

Brief Course Outline

Course Title: Introduction to Globalization

Course Number and Section:

CGS

1022F 550

Instructor Name(s): Dr. Wendy Russell

Instructor Email(s): wrussell@huron.uwo.ca

Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

Course Description:

This course introduces and critically examines dominant approaches to understanding human interconnection at a global scale and provides an interdisciplinary overview of various trends attributed to globalization.

Learning Outcomes:

This course asks students to think critically about how global scale dynamics shape the context in which humans live their lives, solve problems, and seek change. To this end, we will study varied and contrasting approaches to understanding globalization, paying particular attention to the assumptions each makes about social, economic, political and cultural life. Students will learn to distinguish among these different approaches to understanding globalization, different definitions of globalization, and to identify the strengths and weaknesses of each.

Class discussions sparked by our course readings, lecture materials, films and your independent research projects give students a chance to practice how to engage ideas, arguments and case studies analytically. The written assignment provides experience with text-based research at the university level, and written feedback will assist you in refining and developing your skills as an analyst.

Textbooks and Course Materials:

Each week you will complete a set of assigned readings and consider those readings in relation to some analytical questions. The weekly reading assignment pages on OWL (see left hand menu) will include a guide to reading selections, some of the readings and in some weeks links to videos to watch. You can expect to read 20-30 pages per week for this course.

In addition to these journal articles and films, we are also reading each of those books which you can purchase via the Western Bookstore or from the publisher.

Bauman, Zygmunt and Carlo Bordoni. 2014. State of Crisis. Boston, Massachusetts: Polity. (You can purchase the electronic version of this book from the Western Bookstore).

Hardt, Michael and Antonio Negri. 2012. Declaration. Allen, Texas: Argo Navis Publishing.

(This book is available in full, with some duplicated pages you will skip, at this link: <https://antonionegriinenglish.files.wordpress.com/2012/05/93152857-hardt-negri-declaration-2012.pdf>)

Rivoli, Pietra. 2009. The Travels of a T-shirt in the Global Economy: An Economist Examines the Markets, Power and Politics of World Trade. Second Edition. Hoboken, N.J.: Wiley. (You can purchase the electronic copy through the Western Bookstore or from the publisher, Wiley. The url is inconveniently long so not pasted here.)

Wise, Timothy A. 2019. Eating Tomorrow: Agribusiness, Family Farmers, and the Battle for the Future of Food. New York, New York: The New Press. (This book is only available electronically. You can read it via the Western Library by searching the title. You can also purchase an electronic copy here <https://www.vitalsource.com/en-ca/products/eating-tomorrow-timothy-a-wise-v9781620974230>) and through the Western Bookstore.)

Methods Of Evaluation:

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Attendance		10
Research Essay Assignment Part 1: Preliminary Research Report		25
Research Essay Assignment Part 2: Final Paper		35
Final Critical Response Paper		30

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.

Tuesday, August 26, 2025