GEOG 2200: Global Connections

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Office Hours: Thursday, 08:35 – 09:55 On-line; or arranged

Course Timetable: Fall Semester; On-line

Course Description

This course is about making connections – connections between us and people living next door to us to those living on the other side of the world; connections between enterprises located in communities everywhere; connections through the changes and challenges, be these environmental, social or economic, being felt in different places and at different geographic scales; and connections linking the past, the present and the future. In this course we will introduce a range of issues and questions – and even attempt to answer some of these – concerning the dynamics of “globalisation.”

Globalisation, in this course, is more than simply economics. It recognises the complex set of political, cultural, economic and religious connections that link people often across vast distances. It also introduces our somewhat volatile relationship with the ‘natural’ environment, locally and globally, that is based upon both in our consumption of resources and our impacts on global systems. We will examine the forces, and their origins, that are shaping the world today and driving change. We will consider how history has shaped today’s world, how differences between places drive globalisation, and the local is re-emerging within globalisation.

However, the purpose of this course is to not simply introduce students to the nature of globalisation and the resulting connections it creates, but to encourage students to begin to think critically about the issues connected with globalisation and this increasingly inter-connected world in which we live. It is further hoped that students taking this course will have a greater appreciation of the importance of geographic analysis when examining the many issues facing us, from the local to the global, today.

UPDATE: Times certainly have changed since I first began to design this course. Here we are on-line. The world has changed – at least for the while. To address these developments, I have added two special weeks, one on the nature of pandemics and environmental epidemiology, and the second on the fracturing of the global experiment lead by none other than The Donald – who may no longer be President-elect by the time the end of the course comes around!
## Course Outline

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Introduction</strong></td>
<td>How are we Connected? Introducing Global Connections. Why Geography Matters!</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 10</td>
<td>The Geographic Expression of Unevenness: A World of Cores and Peripheries, Connectors and Neoliberalism.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Module 1</strong></td>
<td>Economic Connections. Trade Routes. Flat World or Spiky World? The Globalising of Consumption and Manufacturing; Commodity Chains and the Logic of Comparative Advantage. Call Centres and Global Services. Technopolies.</td>
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<td>September 15 - 24</td>
<td>Live introductory class: September 15 beginning at 8:35. Quiz: September 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 29 - October 8</td>
<td>Live introductory class: September 29 beginning at 8:35. Quiz: October 8</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Module 3</strong></td>
<td>Environmental Connections. Natural Resources and Human Rights. The Climate Connection: Why should we all be concerned with Climate Change? Environmental Refugees. Technology and Crises: Can Technology Save the Day?</td>
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<td>October 13 - 22</td>
<td>Live introductory class: October 13 beginning at 8:35. Quiz: October 22</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 26-30</td>
<td>Reading Week. No classes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 3 - 12</td>
<td>Live introductory class: November 3 beginning at 8:35. Quiz: November 12</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Module 5</strong></td>
<td>Dangerous Connections. Security, Privacy and Terrorism. Pandemics and Global Closures.</td>
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<td>November 17 - 26</td>
<td>Live introductory class: November 17 beginning at 8:35. Quiz: November 26</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 1 - 10</td>
<td>Live introductory class: December 1 beginning at 8:35. Quiz: December 10</td>
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Course Book
There is no formal textbook for this course. However, there are a few books you may wish to acquire or download if you are a geography or environmental studies student (or a student with an interest in geography). Two I particularly like, although they seem ‘dated,’ are:


Learning Objectives
Students will be introduced to:
- The complex nature of globalisation and its processes;
- The manners in which we are connected within our community and between communities in every part of the world through events, products and actions; and
- The importance of geographic analysis when addressing the many issues that we face today, from the local to the global.

The pedagogical objectives are:
- To help you appreciate the relevancy of geography in understanding this increasingly inter-connected world;
- To help you develop your critical or analytical thinking skills; and
- To help you develop your writing skills.

