

# global studies: GEOG106

## Geographies of Globalization



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### GEOG 106: Geographies of Globalization

Course Syllabus – Fall 2004

**Instructor:** Kathleen O'Reilly, Ph.D.

**Lectures:** MWF 9am – 9:50am in 101 Armory + five meetings in Follinger Auditorium  
lecture on those days (see below under Guest Speakers)

**Office Hours:** MW 3-4 pm, T 9-10 and by appointment  
236 Davenport Hall  
Tel. 244.9028  
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(E-mail hours will coincide with regular office hours)

**Teaching Assistant:** Dean Beck  
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Office hours: M 10:30 am-12:30 pm, Thurs 12-1 pm and by appt.

**Required course texts:**

- *Diversity Amid Globalization: World Regions, Environment and Development* , second edition, edited by Les Rice, Lewis, Marie Price, William Wycoff. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.
- *Map Workbook* . (Published by Prentice Hall)
- *Atlas of World Geography* (Published by Rand McNally), paperback.
- Additional assigned readings will be available through online reserve. These readings are accessible through the library pages.

**Course description**

Processes of globalization may be homogenizing, yet they also contribute to increased fragmentation (witness the grassroots protests at the recent World Trade Organization talks in Cancun or the global diffusion of McDonald's and the erosion of local culture in McDonald's menus around the world). This course takes as its pivot point the concept of geography. While examining the persistence of unique regions, the course will both scale up to global linkages and scale down to local linkages.

impacts of globalization processes. This course surveys major world regions by systematically considering five the environment, population and settlement patterns, cultural coherence and diversity, geopolitical fragmentation and economic and social development. Throughout the course, basic concepts of a geographic perspective (e.g., scale human-environment interactions) are utilized to examine patterns of globalization as well as the uniqueness of place segments provide a conceptual foundation for the rest of the course.

Throughout the course, maps and cartography will be highlighted to expose students to geographic methods and to consider different aspects of maps and the practice of cartography as a way to think critically about how people, places and processes are represented spatially and graphically. We will also explore how maps may be used as political tools for particular agendas and viewpoints. Students will engage with maps on a regular basis in lecture, quizzes and readings. Lectures will include questions related to these learning experiences with maps and place identification.

### Course web site

This course has two accompanying websites on IL Compass **and** the LAS Global Studies Initiative WEBSITE. See the instructions on how to access these websites.

### Guest speakers

All seven Global Studies courses will meet as a group five times during the semester to hear prominent guest speakers. Lectures will be held Wednesday evenings at 4pm at Follinger Auditorium. Student attendance is mandatory, and I expect to hear questions during the Q&A period that follows the lecture. Readings and quizzes are associated with these lectures.

### Student Surveys:

All Global Studies Initiative students will be completing three surveys over the semester. The surveys can be taken on the Global Studies Initiative WEBSITE. The schedule is as follows:

**by 9/29** : For class registration: complete on-line Global Studies survey

**by 10/15** : complete on-line Global Studies survey so we can make mid-course corrections

**by 12/15, 5.00 p.m.** : To expedite your final grade, complete on-line Global Studies survey

### Student assignments, attendance, and evaluation

Your grade will be based on three exams (the lowest score of four exams will be dropped), lecture quizzes, two written exams and online quizzes. Exams will draw from reading assignments and lectures and will include a map quiz segment. Study materials will be distributed through the class website and will draw on the *Map Workbook*. No make-up quizzes are available for lecture quizzes, but the lowest two lecture quiz scores will be dropped.

### Grading scale

In this course, a grade of "C" indicates average performance. This grade means that the work has accomplished the expected outcome. A grade of "B" indicates above average performance, and a grade of "A" recognizes work that exceeds the call of duty. A grade of "D" indicates below average performance, and an "F" grade indicates that the work does not earn credit. Additionally, "+" and "-" grades will be assigned on exams and for the final grade in the course. Lecture quizzes will be graded on a 5 point basis and "+" or "-" will not be assigned to quiz grades.

