

**XIDS 2301: Introduction to Global Studies**  
**Fall 2008**  
**Classes: MW 12:30-1:45, Geography Lecture Hall 2**

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Office hours: M/W, 10-11, T/Th 9-11, or by appointment.

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Office hours: M/W, 9:00-12:00, or by appointment.

Lectures: M/W 2-3:15, TLC 1203

**Objective:**

The purpose of the course is to promote an understanding of global awareness and the interconnectedness of the global human population as well as its dynamic interactions with the natural world. This requires an appreciation of the interconnectedness of global and local events, processes and structures. Toward this end, we will examine a range and diversity of global topics.

Global Studies is an interdisciplinary enquiry into the developments which have in the past and will continue to shape the interconnectedness of people and places around the world. It employs critical analyses of the processes which have contributed to both the complexity and variety of our world societies and to the common features of the changing human and natural environments. It begins with basic questions, such as how does people's struggle to survive connect them across time and space, or what common features are there in the dynamics of conflict for people in different regions with similar experiences, and, how do apparently local issues or developments in one region of the world have profound impacts on people across the globe? Global Studies is much more than just the tracking and description of elements of "globalization," a process which has been going on since human communities first began migrating beyond the confines of their geographic origins. It is about the ways we both see and affect each other, and how people, states, societies, and the global community struggle to reconcile common individual and local interests with broader world-wide interests. Global Studies is, therefore, the study of us, and the world we share from a variety of perspectives.

Global Studies empowers us to see beyond our own personal experiences, to understand the holistic nature of human interconnections. It utilizes a wide range of intellectual disciplines to broaden our understanding of our world and our place in it. These may include history, geography, political science, science and medicine, philosophy and religious studies, and environmental sciences as well as economics. It seeks to illuminate our understanding of such transnational and global phenomena as environmental degradation, epidemic disease, mass migration, human rights issues, peace, conflict, global trade and economic linkages, and even spirituality. At its heart, Global Studies is about you as an individual and your global citizenship; it is about your identity within,

experience of, and impact upon the world in which you live and always are a constitutive part. As a discipline, Global Studies prepares you to be better able to shape and improve your world.

**Learning outcomes:** Students are expected to describe and explain global issues in an analytical framework that emphasizes the role of the individual in her/his local community and their relationship to the global society.

### **A NOTE ON ACADEMIC HONESTY and other class policies**

All students are expected to conduct themselves with honesty and to DO THEIR OWN WORK. Cheating, in whatever form not only does a disservice to you, fellow students and the University community, it is fraud and brings severe disciplinary action. I refer all students to the section on Academic Honesty in the University Catalogue. I reserve the right to fail any student for academic dishonesty, and further disciplinary action may be taken.

**-No electronic devices of any kind may be used during exams, tests or quizzes.**

-Students who are late to class, or who leave early (based on the instructor's determination of time) will be counted absent and they will not be permitted to write any tests, quizzes or exams in that class period.

**-NO CELL PHONES IN CLASS.** Students who use their cell phones in class will be asked to leave the class and an absence will be recorded for that class.

-There is no extra credit provided for this course.

-The instructor will not accept work that has been submitted for another course in this course.

-Students causing a disturbance or engaging in disruptive behavior will be asked to leave the class and be counted absent. Persistent disruptions may be cause for being dropped from the class.

**-N.B. This syllabus is subject to change, and the instructors have final say regarding these changes and their implementation.** Students are responsible for coming to class in order to make themselves aware of these changes

### **Grading:**

The course grade is based on three (3) exams and three (3) surprise quizzes. Material for the exams and quizzes will be based on class lectures and discussions as well as assigned readings and the listed/assigned websites.

Grade distribution:

1<sup>st</sup> Exam: 25%

2<sup>nd</sup> Exam 25%

3<sup>rd</sup> Exam: 35%

Quizzes: 15% (5% for each of three)

**No make-ups for missed exams or quizzes will be granted except for cases of verifiable and documented health matters or official UWG business. Students MUST inform and provide the instructor with documentation in advance of any absence and make arrangements to take any quizzes or exams at an alternate time set at the discretion of the instructor.**

**Readings:**

The Core reading base for the course is the Seven Revolutions Web Site:

[http://www.7revs.org/sevenrevs\\_content.html](http://www.7revs.org/sevenrevs_content.html)

