

## Week 1 Exercise Directions

### Globalizing Universities

The purpose of the exercises each week are to enable further thought and reflection upon the issues we've discussed in the text and podcasts, the building of connections between participants (including people with similar interests), the creation of a resource base for everyone to share, and an opportunity for you to begin acquiring a Certificate of Accomplishment. As noted in the syllabus, you need to participate to be awarded a certificate.

We have crafted two options to both provide structure but also flexibility for this week's exercise.

---

#### Option A: What is 'global competency'?

Take a close listen to the podcast above with Madeleine Green, and the shorter podcasts that ask a selection of people to define 'global competency.' Once you have done this:

- **Develop and post your ideal definition of global competency**, one that you think others should take note of, and even use, to encourage discussion and debate, or perhaps frame learning outcome objectives in a program.
- **Categorize the crucial elements of the concept of 'global competency'**. Think about all of the definitions you heard here, but also via reading, work-related activities, courses you've taken, and so on.
  - Is there a way you could **categorize** the crucial elements of global competency?
  - Or could you develop **compare and contrast** options, highlighting important variation with respect how different types of people and different societies conceptualize of global competency or related concepts (e.g., inter-cultural competency, global citizenship, global learning)?

Please note that you don't even need to agree with the idea of global competency to participate in this exercise – the concept exists and is having an impact in many higher education systems so let's get to work on unpacking it and interrogating it to see what it means, and to whom, and why. And if you fundamentally disagree with the notion of defining/legitimizing the concept, let us know via a measured critique, or even a creative rant.

## Option B: Visualizing models

As was evident in the figures above, there are a variety of ways that the internationalization strategies/models of universities can be visualized. We profiled some informative visualizations created by Gabriel Hawawini and colleagues, though we are aware these are but one way of representing models.

- **Create a visualization that reflects, for example, the university in your city or region, the university you know best**, the university you work in, or the university you want to build from scratch if you could?
- Or perhaps create a visualization that compares and contrasts how universities (e.g., from different parts of the world; public vs private; well-resourced vs resource constrained; American vs Canadian; the two key universities in your city; etc., etc.) are globalizing.

Visualizations can be drawn on the back of a restaurant napkin, a piece of paper, a chalkboard, or a dry erase board. Photographs of these visualizations can be uploaded to the discussion forum. You can also create visualizations with a software package like Microsoft PowerPoint, Adobe Photoshop / Illustrator, Inkscape, or Google Docs Presentation or Drawing Apps and export these as image files to be uploaded. (See the [Course Info](#) page for more details.)

There are no requirements with respect to how to do this—we just want you to visualize and help represent what is actually a very complicated phenomenon to make sense of. But we think it's worth the effort as visualizations can be highly effective communication vehicles.

- 
1. Submit your response as a new thread in the corresponding discussion sub-forum (linked above)
    - **Deadline:** 10:00 a.m. (CDT) on Thursday, 3 April. ([Time Zone Converter](#))
    - Please review the expectations provided in the *Activities* section of the [course info page](#).
  2. Read and debate with your fellow students. You are encouraged to discuss in all three topic areas.
  3. Vote-up the posting(s) that you feel provide(s) the most insightful definition.

### Sharing Policy Reminder:

By posting materials, you license that content under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 license \(legal code\)](#). This license means that you irrevocably grant anyone permission to use, copy, modify, and sell the material without notifying you, as long as they credit you.