We live in a world that some say is interconnected as never before. New Internet communication technologies, transportation technologies, and ways of organizing among other things, make spatial and temporal distances less relevant to global systems. At the same time, there are many barriers that exist to block those connections and slow global processes. The forces that expedite and prohibit globalization transform economics, politics, migration, and culture in dynamic ways. For some of the world, these changes have been beneficial, but those benefits have not been distributed uniformly around the globe. Likewise, globalization brings many unintended consequences with it. This course provides an overview on global society and the processes of globalization. It will cover foundational theories of globalization, what it means, when it started, how it happens, what social domains it impacts, and the problems and benefits that it brings about.

**University Course Description**

Demographic and development trends related to political, economic, and eco-systems. Policy options and strategies regarding population growth, economic development, and selected institutional issues.

*Learning Outcomes*

Substantively, students completing this course will sufficient effort will gain an understanding of:

1. The different, and the differences between, competing explanations of globalization
2. The historical, economic, political, and cultural factors that influence globalization
3. Globalization’s impact on various social and cultural groups
4. Understand how things become global and how it transforms the way we think about and relate to those things
5. The modern world as a series of global flows and the barriers that are erected to hinder those flows

*Skill Development*

This course will help you progress in your ability to:

1. Think critically: evaluate/analyze theories of globalization, distinguish between competing explanations of global phenomena, evaluate evidence for said phenomena to support one (or more) explanation(s) for global processes over others;
2. Create knowledge: synthesize information from a variety of source, pose questions that follow from course materials, apply course concepts to life experiences and current events, and formulate and communicate conclusions to others;
3. Solve problems creatively: think about problems and solutions in multiple ways, seek information from a variety of sources;
4. Communicate: summarize and critique conclusions from globalization research through communicating answers to other classmates and myself, engage with other learners through active participation in class discussion forums;

5. Understand and appreciate diversity: become more aware of values and experiences of different cultures, understand the factors that encourage and/or suppress global flows, become more aware of the factors that impact global inequalities and cultural perceptions.

**Required Texts**

We will rely heavily on this text and there will be no reserve copy, so purchasing a copy of the 2nd edition is a must.


**Organization of the Class**

This class is online and so attendance is not an issue. We are all adults and we all need to do what we need to do. That said, you are expected to complete the course along my set timeline. There will be no make-ups for missed sessions. However, as a buffer, you will be able to drop your lowest score(s) for some grade items.

Each “class session” will consist of a series of tasks to be completed prior to a certain date and time specific to the assignment. In the past I have found that a stream of smaller tasks is better for learning and sanity than a few very large tasks. As such, there is a range of things that we will do in this class. The tasks are described below. In the attempt to offer flexibility, this class will run on a weekly schedule. This means that a block of assignments will begin every Monday and be due every Sunday at 11:59PM (Except the last week which will be due on Sat. 12/15 because of how the semester ends).

**Assignments**

**Readings and Lecture Slides**

At the beginning of each week we will have an assigned segment of reading. The first task in each segment is to read all of this material and to take detailed notes. It is important to note that the different readings will not simply repeat one another. That is, you will be assessed on content from all sources, some of which may be unique to that source.

In addition to readings, there will be a series of lecture slides. These slides contain the material that I most want you to focus on and that I think might be most confusing. They also will contain notes on certain parts of the chapter. While I have made the slides mirror the textbook as closely as possible, I suggest that you read those notes since they offer an explanation of the material that may be a bit different than the textbook. NOTE: the slides are much more brief than the text and are not a replacement for reading the text. You are responsible for the content in each.

**Quizzes**

Following each chapter, there will be a multiple choice and true/false quiz on those readings. These quizzes will not be particularly difficult, but will assess whether or not you have read and basically understood the material. These quizzes will be due by 11:59 PM every Sunday for the week’s block of readings. For everyone’s convenience, the dates and times will be listed on each quiz. Quizzes cannot be made up, but you will be able to drop your two lowest quiz grades. There will be a quiz on every chapter and you will have 15 minutes to complete each one. Quizzes will consist of five multiple choice and/or true/false questions that will be graded on a 10pt scale (2pts. per question).

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**Short Answers**

In addition to the readings and quizzes you will have a series of short answer questions. These questions are designed to assess your understanding of the material at a deeper level than the quizzes. These questions must be completed by the listed due date for that week (again, every Sunday). They may not be made up but you will be able to drop the lowest two grades. You will have five of these questions for each chapter and each question will be graded out of three possible points. All feedback will be given within the D2L platform. Ideal responses will answer all parts of the question and will be roughly three to four sentences in length.

**Long Answers**

In addition to short answer questions, you will also have three longer, more involved, questions. These long answer questions are designed to assess how well you can evaluate and analyze multiple arguments from the text(s). These questions must be at least 300 words long and will be graded on a ten-point scale. For every 25 words short of the 300 you will lose 1 pt. (10%). If there are multiple spelling and/or grammar mistakes you will also lose 1 pt. (10%). Since these are relatively brief essays, no direct quotations are allowed and any use of direct quotations will result in a 1 pt. (10%) penalty per quote. You will be graded on accuracy, clarity of argument (this means that you must write convincingly and well, so proofread before you post), spelling, and word count. They will be graded on a 10pt scale. You cannot drop one of these.