**Grades** for this class will be based on the following components (point values are approximate):

3 Exams (lowest of 4 scores will be dropped) 100 points each	300 points	(68%
10 online quizzes (5 points each)	50 points	(11%
These quizzes include <u>guest speaker quizzes</u> : the day prior to each of the five guest speakers you will be asked to visit the Global Studies Initiative WEBSITE to take a quiz based on the assigned readings for the scheduled speaker.		
10 Lecture quizzes (5 points each; lowest 2 of 12 scores will be dropped)		

1 Essay assignment	50 points	(11%)
	25 points	(6%)
1 Reaction paper	15 points	(4%)

### **Individual meeting with your professor**

At a university of this size, it is easy to get lost in the crowd! I strongly encourage you to make an appointment to meet outside of class and take a few minutes to introduce yourself. An individual meeting can be your opportunity to ask questions you may have about the course, about the Geography Department, or about the university in general.

### **Academic integrity**

“The University has the responsibility for maintaining academic integrity so as to protect the quality of education on our campus and to protect those who depend upon our integrity. It is the responsibility of the student to refrain from academic dishonesty, from conduct that may lead to suspicion of such infractions, and from conduct that aids others in such infractions.” (Code of Policies and Regulations Applying to All Students (Academic Policies, Rule # 33), [http://www.uiuc.edu/admin\\_manual/code/rule\\_33.html](http://www.uiuc.edu/admin_manual/code/rule_33.html) ). Please familiarize yourself with this section of the University's Code of Policies and Regulations. In this course, you are expected to do your own, original work that has not been previously submitted for credit. If you have any additional questions or concerns about academic integrity, please bring these to my attention.

### **Course Schedule**

This schedule is approximate. Look for updates on the class website.

#### **Week 1:**

**Aug 25, Aug 27**

#### **I. Diversity amid globalization**

- Diversity amid Globalization: Overview of themes
  - What is globalization?
  - Advocates and critics of globalization
  - A geographic perspective of the world
  - Human-environment interaction
  - Regions (how do we define regions?)
  - Scales: global to local
- (5 Themes:)
- Environment (landscapes, resources, environmental change)
  - Population and settlement
  - Cultural coherence and diversity
  - Geopolitical fragmentation and unity
  - Geography of wealth and poverty

#### **Reading**

Chapter 1 in *Diversity Amid Globalization*

#### **Week 2:**

**Aug 30, Sep 1, Sep 3**

#### **II. The changing global environment**

- Geologic foundations (plate tectonics; hazards)
- Global climate change

- Water budget
- Human impacts and the globalization of nature
- Food resources

### Reading

Chapter 2 in *Diversity Amid Globalization*

### Assignment

Your World. A 2-3 page essay in which you will use the five geographic concepts of location, place, region, move human/environment interactions to situate yourself in the world around you. A simple, hand drawn map is part of t September 10.

### **Week 3:**

**Sep 8 GUEST SPEAKER, Sep 10**

### **North America**

- Environmental geography: Threatened land of plenty
- Population and settlement: Spatial and demographic patterns; decentralized metropolis
- Cultural coherence and diversity: Legacy of federalism; global reach
- Geopolitical framework: Patterns of dominance and division
- Economic and social development: Geographies of abundance and affluence

### Reading

Chapter 3 in *Diversity Amid Globalization*

Readings for guest speaker: Timothy Brennan, University of Minnesota

### **Week 4:**

**Sep 13, Sep 15, Sep 17**

### **Latin America**

- Environmental geography: Western mountains and eastern shields
- Population and settlement: The dominance of cities
- Cultural coherence and diversity: Repopulating a continent
- Geopolitical framework: Iberian conquest and territorial division
- Economic and social development: Development strategies; primary export dependency

### Reading

Chapter 4 in *Diversity Amid Globalization*

### **Week 5:**

**Sep 20, Sep 22, Sep 24 EXAM I**

**Review globalization themes in global environmental change and in the Americas; Exam I**

### **Week 6:**

**Sept 27, Sep 29 GUEST SPEAKER, Oct 1**

### **Sub-Saharan Africa**

- Environmental geography: Plateaus and basins
- Population and settlement: young and restless
- Cultural coherence and diversity: Unity through adversity
- Geopolitical framework: Colonialism and conflict
- Economic and social development: Roots of poverty and links to the world

