GGS 590-A02
Cities and Globalization
Summer 2016

Instructor: Dr. Jonathan Kozar
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Phone: 703-993-2309
Office Hours: By appointment.
Virtual Hours: I am typically available Monday through Friday during normal working hours (9-5) to respond to student inquiries. I will try my best to respond within 24 hours.

Course Materials:
- Globalization: A Very Short Introduction, 3rd Edition. Manfred Steger. Oxford University Press.
- Additional readings to be supplied in Blackboard.

Course Description: This course introduces the economic, cultural/social, and political changes and futures associated with the growth of globalization. More than half of the world's population now lives in cities and are more than ever at the forefront of national economic, cultural, and political activities. Increases in communication technologies, dispersed populations, and the growth of multi-national corporations have contributed to the reduction of geographic space and isolationism of select cities. Although many of these patterns may seem random, they are influenced by identifiable geographic factors. This course will combine traditional textbook material with contemporary readings and case studies to explore the growth and significance of global cities, as well as broader challenges associated with globalization, including uneven development and marginalization of various social and economic classes.

Course Format: In this online course, each week opens on a Monday. Each week typically includes reading, reading reflections, and assignments/discussions. Working online requires dedication and organization. Students must use your MasonLive email account for all course communications and check email messages on a daily basis. Communicating any problems or questions to the instructor promptly is highly encouraged. Before asking technical or computing questions please consult university blackboard resources or IT services first. I expect all students to submit all the assignments on time as this is a no late submission distance education course, any missing assignments will be graded as a zero. **Late assignments will not be accepted.** All listed times are Eastern Standard Time.

Mason Honor Code: All students are required to be familiar with and adhere to the George Mason University Honor Code and the Mason Values of Academic Integrity which can be found in the Office of Academic Integrity or online at (http://oai.gmu.edu/the-mason-honor-code/). Failure to abide by the code could result in failure of this course and dismissal from the University. This includes accessing information during course exams/quizzes and/or knowingly giving assistance to a classmate.

Netiquette: In an online learning community we must be respectful of one another. Innocent remarks can be easily misconstrued, sarcasm and humor can be easily taken out of context and viewed as hurtful or demeaning. When communicating, please be positive and diplomatic. I encourage you to learn more about Netiquette.

Grading: Your performance in this course will be evaluated by the following (subject to change):

Discussions: Three discussions are scheduled this semester. The discussion will open on Blackboard on Tuesdays at 6 a.m. and will close the following Sunday at 11:59 p.m. Topic or questions for discussion are determined by the instructor. There are two mandatory steps to completing the discussion; Step 1: submit your initial post no later than Wednesday at 11:59 p.m. and Step 2: read your classmates' posts and reply to four of them before discussion closes on Sunday at 11:59 p.m. Your initial post and replies should be thought out, well-articulated responses that furthers the discussion while remaining respectful to fellow students. Replies should be spaced over the duration of discussion (i.e. do not respond to any four posts in rapid succession).

Reading Reflections: A weekly written reflection of each weeks readings are due on Friday at 11:59 p.m. The weekly reflections will be about three (3) pages and require you to describe and critically evaluate the week's readings. You are to summarize the key points and reflect on the readings. I do not want a book report of the material. I want you to critically evaluate the readings and describe what they mean to you and make connections between other readings for the week or previous weeks.

Course Project: The final course project will consist of an annotated bibliography of at least ten (10) academic journal articles relating to the broad topic of globalization, not including readings completed for the course. An annotated bibliography is simply a reference citation of an article followed by a brief description of the contents of the article. The article description is typically a short paragraph or two detailing the articles purpose, questions, methods, findings, and/or conclusions. Content may vary with each article but the main purpose of the annotated bibliography is to succinctly summarize the article for quick future reference. More details to be provided.

Final Exam: A final exam consisting of a series of short and long answer questions is scheduled for the last week of the session. The exam will be open book/open notes but students are expected to cite or give credit to all material or thoughts not their own. More details to be provided at a later date.

Grading breakdown:
Discussions = 3 @ 10% = 30%
Reading Reflections = 4 @ 10% = 40%
Course Project = 10%
Final Exam = 20%
Total = 100%

Final Grading Scale: A (90-100), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (60-69), F (Below 60).

Tentative Course Schedule and Readings (Subject to change): All readings are from textbook, additional readings will be found in Blackboard as assigned.

Week 1: May 16
- Readings
  - Chapter 1: A contested concept
  - Chapter 2: Globalization and history: Is Globalization a New Phenomenon?
  - Journal readings to be posted to Blackboard
- Reflection 1: Due Friday May 20 at 11:59 p.m.

Week 2: May 23
- Readings
  - Chapter 3: The Economic Dimension of Globalization
  - Chapter 4: The Political Dimension of Globalization
  - Journal readings to be posted to Blackboard
- Discussion 1
- Reflection 2: Due Friday May 27 at 11:59 p.m.

Week 3: May 31
- Readings
  - Chapter 5: The Cultural Dimension of Globalization
  - Chapter 6: The Ecological Dimension of Globalization
  - Journal readings to be posted to Blackboard
- Discussion 2
- Reflection 3: Due Friday June 3 at 11:59 p.m.

Week 4: June 6
- Readings
  - Chapter 7: Ideologies of Globalization: Market, Justice, Religious Globalisms
  - Chapter 8: Global Crises and the Future of Globalization
  - Journal readings to be posted to Blackboard
- Discussion 3
- Reflection 4: Due Friday June 10 at 11:59 p.m.

Week 5: June 13
- **Course Projects due Monday June 13 at 11:59 p.m.**
- **Final Exam Distributed Tuesday May 14**
  - **Due Thursday June 16 at 11:59 p.m.**

Technology Requirements
Hardware: You will need access to a Windows or Macintosh computer with at least 2 GB of RAM and a fast and reliable broadband internet connection (e.g., cable, DSL). A larger screen is recommended for better visibility of course material. You will need speakers or headphones to hear recorded content. For the amount of Hard Disk Space required to take a distance education course consider and allow for:
1. the storage amount needed to install any additional software and
2. space to store work that you will do for the course.

Software: This course uses Blackboard as the learning management system. You will need a browser and operating system that are listed compatible or certified with the Blackboard version available on the myMason Portal. See supported browsers and operating systems. Log in to myMason to access this course.

Access to a Computer Workstation with:
1. Web browser (See Blackboard supported browsers and operating systems)
2. Adobe Acrobat Reader (free download)
3. Flash Player (free download)
4. Windows Media Player (free download)
5. Microsoft Office Word (purchase)

Note: If you are using an employer-provided computer or corporate office for class attendance, please verify with your systems administrators that you will be able to install the necessary applications and that system or corporate firewalls do not block access to any sites or media types.