

**GGR 112 H1F**  
**Geographies of Globalization, Development & Inequality**

Department of Geography & Planning

University of Toronto

Fall 2016

**Lectures: Wednesdays, 10 am – 12 noon in LM 159**

**COURSE INSTRUCTOR**

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**Teaching Assistants**

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**\*Please direct all administrative emails to the course instructor**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Why does globalization lower borders for flows of goods and capital, but not (most) people? How do the historical origins of capitalism shape the contemporary global economy? Why have efforts to eradicate poverty in the Global South been accompanied by intensified inequalities, globally and locally?

Throughout this course we apply a *geographical* approach to the study of globalization, development, and inequality. We focus on identifying the importance of place for the social, political, economic, and cultural processes that shape global inequalities. To do this, we proceed from the insight that *all* accounts of globalization and development are situated in particular assumptions about people and places across the world. We extend this understanding with the knowledge that designating particular places as ‘developing’ and equating globalization with ‘levelling’ inequalities are expressions of these situated assumptions that have real consequences in people’s daily lives. We examine how workers, citizens, communities, and institutions attempt to create local changes that can perpetuate or disrupt global processes. The goal of this course is to introduce the essential geographical concepts for investigating how globalization and development are *spatial* processes. By the end of the term, we will have at least an introductory account to usefully distinguish processes of development and globalization as well as some of the ways they work together to produce geographically uneven distributions of resources, wealth, knowledge, and power.

**Course Format & Student Contributions:** This is a lecture course with required tutorials. Student contributions to the course are in speaking, writing, active listening, and participation in all of the course activities including assigned readings, assignments, and in-class exercises. The course format and content are designed to support students to enhance critical reading, writing, analysis, and research skills that can be applied to contemporary world events and in future university studies.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The **most important requirement** for this course, as with any that grapples with difficult questions about the causes and consequences of difference and inequality, is that we approach all of the course readings, class meetings, and – most importantly – each another with patient and open minds; a willingness to see from new perspectives; and a commitment to honestly challenging our own assumptions.

### **Specifically, some basic ground rules are:**

- Arrive to every class on time, prepared, and ready to engage. Share your thoughts, pose questions, and discuss the material as you are able and inclined to.
- Complete all readings and assignments *before lecture*. Plan to devote time to completing the reading, reflecting on it, and making notes before class *in addition to* the time devoted to preparing and completing assignments. Even if you find a reading challenging, you will benefit from making your best effort to complete it.
- Bring the relevant course materials with you to every class meeting, preferably in hard copy (readings, syllabus, assignment guidelines, your notes, etc.)
- Regularly refresh your understanding of the course requirements: review this syllabus each week, and carefully re-read assignment guidelines while preparing and before submitting each assignment.
- Please be aware of your colleagues in the classroom – we are sharing this learning space and can show each other respect by being considerate.
- It is a university policy that no discriminatory or defamatory language is tolerated in the classroom. If you are unfamiliar with these rules, please review the Student Code of Conduct.
- *Think carefully about which uses of technology directly support your learning, and which isolate you or distract others in the classroom.* Laptops can be powerful tools for learning when used with purpose; cell phones are not necessary in the classroom. Throughout this course, we aim toward *single-tasking* to improve everyone's learning. Electronic multi-tasking can seem like a productive use of time, but it detracts from learning outcomes – both for the device user and for those sitting nearby. If you are managing an urgent personal or work matter, you are always welcome to quietly and momentarily leave the room to use your phone.
- **Taking photographs or videos is NOT allowed in the classroom;** personal audio recordings of lectures require the prior permission of the course instructor (see the course policies below).

## ASSIGNMENTS & ASSESSMENTS

ALL assignments are due, hard copy, **at the start of lecture at 10.10 am** on the due date. Any assignments brought to class after the start of lecture will be assessed a late penalty (see the course policies below).