Deliverables - Module Structure
This course has been re-designed into modules. Each begins with a live class. The balance of the module is delivered through pre-recorded episodes. Each module is designed to represent six hours of class work. Each module contains a series of short reflection questions at the end of each video episode. These are designed to help you with your critical thinking and writing skills.

You will find that the modules are structure in a consistent fashion. Each consists of a series of video talks on a specific topic under the module theme. Each module contains a presentation on one theory or theoretical approach related to the module theme. You are required to complete a short reflection following each video talk. These responses are designed to help you reflect on the materials. Then there is the quiz. The quizzes will be open the entire day listed in the course outline above, but you are required to do these on that day.

Your course grade is based on your best five out of six module grades.

Grading
Each module is worth 20%. The grading of these components is as follows:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Module Quiz</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module Reflections</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>20%</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>X 5 best Modules</td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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**Grades**
In accordance with the Carleton University Calendar, the letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

- A+ = 90-100
- B+ = 77-79
- C+ = 67-69
- D+ = 56-59
- A = 85-89
- B = 73-76
- C = 63-66
- D = 53-56
- A - = 80-84
- B - = 70-72
- C - = 60-62
- D - = 50-52
- F = Below 50
- WDN = Withdrawn from the course
- ABS = Student absent from final exam
- DEF = Deferred (See below)
- FND (Failed, no Deferral) = Student could not pass the course even with 100% on final exam.

Final grades are subject to the Dean’s approval.

**Deferred Quiz Writing/Reading Reflection**
Any application for a deferral must be submitted before the day of the quiz. The same holds for submitting your module reading reflection. Documentation may be requested.

**Written Assignments**
If you feel you need assistance in improving your writing skills, you are encouraged to get in touch early in the term with the Writing Tutorial Service (Room 229, Patterson Hall, [http://www.carleton.ca/wts/](http://www.carleton.ca/wts/)). I strongly encourage you to take advantage of this service as effective writing is an invaluable skill in the workplace. Students are strongly advised to retain a hard copy (and electronic backup) of all assignments and term papers in the event of loss for whatever reason.

**Requests for Academic Accommodations**
**For Students with Disabilities:** The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (*if applicable*). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally scheduled exam (*if applicable*).

**For Religious Observance:** Students requesting academic accommodation on the basis of religious observance should make a formal, written request to their instructors for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. Students who have questions or want to confirm accommodation eligibility of a religious event or practice may refer to the Equity Services website for a list of holy days and Carleton’s Academic Accommodation policies or may contact an Equity Services Advisor in the Equity Services Department for assistance.
**For Pregnancy:** Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a letter of accommodation. The student must then make an appointment to discuss her needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

**Academic Standing and Conduct**
Students must familiarize themselves with the regulations concerning academic standing and conduct in the 2020-2021 Carleton University Undergraduate Calendar.

**Drop/Withdrawal Date**
Please refer to the 2020-2021 Undergraduate Calendar for the final day that one is permitted to withdraw from a fall term course.

**Student Life Services**
Student Life Services, located in Room 501 of the Unicentre, offers a wide range of programs and services to assist students in adjusting to academic life, in improving their learning skills, and in making academic and career decisions.

**University Regulations Regarding Cheating and Plagiarism**
University regulations stipulate that any allegation of plagiarism, cheating or violations of examination conduct rules will be thoroughly reviewed. Each case must be reported to the Dean, who investigates each allegation. If there is no resolution following this investigation at the Dean’s level, a tribunal will be appointed by the Senate to review the case and make a final decision.

**Note on Plagiarism:** Webster’s Dictionary defines plagiarism as stealing. Plagiarism is the submission of someone else’s writing/ideas/work as your own. All ideas presented which are not your own must be properly referenced. While forms of plagiarism may vary, each involves verbatim or near verbatim presentation of the writings or ideas of others’ as one’s own without adequately acknowledging the original source. Plagiarism includes (but is not limited to) copying from a book, article or another student, downloading material or ideas from the Internet, or otherwise submitting someone else’s work or ideas as your own.