

GS 200 Global Systems and Cultures

3 Credit Hours
UA Huntsville
Fall 2013

Instructor Information:

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Global Studies Program:

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Course Information:

Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:35-10:55
Location: Morton Hall 312
Office Hours: Mon. 1-3; Tues, Wed, Thurs. 1-2, and by appt.

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. *No Longer at Ease*, 1994 (1960).
Lahiri, Jhumpa. *The Interpreter of Maladies*, 1999.
Satrapi, Marjane. *Persepolis. The Story of a Childhood*. Trans. Mattias Ripa and Blake Ferris. New York: Pantheon, 2003.
---. *Persepolis 2: The Story of a Return*. Trans. Anjali Singh. New York: Pantheon, 2004.
"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 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. 22	Course Introduction; What is Global Studies?		

Part I: Foundations of Global Power and Trade

Tues. Aug. 27	Historical Globalization: Exchange and Power <i>International Interview Assignment</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selected Primary Source Documents 	ANGEL Homework
Thurs. Aug. 29	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

Tues. Sept. 3 | Map Assignment Due

Tues. Sept. 3	Western Narratives of Modernity and Economic Power	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Rostow's Stages of Development" 	ANGEL Homework
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Part II: Global Economic Development / Challenges to the Developed World

Thurs. Sept 5	Decolonization and the Challenges/Potential of Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Readings on ANGEL 	ANGEL Homework
Tues. Sept. 10	Discussion: Chinua Achebe, <i>No Longer at Ease</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Chinua Achebe, <i>No Longer at Ease</i> (entire novel) 	ANGEL Homework (REQUIRED)
Thurs. Sept. 12	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. 17	The American South and Globalization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raymond Mohl, "Globalization, Latinization, and the Nuevo New South" • "Another Blow to Fort Payne's Sock Industry," <i>Gadsden Times</i> 	ANGEL Homework

Thurs. Sept. 19 | Semester Paper Topic and Bibliography Due

Thurs. Sept. 19	Technology and Economic Globalization: Apple, Google, Cars and the "Locations" of Production and Globalization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Readings on ANGEL 	ANGEL Homework
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Tues. Sept. 24	International Interview Assignment Due Class Discussion of Interviews		
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Part III: Global Challenges to Sovereignty, the Authority of Nation-State, and Individual Rights

Thurs. Sept. 26	Security and Asymmetrical Challenges: Sovereignty and the Future of the Nation-State	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moses Naim, "Five Wars of Globalization" 	ANGEL Homework
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Tues. Oct. 1	Midterm Exam (due by midnight)		
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Thurs. Oct. 3	No Class. Fall Break	HAVE FUN!	
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Tues. Oct. 8	Energy and the Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Energy," www.globalization101.org • "Supermajordämmerung," <i>The Economist</i> 	ANGEL Homework
Thurs. Oct. 10	Global Health and Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Health," www.globalization101.org 	ANGEL Homework
Tues. Oct. 15	Social Media, Surveillance, and Privacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Articles on ANGEL 	ANGEL Homework
Thurs. Oct. 17	Globalization and Gender Guest Lecturer: Dr. Molly Johnson, Department of History	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "The Lost Girls," ANGEL 	ANGEL Homework (REQUIRED)

Part IV: Global Migrations, Diasporas, and Cross-Cultural Exchanges

Tues. Oct. 22	Culture and Globalization: Dialectics, Dilemmas, and Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Tomlinson, "Globalization and Cultural Identity" 	ANGEL Homework
Thurs. Oct. 24	The Language of Globalization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Language," Kimberly Brown and Shawn Smallman • "Instructive Cross-Cultural Episode" 	ANGEL Homework
Tues. Oct. 29	Race and Ethnicity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Werner Sollors, "Ethnicity" 	ANGEL Homework
Thurs. Oct. 31	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
Tues. Nov. 5	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
Thurs. Nov. 7	Jhumpa Lahiri, <i>The Interpreter of Maladies</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read: "When Mr. Pirzada Came to Dine;" "Mrs. Sen's;" "This Blessed House;" "The Third and Final Continent" 	ANGEL Homework (REQUIRED)

Thurs. Nov. 7	Optional Rough Draft of Semester Paper Due		
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Tues. Nov. 12	"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. 14	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

Mon. Nov. 18	Semester Paper Due
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Tues. Nov. 19	<i>Persepolis I</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read entire <i>Persepolis I</i> 	ANGEL Homework (REQUIRED)
Thurs. Nov. 21	<i>Persepolis II</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read entire <i>Persepolis II</i> 	ANGEL Homework (REQUIRED)
Tues. Nov. 26	<i>Film TBA</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading TBA 	ANGEL Homework
Thurs. Nov. 28	Thanksgiving. No Class.		

Tues. Dec. 3	Global Studies and the Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "The Undiscipline of Global Studies," ANGEL 	ANGEL Homework
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Tues. Dec. 10	Final Exam Due (by midnight)
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Course Assignments and Assessment Tools

The following means of assessment will enable you 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 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). **Five** of these assignments are required, meaning that all students must complete them (these are noted on syllabus with the label REQUIRED). 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 to ANGEL by the start of the class 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 Tuesday, September 3.

III. Interview Project 100 points

You will interview a person not from your country and write a three-page essay in which you reflect on what you learned in the interview. You will receive a separate handout explaining this assignment. This assignment will be due September 24, and we will devote a class day to discussing what everyone learned.

IV. 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 19, you will submit a paper topic proposal and bibliography. This portion of the semester paper project, which is worth 20 points, should describe the topic of focus and include a properly-cited bibliography (either MLA or Chicago Manual of Style format). You have the option of turning in a rough draft of your paper. The rough draft is due November 7. The final paper is due Friday, November 16 by midnight (uploaded to the turnitin.com dropbox in ANGEL).

IV. Two Written Exams: 1 Midterm (175 points) and Final (225 points)

400 points

There will be two "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 midterm exam 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: The University of Alabama in Huntsville will make reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities. If you need support or assistance because of a disability, you may be eligible for academic accommodations. Students should identify themselves to the Disability Support Services Office (256-824-1997) or Madison Hall, Room 131) and their instructor as soon as possible to coordinate accommodations.

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.