As always, plagiarism of any sort is unacceptable. Any plagiarism, no matter how small will result in a failing grade for the course and academic misconduct charges without exception. All work must be original and all thoughts expressed in your own words. Paraphrasing must not be too similar to the original text and must be cited with the appropriate page number.

*UWM System Shared Learning Goals and This Assignment: Putting sufficient effort into this assignment should help in your ability to think critically and creatively about the historical, economic, political, and cultural factors that influence globalization. It will also provide an opportunity to evaluate and synthesize information from a variety of sources. Short form writing such as this will also help you develop important communication skills, as it forces you to share and distill complex arguments into a more concise form. Completing this assignment may also help in your understanding of diverse social positions, worldviews, and backgrounds as you learn about and evaluate the factors that influence those social conditions.

**Application**

Once this class, you will be responsible for finding a news article about current events and using what you are learning, or have learned, in this class to discuss and present it to your peers. I will randomly assign each of you to one of three groups which will be responsible for posting by a given due date. Note that each person will post their own application, but all people in a group must post by their assigned date.

The articles can be about any aspect of globalization so long as they fit and are appropriate. DO NOT post things that are a stretch to connect to globalization or this class. You will be responsible for writing a discussion about how the piece that you are presenting relates to an aspect of the course. Do not just summarize the article in your post, as these questions are designed for you to write an analysis of the article. You will need to supply a link to your article. These posts will share the same requirements and grading scale as the long answer questions (above). This cannot be dropped.

*UWM System Shared Learning Goals and This Assignment: Putting sufficient effort into this assignment should help in your ability to think critically and creatively about the historical, economic, political, and cultural factors that influence globalization. It will also provide an opportunity to evaluate and synthesize

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information from a variety of sources. Additionally, this exercise will help in your ability to create new knowledge, as you apply complex concepts to current events and life experiences. Short form writing such as this will also help you develop important communication skills, as it forces you to distill complex arguments into a more concise form. Likewise, this assignment will help you progress in your ability to formulate conclusions and share them with others. Completing this assignment may also help in your understanding of diverse social positions, worldviews, and backgrounds as you learn about and evaluate the factors that influence those social conditions.

Responses

Each person will be required to post a reaction to six application posts over the course of the semester. You must post at least two reactions per group due date (this includes your own group due date). Each post must be at least 100 words and will be graded out of three possible points based on quality of reaction, if the post moves the conversation forward, spelling, and word count. These cannot be dropped.

*UWM System Shared Learning Goals and This Assignment: will provide an opportunity to evaluate and synthesize information from a variety of sources, as you evaluate your peers arguments comparing them to those of the text’s. This assignment will help you progress in your ability to formulate conclusions and share them with others, as you will need to engage with your peers in productive dialogue. Relatedly this skill is often utilized by an engaged citizenry, helping you prepare for future civic involvement. Completing this assignment may also help in your understanding of diverse social positions, worldviews, and backgrounds as you engage with others’ work and comment upon it.

Grade Breakdown

Quizzes – 30%
Short Answers – 30%
Long Answers – 20%
Application – 10%
Responses – 10%

Please note that there will be no extra credit given in this course.

Grading Scale

100% - 94% = A; 93% - 90% = A-; 89% - 87% = B+; 86% - 84% = B; 83% - 80% = B-; 79% - 77% = C+; 76% - 74% = C; 73% - 70% = C-; 69% - 67% = D+; 66% - 64% = D; 63% - 60% = D-; ≤ 59% = F

Class Etiquette

Since the primary purpose in this class is to use theory to help understand our world, at times we may discuss fairly controversial subjects. It is crucial that we all respect one another and the right to hold different opinions. Along those lines, sexist, racist, homophobic, or otherwise offensive language will not be tolerated in any form. There is simply no legitimate reason for its use in class sessions, assignments, or life in general.

If you require special assistance, please see (or email me) immediately, so that we can work together to ensure your success in this class.

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University Workload Requirements

As the UW System assumes “that study leading to one semester credit represents an investment of time by the average student of not fewer than 48 hours” (UWS ACPS 4), a 3-credit course such as this one will require a minimum of 144 (3 x 48) hours of your time. You may find it necessary to spend additional time on a course; the numbers below only indicate that the course will not require any less of your time.

This class will require you to read each chapter of the text, read the lecture notes for each chapter, take quizzes, write answers to short answers questions, write long answer questions, write an application post, and read other students’ answers to discussion questions, respond to some of these answers with comments of your own. On average, this will require approximately 9 hours a week of your time. The breakdown in hours for each chapter would be something like 3-4 hours reading chapter materials (text and notes), 45 minutes to 1 hour preparing for and taking the online quiz, and another 4-5 hours completing the other assignments for the chapters. Note that some assignments are due less regularly than others so the distribution of work will be uneven in some weeks.

