

GEOGRAPHY\*2200  
GLOBAL CONNECTIONS

Department of Geography & Environmental Studies  
Carleton University, Early Summer 2021

Scheduled Time: 13:05-15:55, Tuesdays and Thursdays

**Course Delivery for Summer 2021:**

None of this class will be held in person.

Some of this class will be held virtually at our specific class times (dates listed below).

Most of this class will happen asynchronously (you can work on it whenever it is convenient to you).

There is no requirement for attendance at a specific time or location for any activities or exams.

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Josie Wittmer

**EMAIL:** [josiewittmer@cunet.carleton.ca](mailto:josiewittmer@cunet.carleton.ca)

**OFFICE HOURS:** Tuesdays 10:00am – 12:00pm or by appointment (via video chat)

**TEACHING ASSISTANT:** TBD

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is an introduction to 'globalization' with a focus on the structures, actors, and various dynamics associated with contemporary global connections. Globalization refers to the multidimensional and uneven intensification of worldwide economic, political, and social interconnections and their manifestation in lives and places/environments at multiple scales around the planet. We will be introduced to various geographical theories, concepts, and case studies to build a critical understanding of globalization and the impacts of one's own global connections. The themes of 'environment and economy' and 'uneven development' will run through the course.

The course will build your expertise in six core areas pertaining to key dimensions of globalization (the course is roughly divided according to these themes):

- Conceptual & historical foundations
- Economic dimensions
- Political dimensions
- Social & cultural dimensions
- Ecological & environmental dimensions
- Social movements, resistance, and alternatives

Course materials, activities, and assignments will highlight various interconnections within and between these core areas. We will use commodity chain analysis, case studies, and argumentative writing exercises to explore course material.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of the semester, students should be able to do the following:

- Demonstrate an understanding of definitions and geographical concepts presented in lectures and readings;
- Apply these concepts to interpret, examine, and assess different case studies and commodity chains;
- Reflect on the complexity and interplay of different political, economic, and social actors and factors shaping (and being shaped by) global connections at multiple scales;
- Analyze globalization as a multidimensional, uneven, and contested process;
- Construct and support evidence-based arguments regarding various dimensions of contemporary global connections.

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### COURSE MATERIALS

There is no required textbook for this course. Students will be required to access electronic resources (readings, videos, etc.) through CU Brightspace and the Ares Course Reserves System.

### EVALUATION

Assessment	Weight
Quizzes (5 x 5% each)	25%
Assignment 1	20%
Assignment 2	30%
Final Exam	25%

### SUMMER 2021 COURSE DELIVERY

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, this course will be taught entirely online. The majority of this course will be taught **asynchronously— meaning that you can engage with the course content at times each week that are convenient to you.** That said, there will be **six synchronous (live, virtual) class sessions to be held at the scheduled class time (dates and times listed in the course schedule)** to enable discussion between the instructor and students. These 'live' synchronous sessions are highly encouraged but not mandatory and will be recorded for those who cannot attend [*students are encouraged to keep their cameras off if they do not want to be recorded/appear in the video*]. For the Summer 2021 semester, GEOG\*2200 has no requirement for attendance at a specific time or location for any activities or exams.

**Weekly lectures and readings, assignments, and assessments will be hosted on CU Brightspace,** which acts as the classroom environment. Students can access the materials and satisfy course requirements prior to the posted deadlines based on their own schedule. It is recommended that **students log in to the course website multiple times per week** to check for announcements, access course materials, and review the weekly schedule and requirements. Students are also encouraged to use the course discussion forum tool to find answers and ask questions about course materials and assignments—if you have a question, it is likely that others do too!

This course has been designed for the 2021 Early Summer semester according to six units that will introduce a theory or conceptual approach toward thinking about global connections and provide opportunities for reflection and analytical engagement through assigned readings and relevant case studies. Each unit is designed to represent six hours of course work and ends with a quiz to test your understanding of the material.

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## COURSE SCHEDULE

TBD

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