Each major course topic has an outline and readings linked from this website. Other course topics and guest lectures will have readings assigned on a TBA basis. Some of these may be found on other websites, such as the following, or will be made available as online readings:

Global Studies at the University of West Georgia

<http://www.westga.edu/~global01/>

Center for Strategic and International Studies

<http://www.csis.org/>

Global Health Council

<http://www.globalhealth.org/>

Centers for Disease Control

<http://www.cdc.gov/>

World Watch Institute

<http://www.worldwatch.org/>

Migration Information Source

<http://www.migrationinformation.org/>

United Nations

<http://www.un.org/>

Here are several useful engines:

<http://eldis.org/>

(Good for papers and researching topics)

<http://www.lexisnexis.com/>

(Good for Podcasts)

## **Weekly Assignments and Lectures:**

- Week of 18-20 Aug.

**18)** Intro and Syllabus/handouts

**20)** World Systems/World History/Globalization/Global Studies Online Notes/Readings

Synopsis of Wallerstein's World Systems theory at

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/wallerstein.html>

- Week of 25-27 Aug.

**25)** Population: Patterns, trends, and issues (Walter)

*Reading: 7 Revs and TBA*

**27)** Population: Urbanization (Walter)

*Reading: 7 Revs and TBA*

- Week of 1-3 Sept.

**1)** Economic integration: Trade and finance (Walter)

*Reading: 7 Revs and TBA*

**3)** Economic integration: Migration (Walter)

*Reading: 7 Revs and TBA*

- Week of 8-10 Sept.

**8)** Global governance: The governing roles of states, markets, and civil society (Walter)

*Reading: 7 Revs and TBA*

**10)** Global governance: WTO, IMF/WB, NAFTA (Walter)

*Reading: 7 Revs and TBA*

- Week of 15-17 Sept.

**15)** Resources: Availability (MacKinnon)

*Readings: 7 Revs and TBA*

**17)** Resources: Consumption (MacKinnon)

*Readings: 7 Revs and TBA*

- Week of 22-24 Sept.

**22)** Food: Producing food (Walter)

*Reading: 7 Revs and TBA*

**24)** **\*\*First Exam \*\***

- Week of 29 Sept -1 Oct

**29)** Food: Consuming food (Walter)

*Reading:* 7 Revs and TBA

**1)** Food/Resources: World fisheries (Heidi Banford guest lecture)

*Reading:* TBA

- Week of 6-8 Oct.

Film/Discussion *Darwin's Nightmare* TBA

- Week of 13-15 Oct.

**13)** Health: Infections and Inequalities (MacKinnon)

*Reading:* TBA

**15)** Health: Public Health and Global Good (MacKinnon)

*Reading:* TBA

- Week of 20-22 Oct.

**20)** Conflict: The origins and drivers of Conflict (MacKinnon)

*Reading:* 7 Revs and TBA

**22)** Conflict: The scope and means (MacKinnon)

*Reading:* 7 Revs and TBA

- Week of 27-29 Oct.

**27)** Conflict: Genocide (Gerhardt guest lecture)

*Reading:* TBA

**29)** Indigenous people: Who are they? (Van Valen guest lecture)

*Reading:* TBA

- Week of 3-5 Nov.

**3)** Indigenous people

*Reading:* TBA

**5)** \*\* Second Exam\*\*

- Week of 10-12 Nov.

**10)** Film TBA

**12)** Discussion

- Week of 17-19 Nov.

17) Gender and Globalization (Stevens guest lecture)

*Readings:* TBA

19) Gender and Globalization (Stevens guest lecture)

*Readings:* TBA

- Week of 24-26 Nov

24) Technology and the Environment (MacKinnon)

*Readings:* 7 Revs and TBA

26) Thanksgiving Recess

- Week of 1-3 Dec.

1) Film/Discussion TBA

3) Conclusion and Review for Final Exam

- Week of 10 December

10) \*\* Final Exam\*\* 11:00-1:00

**N.B. All students must write the exams and the document analysis response at the times and dates specified. No exceptions will be made for other than verifiable medical excuses. No make-up exams or quizzes will be provided and a grade of A0" (zero) will be recorded for any missed assignments or exams. Late assignments will not be accepted. THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PLEASE CHECK WITH THE INSTRUCTOR DIRECTLY ABOUT ANY POSSIBLE CHANGES. It is the student's responsibility to note changes.**