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Course schedule

What We Talk About When We Talk About Globalization

Week 1 (9/6 – 9/11): Chapter 1
Week 2 (9/12 – 9/18): Chapter 2
Week 3 (9/19 – 9/25): Chapter 3

Global Politics and Economics

Week 4 (9/26 – 10/2): Chapter 4
Long Answer 1 Due
Week 5 (10/3 – 10/9): Chapter 5
Group 1 Application Due
Week 6 (10/10 – 10/16): Chapter 6
Responses to Group 1 Application Due

Types of Global Flows

Week 7 (10/17 – 10/23): Chapter 7
Week 8 (10/24 – 10/30): Chapter 8
Long Answer 2 Due
Week 9 (10/31 – 11/6): Chapter 9
Group 2 Application Due
Week 10 (11/7 – 11/13): Chapter 10
Responses to Group 2 Application Due
Week 11 (11/14 – 11/20): Chapter 11
Week 12 (11/21 & 11/27): Thanksgiving Break
Week 13 (11/28 – 12/4): Chapter 12
Long Answer 3 Due

Global Inequalities

Week 14 (12/5 – 12/11): Chapter 13
Group 3 Application Due
Week 15 (12/6 – 12/15): Chapter 14
Responses to Group 3 Application Due

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The Secretary of the University maintains a web page that contains university policies that affect the instructor and the students in this course, as well as essential information specific to conduct of the course. The link to that page is:  [http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/news_events/upload/Syllabus-Links.pdf](http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/news_events/upload/Syllabus-Links.pdf)

**Students with Disabilities.** Verification of disability, class standards, the policy on the use of alternate material and test accommodations can be found at the following:  [http://www4.uwm.edu/secu](http://www4.uwm.edu/secu)

**Religious Observances.** Policies regarding accommodations for absences due to religious observance are found at the following:  [http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S1.5.htm](http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S1.5.htm)

**Students called to active Military Duty.** Accommodations for absences due to call-up of reserves to active military duty are found at the following:  [http://www4.uwm.edu/academics/military.cfm](http://www4.uwm.edu/academics/military.cfm)

**Incompletes.** You may be given an incomplete if you have carried a course successfully until near the end of the semester but, because of illness or other unusual and substantiated cause beyond your control, have been unable to take or complete the final examination or to complete some limited amount of course work. An incomplete is not given unless you prove to the instructor that you were prevented from completing the course for just cause as indicated above. The conditions for awarding an incomplete to graduate and undergraduate students can be found at the following:  [https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S_31_INCOMPLETE_GRADES.pdf](https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S_31_INCOMPLETE_GRADES.pdf)

**Discriminatory Conduct** (such as sexual harassment). Discriminatory conduct will not be tolerated by the University. It poisons the work and learning environment of the University and threatens the careers, educational experience and well-being of students, faculty and staff. Policies regarding discriminatory conduct can be found at:  [https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S_47_Discriminatory_Policy.pdf](https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S_47_Discriminatory_Policy.pdf)

**Academic Misconduct.** Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others' academic endeavors. Policies for addressing students cheating on exams or plagiarism can be found at the following:  [http://www4.uwm.edu/dos/conduct/](http://www4.uwm.edu/dos/conduct/)

**Complaint Procedures.** Students may direct complaints to the Sociology Department Chair or the Associate Dean for Social Sciences in the College of Letters & Sciences. If the complaint allegedly violates a specific university policy, it may be directed to the Sociology Department Chair, the Associate Dean for Social Sciences in the College of Letters & Sciences, or to the appropriate university office responsible for enforcing the policy. Policies may be found at:  [https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S_47_Discriminatory_Policy.pdf](https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S_47_Discriminatory_Policy.pdf)

**Grade Appeal Procedures.** A student may appeal a grade on the grounds that it is based on a capricious or arbitrary decision of the course instructor. Such an appeal shall follow the established procedures adopted by the department, college, or school in which the course resides or in the case of graduate students, the Graduate School. These procedures are available in writing from the sociology department chairperson or the Academic Dean of the College of Letters & Science. Procedures for undergraduate student grade appeal can be found at  [http://www4.uwm.edu/letsci/upload/grievance_procedure.pdf](http://www4.uwm.edu/letsci/upload/grievance_procedure.pdf) Procedures for graduate student grade appeal can be found at  [http://uwm.edu/graduateschool/academic-appeals-procedure/](http://uwm.edu/graduateschool/academic-appeals-procedure/)

**Final Examination Policy.** Policies regarding final examinations can be found at the following:  [http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S22.htm](http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S22.htm)

**Book Royalties.** In accord with Department of Sociology policy, the royalties from the sale of faculty-authored books to students in their classes are donated to a UWM Foundation/Sociology Account to support future awards and activities for UWM students in Sociology.

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