

GS 200 Global Systems and Cultures

3 Credit Hours
UAHuntsville
Fall 2012

Instructor: Dr. David Johnson

Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:20pm to 3:40pm

Location: Morton Hall 310

Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 10-12 or by appt.

Office: Morton Hall 253

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Website:

www.uah.edu/la/departments/global-studies

Facebook: UAH Global Studies

Course Description:

Global Studies 200 is a multi- and interdisciplinary exploration of global issues and the processes associated with the mobility of people, cultures, capital, materials, and ideas. The course will provide you with analytical tools to examine the complexities of global issues and relationships from a variety of perspectives. In order to blend various disciplinary perspectives on particular topics, issues, and questions, the course will assign a variety of readings and feature guest lectures by other UAHuntsville faculty members.

Required Course Texts:

Achebe, Chinua. *Things Fall Apart*, 1994 (1960).

Lahiri, Jhumpa. *The Interpreter of Maladies*, 1999.

Satrapa, Marjane. *Persepolis. The Story of a Childhood*. Trans. Mattias Ripa and Blake Ferris. New York: Pantheon, 2003.

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"Young and Restless in China." <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/youngchina/>

Additional required readings will be posted to ANGEL.

Student Learning Outcomes:

After successful completion of all semester course assignments, you will be able to:

- 1) explore the multifaceted connections between the global and local;
- 2) recognize and engage the key dimensions and challenges of globalization in terms of history, economics, and politics;
- 3) consider the varying ways globalizing trends and movements affect culture and the individual.
- 4) examine the narratives and assumptions inherent in studying the processes of globalization in terms of industry, commerce, and culture;
- 5) articulate your ideas and arguments more effectively by improving writing skills, enhancing critical thinking skills, and learning to build your argument on the foundation of logical reasoning and empirical evidence.

The course also has the objective that students will increase interest in learning a foreign language and pursuing a study, internship, and/or work abroad opportunity.

The readings, assignments, and class discussions will likewise contribute to helping you complete the learning outcomes of the Global Studies cognate:

- 1) Learn cultural and physical geography.
- 2) Enhance foreign language proficiency as a way to prepare for cross-cultural dialogues and engagement in global issues.
- 3) Demonstrate historically-informed perspectives on contemporary global affairs.
- 4) Reflect critically on the global contexts of local experiences, including students' personal lives.
- 5) Understand and reflect on the ambiguities, disparities, and the multiplicity of interests inherent in global political, economic, sociological, and cultural issues.
- 6) Learn to envision possible solutions for global conflicts and misunderstandings.

Course Schedule:

- *Readings: You should read all reading assignments and complete all homework assignments by the start of the class period for which the readings and assignments are noted on the course schedule. All readings, except books listed under required texts above, are available on Angel.*
- *I reserve the right to make changes to the course schedule as necessary. Any changes will be announced in advance.*

Date	Topic	Readings Due	Assignments Due
Thurs. Aug. 23	Course Introduction; What is "Global"?		

Part I: Foundations of Global Power and Trade

Tues. Aug. 28	Historical Globalization: Exchange and Power	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selected Primary Source Documents 	ANGEL Homework
Thurs. Aug. 30	Historical Globalization: Empire and Nationalism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excerpts from Benedict Anderson, <i>Imagined Communities</i> • Selected Primary Source Documents 	ANGEL Homework

Thurs. Aug. 30	Map Assignment Due		
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Tues. Sept. 4	Discussion: Chinua Achebe, <i>Things Fall Apart</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Chinua Achebe, <i>Things Fall Apart</i> (entire novel) 	ANGEL Homework (REQUIRED)
Thurs. Sept 6	Western Narratives of Modernity and Economic Power	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Rostow's Stages of Development" 	ANGEL Homework

Part II: Global Economic Development / Challenges to the Developed World and the Nation-State

Tues. Sept. 11	Decolonization and the Challenges/Potential of Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "United Nations: Declaration on Granting Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, 1960" • "Prime Minister Nehru: Speech to Bandung Conference Political Committee, 1955" • "Africa's Hopeful Economies: The Sun Shines Bright," <i>The Economist</i> • "Press 1 for Mobility," <i>The Economist</i> 	ANGEL Homework
Thurs. Sept. 13	China and the "Rise of the Rest." Alternative Narratives of Power and Economic Development?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fareed Zakaria, "The Rise of the Rest" (excerpt) • "Power Shift," <i>The Economist</i> • "Foreigners Follow the Money to Brazil," <i>NY Times</i> • "Why China's Political Model is Superior," <i>NY Times</i> 	ANGEL Homework
Tues. Sept. 18	The American South and Globalization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raymond Mohl, "Globalization, Latinization, 	ANGEL Homework

