

Las Positas College
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Course Outline for GS 1

INTRODUCTION TO GLOBAL STUDIES

Effective: Fall 2018

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

GS 1 — INTRODUCTION TO GLOBAL STUDIES — 3.00 units

This course is an introduction to the interdisciplinary field of Global Studies, including the history of globalization and economic, political, social, cultural, geographical, and ecological developments related to the process of globalization.

3.00 Units Lecture

Strongly Recommended

ENG 104 - Integrated Reading and Writing II
with a minimum grade of P

Grading Methods:

Letter Grade

Discipline:

| | MIN |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Lecture Hours: | 54.00 |
| Total Hours: | 54.00 |

II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: 1

III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:

Before entering this course, it is strongly recommended that the student should be able to:

A. ENG104

IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- A. Identify and describe various definitions and meanings of globalization
- B. Describe globalization's history and identify regional differences.
- C. Analyze the economic, political, cultural, and ecological dimensions of globalization, including controversies associated with each
- D. Connect the various aspects of globalization with contemporary world developments and problems

V. CONTENT:

- A. Introduction: definition of globalization; understanding globalization as a process, including the concept of "interdependence."
- B. Study of the history of globalization, including a discussion of the causes of globalization and its evolution, and the role of geography.
- C. Study of the economic dimension of globalization. Discussion of the key features of the global economy and its evolution. Discussion of economic ideologies that favor economic integration and of controversies related to global economic integration.
- D. Study of the political dimension of globalization, including the role and power of the nation-states, the growing number and role of non-state actors, global civil society, the growing scope of international law and threats to global security. Case studies of one or more IGOs, such as the UN, and/or the World Bank. Discussion of the controversies regarding the scope of global governance.
- E. Study of the cultural dimension of globalization, including culture as an evolving force, the role of language, religion, ideology, and/or technology. Discussion of controversies, such as the influence of western culture, and of concept of a "clash of civilizations"/cultures.
- F. Study of the environmental /ecological dimension of globalization, including the study of population trends, inequality and resource availability, the relationship between economic growth and environmental damage. Discussion of questions related to the governance of the commons, and discussion of the concept of global citizenship.

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. **Lecture** - Instructor will lecture for portions of the class, integrating visual aids when possible and interspersing lecture with other modes of instruction.
- B. **Research** - After completing a short research paper on a topic of their choice or a topic chosen from a list of approved topics, students may present their research to the class.
- C. **Student Presentations** - Students may make short presentations, either developed individually or as a group, on an aspect of globalization.
- D. **Discussion** - 1. Students may engage in guided discussion for sections of the class period and report out as to the most valuable points they heard or questions their group still has. 2. Students may have ten-minute discussions at the beginning of class on current issues relating to globalization.
- E. **Audio-visual Activity** - Students may watch short films or film excerpts on an aspect of globalization.

- F. **Guest Lecturers** - Course may invite guest lecturers from other social science fields at LPC or outside the college to illuminate a particular aspect of globalization and explain how that discipline approaches the issue.

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

A. Short Paper

1. Read chapter 17 of Sheldon Anderson's *International Studies*, "The Veil Controversy." Summarize the chapter and reflect on how controversies over the covering of women in Arab cultures stem from the influence of western culture, differing interpretations of Islam, and the concept of a "clash of civilizations"/cultures.

B. Research paper

1. Explain the debate between globalists and economic nationalists and research, describe, and analyze how this played out in the 2016 US presidential debate.

C. Group project and presentation

1. Research a local language that is dying out and describe the efforts to preserve it and the complexities of doing so. Prepare a presentation to the class that involves an audio-visual element.

VIII. EVALUATION:

A. **Methods**

1. Exams/Tests
2. Quizzes
3. Research Projects
4. Papers
5. Oral Presentation
6. Group Projects
7. Class Participation
8. Class Work
9. Home Work

B. **Frequency**

1. Exams
 - a. Students may have a midterm and a final.
2. Quizzes
 - a. Students may have weekly quizzes on the reading.
3. Research Projects
 - a. Students will have one research project.
4. Papers
 - a. If the research project is a paper, there will be one at the end of the semester.
 - b. Students may have shorter summary/analysis papers of the readings.
5. Group Projects
 - a. Students may have one group project
6. Class Participation
 - a. Students should participate daily in class, whether by taking notes, participating in group work, or participating in class discussion.
7. Class Work
 - a. Students should participate daily in class work if assigned.
8. Homework
 - a. Students will have homework in between each class meeting, roughly equivalent to two hours per course unit.

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

1. Steger, Manfred. *Globalization: A Very Short Introduction*. 3rd ed., Oxford UP, 2013.
2. Weiner, Robert. *Annual Editions: Global Issues*. 32nd ed., McGraw-Hill Education, 2016.
3. Campbell, Patricia, Aran MacKinnon, and Christy Stevens. *An Introduction to Global Studies*. 1st ed., Wiley-Blackwell, 2010.
4. Smallman, Shawn, and Kimberley Brown. *Introduction to International and Global Studies*. 2nd ed., UNC Press, 2015.
5. Sparke, Matthew. *Introducing Globalization: Ties, Tensions and Uneven Integration*. 1st ed., Wiley-Blackwell, 2013.
6. Anderson, Sheldon, Mark Peterson, Stanley Toops, and Jeanne Hey. *International Studies: An Interdisciplinary Approach to Global Issues*. 3rd ed., Westview P, 2013.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS: