing on how migrants are categorized, we will explore the inter-related migration regimes that facilitate easy mobility for some, and highly restricted mobility for others. Participants will gain a thorough understanding of the complex global migration system and the contemporary challenges to this system. Each session will include short lectures, reading discussion, and an examination of case studies.



July 21st–23rd, 2025

- Modern Border Security Management

Border security management is a complex multiplayer effort grounded in vertical/horizontal, domestic/international, and public/private partnerships. This program will enhance your understanding of border security management protocols, emphasizing current technologies and strategies. It will highlight the significance of international and domestic cooperation and effective governance structures, fostering collaboration among states to address shared security challenges. Both traditional and non-traditional threats will be discussed to address the interconnected challenges of our modern world: from drug and human trafficking to cybersecurity and climate change. Sessions will be facilitated by both academics and practitioners and delivered through short lectures, virtual fieldtrips, and interactive exercises.

- Ecological Border Management

In the era of the Anthropocene, as aquatic, grassland, forest, desert, and tundra biomes are being affected by important ecological changes, management issues are rising beyond state boundary lines. This program will deepen your knowledge of the various approaches used across the world to tackle climate change at the global and cross-border levels. Sessions will be facilitated by professionals from organizations that manage watersheds, peace parks and nature reserves from all continents, as well as leading academics in the fields of border studies that are studying how states and local/regional communities are adapting to those changes.



- Managing Border Disputes

Disputes relating to international borders are common. They range from state-to-state disputes over territorial sovereignty and boundary alignment to local disagreements over access and use of areas in the vicinity of the border. Whatever the scale and intensity, border disputes are rarely easy to resolve to the satisfaction of all stakeholders. This Institute will explore: types of border dispute and their origins; the benefits and risks of different options for resolving disputes over borders; and how to minimize friction between borderland communities while formal efforts to find a permanent settlement are ongoing.

July 28th– 30th, 2025

- Indigenous Internationalisms and Border Crossings

Expressions of Indigenous internationalism are practiced in several different ways by First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples across Turtle Island and globally. Encompassing Indigenous trade relations, diplomatic protocols, treaty arrangements, acts of solidarity and other assertions of self-determining authority, Indigenous internationalism is an emerging area of research that exposes tensions between Indigenous nations and states over border policies and highlights Indigenous relationships that transcend state borders. This course will examine the ways that Indigenous nations are expressing their relationships to lands and waters through complex diplomacies and



forms of engagement, as well as their experiences with state border crossings. Drawing on Indigenous peoples' perspectives across Turtle Island and beyond, each session will include short lectures, discussion, and an examination of case studies.

- **Artificial Intelligence in Border Management**

In this course you will be introduced to artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) and learn about their practical applications in both trade facilitation and trade enforcement. You will examine AI explainability and concerns related to AI and ML deployment. Accessible to learners with or without a technical background, this course will equip managers or future managers with the knowledge and skills required to be a principled consumer and designer of AI and ML systems. Practical group exercises will support and enhance your learning.

Micro Credentials

A. Modern Border Management: Trade and Customs

Required courses:

1. Cross-Border Management in Comparative Perspective
2. Trade and Customs Borders
3. Artificial Intelligence in Border Management

B. Modern Border Management: (Im)migration and Mobility

Required courses:

1. Cross-Border Management in Comparative Perspective
2. Managing Borders and Bodies in the 21st Century

Optional courses (choose one):

- The Law of Borders in the 21st Century
- Indigenous Internationalisms and Border Crossings
- Ecological Border Management

C. Modern Border Management: Law of Borders and Cross-Border Laws

Required courses:

1. Cross-Border Management in Comparative Perspective
2. The Law of Borders in the 21st Century

Optional courses (choose one):

- Modern Border Security Management
- Indigenous Internationalisms and Border Crossings
- Ecological Border Management