		and the Nuevo New South” • “Another Blow to Fort Payne’s Sock Industry,” <i>Gadsden Times</i>	
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Thurs. Sept. 20	Economic Globalization: Apple, Google, Cars and the “Locations” of Production and Globalization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “How the US Lost Out on iPhone Work,” <i>NY Times</i> • “Google’s Nexus Q: Made, Not Just Designed in US,” <i>marketplace.org</i> • “In Pursuit of Nissan, a Lesson for the Tech Industry?” <i>NY Times</i> 	ANGEL Homework
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Tues. Sept. 25	Semester Paper Topic Due		
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Tues. Sept. 25	Security and Asymmetrical Challenges: Sovereignty and the Future of the Nation-State	• Moses Naim, “Five Wars of Globalization”	ANGEL Homework
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Thurs. Sept. 27	Energy, Global Health, and the Environment	• “Energy,” www.globalization101.org	ANGEL Homework
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Tues. Oct. 2	Midterm I (submitted to turnitin.com dropbox)	STUDY!
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Thurs. Oct. 4	Fall Break	HAVE FUN!
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Part III: Global Migrations, Diasporas, and Cross-Cultural Exchanges		
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Tues. Oct. 9	Culture and Globalization: Dialectics, Dilemmas, and Opportunities	• John Tomlinson, “Globalization and Cultural Identity”	ANGEL Homework
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Thurs. Oct. 11	The Language of Globalization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Language,” Kimberly Brown and Shawn Smallman • “Instructive Cross-Cultural Episode” 	ANGEL Homework
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Tues. Oct. 16	Race and Ethnicity Guest Lecturer: Dr. Mitch Berbrier, Dept. of Sociology	• Werner Sollors, “Ethnicity”	ANGEL Homework (REQUIRED)
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Thurs. Oct. 18	Postcolonialism and The Clash of Civilizations?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “What is Postcolonialism?” • Samuel Huntington, “Clash of Civilizations,” <i>Foreign Affairs</i> • “The Clash of Ignorance,” <i>The Nation</i> 	ANGEL Homework
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Tues. Oct. 23	Diasporas and Immigrations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Migration and Globalization,” www.globalization101.org • “How Blunt Can One Be about Integration,” <i>Der Spiegel</i> 	ANGEL Homework
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Thurs. Oct. 25	Jhumpa Lahiri, <i>The Interpreter of Maladies</i>	• Read: “When Mr. Pirzada came to Dine;” “Mrs. Sen’s;” “This Blessed House;” “The Third and Final Continent”	ANGEL Homework (REQUIRED)
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Tues. Oct. 30	Gender and Globalization	• Readings TBA	ANGEL Homework
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	Guest Lecturer: Dr. Molly Johnson, Department of History		(REQUIRED)
Thurs. Nov. 1	Midterm II (submitted to turnitin.com drop box)		STUDY
Tues. Nov. 6 Optional Rough Draft of Semester Paper Due			
Tues. Nov. 6	Global Cities (and How "Global" is Huntsville?)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "2012 Global Cities Index," ATKearney • "75 Most Dynamic Cities for the Future," www.foreignpolicy.com 	ANGEL Homework
Thurs. Nov. 8	"China and Human Rights" Guest Lecturer: Dr. Nick Jones, Department of Philosophy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confucius, "The Analects" (excerpt) 	ANGEL Homework (REQUIRED)
Tues. Nov. 13	"Young and Restless in China" (Discussion of Film)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch entire film online before class discussion 	ANGEL Homework
Thurs. Nov. 15	Religion, Secularism, and Cultural Modernity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Battle for God</i>, Karen Armstrong (excerpt) • "Do We Need Stories?" Tim Parks, <i>NYRB</i> • "Faith and Modernity," <i>The NY Times</i> 	ANGEL Homework
Friday, Nov. 16 Semester Paper Due			
Tues. Nov. 20	Film: <i>In July</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Reading Homework 	ANGEL Homework (to be completed after viewing film)
Thurs. Nov. 22 Thanksgiving			
Tues. Nov. 27	<i>Persepolis I</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read entire <i>Persepolis I</i> 	ANGEL Homework (REQUIRED)
Thurs. Nov. 29	<i>Persepolis II</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read entire <i>Persepolis II</i> 	ANGEL Homework (REQUIRED)
Tues. Dec. 4	TBA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Reading 	No Homework
Thurs. Dec. 6	Final Exam		STUDY

Course Assignments and Assessment Tools

The following means of assessment will enable students to achieve the stated learning outcomes for the course.

I. Class Attendance, Participation, Readings, and Homework

250 points

Regular class attendance and participation in class discussions will enhance your abilities to analyze a variety of topics related to global issues and studies. Forms of participation include engaging in class discussions, asking the instructor questions, and listening to the instructor and fellow students attentively

and respectfully. While there is no formal attendance policy, regular attendance will be part of the participation grade. A class roll will be distributed at the first part of class.

