



BRIDGEWATER

STATE UNIVERSITY

Bridgewater State University

GEOG 250: Globalization

Winter Semester, 2021/2022

December 21, 2021 – January 17, 2022

Instructor: TBA

Email: TBA

Location: Online

Credits: 3

Course Synopsis:

This course critically examines the topic of globalization in all its diverse forms of growing world-wide interdependence, interconnections, and dynamics among countries as reflected in the increasing cross-border flows of goods and services, capital, know-how and people. It is imperative that we develop an understanding of and are sensitized to the diverse economic, political, social, and cultural factors of globalization. Allow students to apply critical thinking skills and conduct exploratory research on the various dimensions of globalization and their impact on different countries, and vice versa. This class is very interdisciplinary in nature and aims to enhance student grounding in research, debating, and writing skills.

Course Outcomes:

The term ‘globalization’ refers to the growing economic interdependence among countries as reflected in the increasing cross-border flows of goods and services, capital, know-how and people. The age of information technology has proven to be more revolutionary than either the advent of the printing press or the industrial revolution. With the growing interdependence among nations and the increasing internationalization of trade, commerce and people, it is essential that we are exposed to the varied socio-economic and political factors of globalization. The outcomes include:

1. Understand the socio-economic and cultural fabric of world regions.
2. Apply critical thinking skills and link the demographics of world to globalization and environment.
3. Conduct exploratory research on the various dimensions of globalization and their impact on different countries, and *vice versa*.
4. Understand the socio-economic and cultural implications of globalization and its sustainability.
5. Enhance the written and oral communication skills of students.

Learning Objectives

- Identify the different components of globalization, including their controversial aspects.
- List several ways in which globalization is changing environment and world geographies.
- Analyze the conceptual framework of world regional geography.
- Explain the concepts and metrics used to document changes in global population and settlement patterns.
- Examine time-space compression and the digital divide as an example of the uneven outcomes of globalization.
- Explore the ways in which social networks and media influence globalization.
- Describe the themes and concepts used to study the interaction between globalization and the world's cultural geographies.
- Explain how different aspects of globalization have interacted with global geopolitics from the colonial period to the present day.
- Identify the concepts and data important to documenting changes in the economic and social development of more and less developed countries (MDCs and LDCs).

Contributions to Classroom Learning:

Your class participation includes attendance, my assessment of your overall level of preparedness for class, and the extent to which you ask questions, attempt to answer questions, or provide other relevant comments during our discussions. Grades for class participation will depend on both quality and frequency of participation. Participation will be judged on the basis of:

- Evidence of informed and thoughtful analysis
- Fit with the flow of class discussion
- Ability to provoke constructive debate
- Ability to influence the class opinion

Course Outline:

I. Converging Currents of Globalization

A. Globalization

B. Economic Globalization:

Attributes of Economic Globalization

- a. Global communication systems
- b. Transportation systems
- c. Flexible forms of capital accumulation
- d. Global agreements promoting free trade
- e. Transnational business strategies
- f. Dominance of market economies and private enterprises
- g. Abundance of planetary goods and services
- h. Economic disparities between rich and poor regions
- i. Significant international migration systems

C. Globalization and Changing Human Geographies:

D. Geopolitics and Globalization:

- E. Environment and Globalization:
- F. Controversy about Globalization:
- G. Diversity in a Globalizing World:
- H. Flat and Spiky Worlds:

II. Geography Matters: Environments, Regions, Landscapes:

III. The Geographer's Toolbox: Location, Maps, Remote Sensing, and GIS:

IV. Physical Geography and Environmental Issues:

V. Population and Settlement:

VI. Cultural Coherence and Diversity:

- A. Culture in a Globalizing World:
- B. Language and Culture in Global Context:
- C. Geography of World Religions:
- D. Gender and Globalization
- E. Sports and Globalization

VII. Geopolitical Framework:

- A. Colonialism, De-colonialization, and Neo-colonialism
- B. Global Conflict and Insurgency
- C. Global Terrorism
- D. Global Refugees

IX. Economic and Social Development:

The Geography of Wealth and Poverty

KEY TERMS

Areal differentiation
Core-periphery model
Counterinsurgency
Cultural imperialism
Cultural landscape
Cultural syncretism or hybridization
De-colonialization
Demographic transition model
Diversity
Economic convergence
Gender equity
Geographic information system (GIS)
Geopolitics
Global positioning systems (GPS)
Gross domestic product (GDP)