### Reading

Chapter 6 in *Diversity Amid Globalization*

Readings for guest speaker: Rajmohan Gandhi, UIUC

### **Week 7:**

**Oct 4, Oct 6, Oct 8**

### **Southwest Asia and North Africa**

- Environmental geography: Legacies of a vulnerable landscape
- Population and settlement: Population patterns in an arid land
- Cultural coherence and diversity: Patterns of religion and language
- Geopolitical framework: Colonial legacy and persisting tensions
- Economic and social development: Geography of fossil fuels; issues of social development (Petrotyranny)

### Reading

Chapter 7 in *Diversity Amid Globalizations*

Assignment: 1-2 page Reaction Paper. Topic TBA. Due October 13.

### **Week 8:**

**Oct 11, Oct 13, Oct 15**

### **Europe**

- Environmental geography: Environmental issues; east and west
- Population and settlement: Slow growth and rapid migration
- Cultural coherence and diversity: A cultural mosaic
- Geopolitical framework: Dynamic geopolitical map
- Economic and social development: Economic and social integration and transition

### Reading

Chapter 8 in *Diversity Amid Globalization*

### **Week 9:**

**Oct 18, Oct 20 GUEST SPEAKER, Oct 22**

### **The Russian Domain**

- Environmental geography: A vast and challenging land
- Population and settlement: Urban centers; population distribution
- Cultural coherence and diversity: Legacy of Slavic dominance
- Geopolitical framework: Geopolitical remnants of a global superpower
- Economic and social development: Ongoing economic adjustment

Reading

Chapter 9 in *Diversity Amid Globalization*

Readings for guest speaker: Tariq Ali, London

**Week 10:**

**Oct 25, Oct 27 GUEST SPEAKER, Oct 29 EXAM II**

**Review globalization themes in the African and European realms; Exam II**

Reading

Readings for guest speaker: Dani Rodrik, Harvard University

**Week 11:**

**Nov 1, Nov 3, Nov 5**

**Central Asia**

- Environmental geography: Steppes, deserts and threatened lakes
- Population and settlement: Densely settled oases, vacant lands
- Cultural coherence and diversity: A meeting ground of traditions
- Geopolitical framework: Political reawakening in a power void
- Economic and social development: Abundant resources, devastated economies

Reading

Chapter 10 in *Diversity Amid Globalization*

**Week 12:**

**Nov 8, Nov 10, Nov 12**

**East Asia**

- Environmental geography: Resource pressures in a crowded land
- Population and settlement: A region of crowded basins
- Cultural coherence and diversity: A Confucian realm?
- Geopolitical framework: Imperial legacies of China and Japan
- Economic and social development: An emerging global economic core

Reading

Chapter 11 in *Diversity Amid Globalization*

**Week 13:**

**Nov 15, Nov 17 GUEST SPEAKER, Nov 19**

**South Asia**

- Environmental geography: From tropical islands to mountain rim
- Population and settlement: Geography of family planning
- Cultural coherence and diversity: Common cultural heritage, religious rivalries
- Geopolitical framework: Deeply divided geopolitical region
- Economic and social development: Burdened by poverty

Reading

Chapter 12 in *Diversity Amid Globalization*

Readings for guest speakers:           James Ross, Human Rights Watch  
  Ira Carmen, UIUC  
  Stephen Hartnett, UIUC

**Week 14:**

**NO CLASS. THANKSGIVING BREAK!**

**Week 15:**

**Nov 29, Dec 1, Dec 3 EXAM III**

**Southeast Asia**

- Environmental geography: A once-forested region
- Population and settlement: Subsistence, migration and cities
- Cultural coherence and diversity: Meeting ground of world cultures
- Geopolitical framework: War, ethnic strife and regional cooperation
- Economic and social development: Tiger economies (economic leaders and laggards)

Reading

Chapter 13 in *Diversity Amid Globalization*

**Week 16:**

**Dec 6, Dec 8, Dec 10**

**Review globalization themes in the Asian realm; Exam III**

**Exam 4: Cumulative Final Exam**

TBA

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