A critical part of participation is the completion of readings and homework assignments. You must complete all of the day's assigned readings before class. For each class day, homework assignments associated with the day's reading(s) will also be posted to ANGEL. In total, you will complete fifteen assignments over the course of the semester (15 x 10 = 150 points). **Seven** of these assignments are required, meaning that all students must complete them (these are noted on syllabus with the label REQUIRED). In addition to these seven required assignments, you must complete an additional eight assignments over the course of the semester. You may choose these eight from the remaining assignments. The grade for each homework assignment will be based on the following factors: 1) did you complete the entire assignment; and 2) the level of thought and effort you demonstrated in the homework response. You must post your responses to the homework questions in ANGEL by **NOON on the day** for which the reading is assigned to receive credit.

II. Map Assignment

50 points

The map assignment is available in ANGEL in the Lessons folder. Print it out, complete it, and turn it in at the beginning of class on Thursday, August 30.

III. Semester Paper Project

200 points

You will write a 1500-word essay that explores a course topic in greater depth. The topic should come from one of the "Issues in Depth" from the website www.globalization101.org. In addition to the material from the website on the topic, you must also use at least three sources listed from the site's "Select Bibliography" and/or "Suggested Reading" related to the topic. Please consult the semester paper assignment handout on Angel for more information.

On Thursday, September 20, you will submit a paper topic proposal which is worth 20 points which describes the topic of focus and includes a properly-cited bibliography (either MLA or Chicago Manual of Style format). The final paper is due Friday, November 16 by midnight (uploaded to the turnitin.com dropbox in ANGEL).

IV. Three Written Exams: 2 Midterms (2 x 150 points = 300 points) and Final (200 points)

500 points

There will be three "take-at-home" exams, all to be completed and submitted to the turnitin.com dropbox by midnight on the date listed on the syllabus. The two midterm exams will consist of identifications and one essay.

The final exam will consist of identifications and two essays. The first essay will be based on material covered since the second midterm. The second will be a comprehensive essay based on material from the entire semester.

SEMESTER TOTAL:

1000 points

Grading System: A = 900-1000 B = 800-899 C = 700-799 D = 600-699 F = 599 or less

Additional Course Policies:

Contacting Instructor: Please contact me via email or by phone. Please be advised that I will answer emails and respond to voice mails only during business hours (9:00am to 5:00pm, Mon. – Fri).

Students with Disabilities: If you have any disabilities that require special accommodations, please see me during the first week of the semester and bring appropriate documentation.

ANGEL:

I will post the course syllabus, handouts, course readings, exam study guides, and most PowerPoint lectures to ANGEL (<http://angel.uah.edu>). Please note that handouts and readings will not be distributed in class. You must acquaint yourself with how to use ANGEL early in the semester, or you will not have access to these materials. To find the readings and homework assignments, please go to "Lessons" and locate the appropriate folder.

Use of Prior Work: All work must be newly prepared for GS 200. Assignments previously or simultaneously submitted for other classes will not be accepted.

Late Work/Make-Up Work: In order to preserve fairness to those students who complete their work on time, late homework postings to ANGEL will not be accepted. In addition, you will lose 10 points for every day that your semester paper is late. You must turn in your online exams by the due date and time. Make-up exams will only be allowed under extraordinary circumstances and will require appropriate documentation. There will be no make-up final exam. The instructor will not make written comments on late work, including both exams and papers.

Respectful Course Atmosphere: Every student must treat every other student with respect. This includes listening when other students speak, and making contributions to class discussion that respect the race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, nationality, etc. of your fellow students.

Laptop and Cell Phone Use: Laptops may be used only during regular class for note-taking. Cell phones must be set to “meeting” or “vibrate” during class and stored in your bag, purse, or backpack.

Academic Honesty:

Plagiarism on Course Assignments:

All of your assignments must adhere to standards of academic honesty. Under no circumstances will any form of plagiarism be tolerated. In other words, the work you submit must be your own work, not the work of a friend, published scholar, website creator, or internet paper mill. Furthermore, you must provide proper citations in all of your assignments for every idea or example you use that comes from another scholar’s work, whether quoted or paraphrased.

If you are caught plagiarizing, you will automatically receive a zero for the assignment. Depending on the degree of the plagiarism, you might fail the course. All incidents of plagiarism will be submitted to Student Affairs.

Turnitin.com

All exams and your semester essay must be submitted to turnitin.com. Failure to submit exams and the paper to turnitin.com will result in a ZERO for the assignment. Under “Lessons,” you will find the “turnitin.com drop-box” for the exams and the paper assignment. You will click on the link and then follow the directions there for submitting your work.

University Statement on Turnitin.com

UAH is committed to the fundamental values of preserving academic honesty as defined in the Student Handbook (7.III.A). The instructor reserves the right to utilize electronic means to help prevent plagiarism. Students agree that by taking this course all assignments are subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com. Assignments submitted to Turnitin.com will be included as source documents in Turnitin.com's restricted access database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism in such documents. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service, as well as additional information about the company, are described at www.uah.edu/library/turnitin.