Gross national income (GNI)
Human Development Index (HDI)
Insurgency
Integration – Horizontal vs. Vertical
Less developed country (LDC)
Lingua franca
More developed country (MDC)
Population pyramid
Purchasing power parity (PPP)
Rate of natural increase (RNI)
Remote sensing
Social Networks & Global Media
Sustainability

Textbook: Globalization and Diversity: Geography of a Changing World, 5th Edition by Rowntree, Lewis, Price and Wyckoff. 2017: Pearson, Hoboken, New Jersey.
ISBN: 978-0134117010

Evaluation: Evaluation of student performance will be based on a variety of in-class individual presentations weighted as indicated below:

Mid Term Exam	50 points
Final Project – Paper & Presentation	50 points
Individual Report + Contributions to Classroom Learning	50 points
Final Exam	50 points

Mid-Year Symposium:

The Mid-Year symposium is a forum for first and second year students to present the results of their own research and learning experiences. The symposium will take place all day on _____, _____. You will all be required to give a presentation (either oral or poster) at the symposium.

Sample Topics for Individual Presentations

1. Different components or Attributes of globalization
2. Economic Globalization
3. Globalization and Change
4. Geopolitics and globalization
5. Environment and globalization
6. Controversy about globalization
7. Diversity in a globalizing world
8. Global terrorism
9. Tropical Deforestation
10. Water: A scarce resource
11. Food Resources and Green Revolution

12. Global Warming and/or Greenhouse effect
13. Immigration in USA: Pros and cons
14. Diffusion of US culture and technology
15. Maquiladoras and impact
16. Neotropical diversity and urban degradation
17. Latifundia and minifundia
18. Coca and Cocaine
19. Latin America in the Global Economy
20. Caribbean: Cultural coherence and diversity
21. Colonialism, Neocolonialism, and independence
22. Wealth and Poverty: Economic & Social Development
23. Tourism and the Caribbean
24. Medical Schools in the Caribbean
25. Globalization and African Culture
26. Legacies of Colonialism and Conflicts
27. Globalization of Blood Diamonds
28. Role of China in Africa
29. Measuring Social Development
30. Boko Haram: Roots, past, present and Future
31. South Sudan: Geopolitical Framework
32. Environment and Green Belt Movement
33. HIV/AIDS & Ebola and Global Extent
34. UN's Millennium Development Goals
35. Impact of China's One Belt and One Road (OBOR)
36. The Sahel and Desertification
37. Wildlife Conservation and Tourism in SAfrica
38. The Arab Spring Uprisings and aftermath
39. Migration patterns, world refugees
40. Pastoral Nomadism and Rural Life
41. ISIL and future
42. Al-Qaeda and its presence
43. Arab-Israeli Conflicts
44. Kurdistan and Its Future
45. Dubai and its prominence in Arab World

The following grade ranges will be used to determine the final letter grade:

Grade Ranges:

A = 93-100%	A- = 90-92 %	
B+ = 87-89 %	B = 83-86 %	B- = 80-82 %
C+ = 77-79 %	C = 73-76 %	C- = 70-72 %
D+ = 67-69 %	D = 63-66 %	D- = 60-62 %
F = < 60 %		

Presentation Score Sheet:- Your presentations are evaluated on the following methods:-

Score Criterion

- | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 1) Elocution: Good, clear, coherent speaking style. |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 2) Delivery: maintains eye contact; movements and gestures aid delivery rather than distract. |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 3) Organization: logical flow of thought and expression of ideas. Consider the effectiveness of the introduction and conclusion |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 4) Preparation: the material had been rehearsed, difficult words were pronounced correctly and familiarity with the material. |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 5) Investigative Research: How well is the research question answered? Does the student appear to have a clear understanding of the research question? Were the sources for the information appropriately cited? Did you learn something from the presentation? |

TOTAL:

Comments: _____

PANEL Discussion (in groups of 4) Score Sheet: You are graded as follows:-

Score Criterion

- | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Student was prepared to lead the discussion (Was it obvious that they did research, completed the readings, and had plenty of questions to discuss?) |
|---|---|---|---|---|--|

0 1 2 3 4 Student contributed to the discussion (Did they talk well?).

0 1 2 3 4 Student paid attention to his or her classmates when they were speaking (Were they actively listening?).

0 1 2 3 4 Student appears to have a clear understanding of the panel discussion? Did you learn something from the presentation? Did you participate by way of asking questions, or contributing to the discussion, etc..?

TOTAL SCORE: _____

Comments: _____