**Focus Country:** By the end of the first week of the course, you will choose a focus country from the list posted on Blackboard. It will form the basis of your assignments and some in-class activities. Your specialization in this focus country will help you to apply and discuss course concepts in a more grounded way. *Only* a focus country from the list provided may be selected.

**Mapping Exercise (15%):** You will be provided with an outline map, and list of required map features and elements in class and on Blackboard. You will determine how to best include all of the required features and elements and write a brief (1-2 paragraph) analysis. The map and analysis are due 28 September at the start of lecture.

**Intervention Précis (10%):** To get started on the final course paper, you will submit a short (no more than 500 words) paper that concisely encapsulates and begins to examine a specific globalization or development *intervention* in the focus country. Guidelines will be distributed in class and posted on Blackboard. The paper is due 19 October at the start of lecture.

**Focus Country Intervention Paper (35%):** A 3 to 5-page paper in which you scrutinize a development or globalization intervention (a project, campaign, protest, policy reform, etc.) in the focus country. An intervention is an effort designed and enacted by particular group(s) of key actors to change some specific aspect of the economic, political, social, cultural, and/or environmental life within the focus country. This paper is not a report about the focus country, nor is it a summary of the intervention. Rather, you will apply course readings and concepts to evaluate its (potential) meanings and consequences for people living in the focus country. Guidelines will be distributed in class and posted on Blackboard. The paper is due 16 November at the start of lecture.

**Preparation, Participation, and Engagement (10%):** Throughout the course you will complete a variety of in-class activities in lectures and tutorials. Because engagement can take a variety of forms, you will be offered multiple modes of participation (speaking, writing, active listening, etc.). This part of the final grade is evaluated based on a combination of the *quality and quantity* of your contributions throughout the term.

**Final Exam (30%):** Covers *all* readings and lectures. A review guide with content to review and question formats will be posted to Blackboard before the last lecture. The final exam date, time, and location will be announced later in the term.

## TUTORIALS

There are a total of 7 required tutorials for this course. Tutorials are devoted primarily to practicing skills used in the course assignments, discussing the material, and a final exam review session. Your TA will announce any required preparation for tutorials.

You **must** register for one of the following tutorial sections. You may **only attend the tutorial section you are registered for**. Any exceptions to this require the prior approval of the course instructor.

Tutorial Code	Day/Time	Room	TA
TUT0101	Wednesdays, 12.00-13.00	SS 2101	Jennifer Langill
TUT0201	Wednesdays, 14.00-15.00	RW 141	Jennifer Langill
TUT0301	Wednesdays, 16.00-17.00	RW 141	Ruilin Yang
TUT5101	Wednesdays, 18.00-19.00	RW 141	Ruiling Yang
TUT0401	Thursdays, 10.00-11.00	RW 141	Kim Slater
TUT0501	Thursdays, 12.00-13.00	WE 75	Kim Slater
TUT0601	Thursdays, 14.00-15.00	RW 141	Lazar Konforti
TUT0701	Thursdays, 16.00-17.00	RW 141	Lazar Konforti

### Tutorial Schedule

*Please note that tutorials are not held every week.*

Week 2	Globalization; assignment 1 workshop
Week 4	d/Development; critical reading strategies
Week 5	Introduction to focus country intervention research & writing
Week 7	States, markets, and households; critical analysis skills
Week 8	Cities; linking claims to evidence
Week 9	Informal economies; final paper writing & editing strategies
Week 12	Final exam review session

### Teaching Assistants

In this course, we are lucky to work with a team of teaching assistants who have diverse teaching, research, and professional experience in the course topics. Your TA is assigned to you based on the tutorial section you are registered for, and they will mark all of your assignments. Your TA is available to you during tutorials and in office hours to consult on assignments, answer questions, and discuss your interests. Periodically, your TA will post their office hours and important announcements on Blackboard or via email. You are warmly welcome – and strongly encouraged – to visit your TA's office hours throughout the term.

## COURSE POLICIES

**Accessibility:** The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations, or have any accessibility concerns about the course requirements, the classroom, or the course materials, please contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible: <https://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/as>

**Audio Recording:** **Only with the prior permission of the course instructor** may you make personal audio recordings of lectures for your own individual use only. Audio recordings permit lecture content review and are not a substitute for attending class. If you are granted permission by the course instructor to make personal audio recordings of lectures, you may **not**, under any circumstances, share or distribute the files in any format through any means. No photographs or video recordings are permitted under any circumstances. **Non-compliance with any of the above policies will be subject to disciplinary action under the Student Code of Conduct.** In accordance with the Ontarians with Disabilities Act, students with accessibility needs will be permitted to make audio recordings of lectures.

**Academic Integrity:** You must comply with the university's policies on plagiarism and academic honesty. As a student at UofT, you are expected to understand and follow these policies: <http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/osai/students/students>

**Absence from class:** This course is designed assuming that all students attend all lectures and tutorials, but attendance is not recorded separately from participation. It is your responsibility to obtain and retain all of the course material, including lectures and in-class activities. It is not possible to participate if you are frequently absent. It is ultimately up to you to determine how to best manage your time. If you encounter any difficulties during the term that will prevent you from regularly attending and participating in class, please contact your College Registrar as soon as possible.

**Absence from the final exam:** The final exam is managed by the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, not by the course instructor or TAs. You must file a formal petition with FAS if you miss the final exam for any reason: <http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/petitions/common#deferred>

**Course website:** is Blackboard/Portal. The course syllabus, readings, and assignment guidelines will be posted to this site. Lecture slides will be posted after class to assist with content review. Please also check the course website frequently for important announcements from the instructor and TAs.

**Email Policy:** Please conduct as much course business as possible in person, before and after class and during office hours. Please direct all administrative emails to the course instructor. You are encouraged to be in contact with each other to find answers to many common questions, and you are expected to carefully consult the resources provided to you (syllabus, course website, handouts, etc.). All of the information you need to complete the course is provided in class and on Blackboard. **Therefore we ask that you limit email exchanges to very short questions for which you cannot otherwise find answers.**

In accordance with university policy, **only emails from UToronto accounts** will be returned; please ensure that you set up and regularly check your UofT email.

To ensure a response, include the course code (GGR 112) in all email subject lines. Usually you can expect to receive an email reply within 2-3 days, except weekends and holidays when student emails are not returned. No emails about assignments or exam requirements will be returned the day before a deadline, and no questions about assignment marks will be addressed 24 hours after receiving the marked assignment.

**Submitting assignments:** ALL assignments must be submitted in hard copy **at the start of lecture at 10.10 am** on the due date. Any assignments brought to class after lecture begins will be considered 1 day late and a penalty (5%) will be applied. Please plan your day to arrive to the classroom with your completed assignment in hand well in advance to avoid any issues.

**Late assignments:** can be submitted to the dropbox in the main office of the Department of Geography and Planning on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of Sid Smith, Room 5047. Note that assignments are only date stamped at the end of the day, on days that the main office is open. Assignments submitted to the 'after hours' dropbox when the main office is closed will be date stamped the next day the office is open. Note that this means that any assignments submitted to the department dropbox **on or after the due date** will be marked late. Take this into account to avoid further late penalties. NO assignments are accepted via email, under office doors, in tutorials, or during office hours.

**Penalty for late assignments:** is **5% per day with no work accepted 5 days after a deadline**. Weekends (Saturday and Sunday) count as 1 day for this purpose. Note that the 5% penalty applies after lecture begins on the due date, and an additional penalty is applied for each day late thereafter.

**Missed assignment deadlines:** Extensions will be granted sparingly, and only in the case of **documented** illness or personal emergency. For medical reasons, you need an official medical note that clearly excuses you from work or school on the due date: <http://www.illnessverification.utoronto.ca/> In the case of personal emergency, contact your College Registrar as soon as possible.

**Copies of assignments:** It is your responsibility to pick up marked assignments, to maintain digital copies of written assignments, and to retain hard copies of all marked assignments until the final grades are recorded.

**Re-evaluation of assignments:** According to UofT policy, you have 2 weeks from the day the marked assignment is returned to ask questions about the mark or to request a re-read of the assignment. If you wish to have an assignment mark revisited by your TA, you **must** do the following: carefully review the comments and assignment requirements; send the Course Instructor a brief (1-2 paragraph) motivation that identifies the substantive aspects of the assignment that could be re-evaluated based on the assignment guidelines; and attach a scanned copy of the original marked assignment including comments to the email. If the request is accepted, please be aware that there are 3 possibilities: the mark can stay the same, it can go up, or it can go down.

**Academic Resources and Skills:** Developing good writing, research, reading, and revision practices is a *process* that can be supported with a variety of resources available to you as a student at the university. You are strongly encouraged to consult these resources frequently, particularly research support at Robarts Library.

Most first-year students are assigned a “personal librarian” for one-on-one research support; you can find out who you have been assigned on ACORN.

Or, you can book an in-person research consultation, walk up to the reference desk, or get research assistance online: <https://onereach.library.utoronto.ca/ask>

**Library research, citation, and writing workshops:** <http://libcal.library.utoronto.ca/> - these fill up fast, so sign up early!

Academic Success Centre workshops: <https://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/asc>

Writing Centre workshops: <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/writing-plus>

English Language Learning program: <http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/advising/ell>

## REQUIRED READINGS & LECTURE SCHEDULE

All required readings are provided as .PDFs on the course Blackboard site through the University of Toronto Libraries.

**Week 1**                      **Introduction to course themes, requirements, and each other**  
14 September              Read the course syllabus in full.

**Week 2**                      **Globalization**  
21 September

Wayne Ellwood "Globalization Then and Now"  
Doreen Massey "Globalisation: what does it mean for geography?"  
Mark Weisbrot "NAFTA: 20 Years of Regret for Mexico"

**Week 3**                      **development**  
28 September

Ellen Meiksins Wood "Commerce or Capitalism?" [excerpt]  
  
Stuart Hall "The West and the Rest" [excerpt]

**Week 4**                      **Development**  
5 October

Victoria Lawson "Development as Intervention"  
  
Jason Hickel "The death of international development"

**Week 5**                      **States**  
12 October

Saskia Sassen "The State and the New Geography of Power"  
  
"The WTO and Indigenous Peoples: Resisting Globalization, Asserting Self-Determination" Declaration from the Indigenous Peoples' Environmental Network

**Week 6**                      **Markets**  
19 October

Lourdes Beneria, Gunsell Berik and Maria Floro "Markets, Globalization, and Gender"  
  
Wendy Brown "Best Practices in Twenty-First Century Iraqi Agriculture"



**Week 7                      Households**

28 October

Glyn Williams, Paula Meth and Katie Wills “Ways of Living”

Rachel Arviv “The Cost of Caring”

**Week 8                      Cities**

2 November

Jennifer Robinson (2006) “World cities, or a world of ordinary cities?”

Asef Bayat (2013) “The Quiet Encroachment of the Ordinary”

**Week 9                      Informal Economies**

9 November

Melanie Samson “Forging a New Conceptualization of ‘The Public’ in Waste Management”

Lorena Muñoz “Selling Memory and Nostalgia in the Barrio: Mexican and Central American Women (Re)Create Street Vending Spaces in Los Angeles”

**Week 10                    Education**

16 November

Nicola Ansell “Substituting for Families? Schools and Social Reproduction in AIDS-affected Lesotho”

Winona LaDuke “The Political Economy of Wild Rice”

**Week 11                    Commons**

23 November

Donald M. Nonini “The Global Idea of the Commons”

Vinay Gidwani and Amita Baviskar “Urban Commons”

**Week 12                    Review & Reassessment**

30 November

Arundhati Roy “Confronting Empire”

**\*\*FINAL EXAM: TBA \*\***