UCONN
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

GSCU 2700
Globalization
Geography

GSCU2700 Syllabus – Winter Session 2026-2027

Syllabus information may be subject to change. The most up-to-date syllabus is located within the course in HuskyCT.

Course and Instructor Information

Course Title: Globalization
Subject & Catalog Number: GSCU2700
Section: 027
Credits: 3
Modality: Online Asynchronous (OA)
Location: HuskyCT
Prerequisites: No course prerequisites.

Instructor: Chuanrong(Cindy) Zhang
Email: cindy.zhang@uconn.edu (preferred method of contact)
Phone: Cell phone (860) 938-6582
Office Hours: Meetings are by appointment.
Availability: You are welcome to contact me via email, and I will do my best to respond within 24 hours on weekdays.

Course Materials

Required Materials

- There is no required textbook for this course. All the required reading materials will be posted on the course website.

Optional Materials

- Other Suggested Textbook:

    - Harf, J.E. and M.O. Lombardi. 2005. Taking Sides: Clashing Views on Controversial Global Issues, 3rd edition. McGraw-Hill/Dushkin: Dubuque, IA. ISBN: 0-07-311163-5.

Additional instructional materials and resources are available through HuskyCT.

Course Description

"Globalization" course introduces the basic concepts and issues of Globalization phenomenon. This course is designed to be an introductory undergraduate class. It emphasizes the understanding of economic, cultural, political, and environmental issues that shape the world today as a result of globalization. It will focus on

teaching students with information and interdisciplinary learning opportunities on the complex globalization phenomenon. It will challenge students to think about many of the controversies surrounding globalization and to promote an understanding of the trade-offs and dilemmas facing policy-makers. Students will write short essays that provide opportunities for expressing independent viewpoints and more in-depth study of issues related to the geography of globalization.

Since this is an online course, all of the teaching materials will be posted online. Students are expected to be able to access the Internet to take this course.

Course Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand how globalization works and the policy choices facing them and their societies.

Course Outline (and Calendar if Applicable)

Tentative Course Outline (Subject to Change)

Date	Topic	Exercises
Week 1 (Dec 28 -Jan 3)	Introduction: Culture, Trade, and Investment issues	Exercises 1(75 points), 2 (75points), and 3 (75 points) (due on **Jan 3**)
Week 2 (Jan 4 -Jan 10)	Development, Environment, and Migration issues	Exercises 4 (75 points), 5 (75 points), and 6 (75 points) (due on **Jan 10**)
Week 3 (Jan 11 - Jan 15)	Health and Media issues and Final exam	Exercise 7 (75 points) and 8 (75 points) (due on **Jan. 15**). **Final Exam** will be given **at any time from 1:00 am in the morning —11:00pm in the evening (Eastern Time of US) on Jan. 15. 2027**. If you are travelling abroad and it is inconvenient for you to take the exam at that time, you need to contact with Instructor to arrange another test time at the beginning of this week.

Course Requirements and Grading

(60%) Eight exercise assignments: All assignments are due at the specific time assigned. No late assignments will be accepted except in extraordinary circumstances.

(40%) Final Exam: The exam format may include multiple choices, true or false and short answer. Student access to the exam will be restricted by day and hour. The exam will also be timed, and the amount of time taken by each student will be recorded. Student will be kicked out of the exam when their time expires. All exams will be open-book and open-notes. The exams cover the lecture notes, assigned reading, and assigned exercises. A make-up exam will be scheduled only in the event of personal illness or extraordinary circumstances. Anyone who will miss an exam must notify the instructor in advance of the exam date. The exam questions are designed to test whether you understand the assignments, course notes and whether you are achieving the class objectives outlined above.

Your instructor and the university have a responsibility to promote academic honesty and integrity. You, as a student, are (1) responsible for the honest completion and representation of your work, (2) expected to respect the academic endeavours of others.

STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS SHOULD INFORM THE INSTRUCTOR AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE.

Grading:

Students final course grade will be based on course project, 8 exercise assignments, and final exam:

a. 8 exercises	600points	60%
b. Final exam	400points	40%
Total:	1000 points	100%

Course final grades are based on a linear, percentage based system. That is, the final course score equals to the total points students earned divided by the total points available.

The following cutoffs will be used as a guide for assigning letter grades:

A: 93% - 100%
A-: 90% - 92%
B+: 87% - 89%
B: 83% - 86%
B-: 80% - 82%
C+: 77% - 79%
C: 73% - 76%
C-: 70% - 72%
D+: 67% - 69%
D: 63% - 66%
D-: 60% - 62%
E: below 60%

Due Dates and Late Policy

All course due dates are identified in the course outline. Deadlines are based on Eastern Standard Time; if you are in a different time zone, please adjust your submittal times accordingly. The instructor reserves the right to change dates accordingly as the semester progresses. All changes will be communicated in an appropriate

manner.

No late submissions are allowed unless there is a special situation.

Feedback and Grades

I will make every effort to provide feedback and grades within 24 hours. To keep track of your performance in the course, refer to the Gradebook in HuskyCT.

Student Authentication and Verification

The University of Connecticut is required to verify the identity of students who participate in online courses and to establish that students who register in an online course are the same students who participate in, complete the course activities and assessments, and receive academic credit. Verification and authentication of student identity in this course will include:

- Secure access to the learning management system (HuskyCT) using your unique UConn NetID and password.
- Additional Method: I will check the StudentAdmin roster photographs at the beginning of the online teaching portion of the semester. Through monitoring of video chat, threaded discussions, and ongoing monitoring of multiple student submissions, I will be able to associate student work with individual students ensuring they are the same students receiving credit.

Students who do not complete the above required authentication steps may be denied access to the course and given an incomplete. Students could lose credit if the identity of the enrolled student completing course activities and assessments cannot be confirmed.

Copyright

My lectures, notes, handouts, and displays are protected by state common law and federal copyright law. They are my own original expression and I've recorded them prior or during my lecture in order to ensure that I obtain copyright protection. Students are authorized to take notes in my class; however, this authorization extends only to making one set of notes for your own personal use and no other use. I will inform you as to whether you are authorized to record my lectures at the beginning of each semester. If you are so authorized to record my lectures, you may not copy this recording or any other material, provide copies of either to anyone else, or make a commercial use of them without prior permission from me.

Student Responsibilities and Resources

As a member of the University of Connecticut student community, you are held to certain standards and academic policies. In addition, there are numerous resources available to help you succeed in your academic work.

Review these important standards, policies and resources, which include:

- The Student Code
    - Resources on Avoiding Cheating and Plagiarism
- Academic, Scholarly, and Professional Integrity and Misconduct (ASPIM)
- Copyrighted Materials
- Credit Hours and Workload
- Netiquette and Communication

- Adding or Dropping a Course
- Academic Calendar
- Policy Against Discrimination, Harassment and Inappropriate Romantic Relationships
- Sexual Assault Reporting Policy

Student Health and Wellness

The University of Connecticut strives to support the optimal well-being of all students. Student Health and Wellness (SHaW) offers a comprehensive set of services including medical care, mental health, and health promotion.

Students with Disabilities

The University of Connecticut is committed to protecting the rights of individuals with disabilities and assuring that the learning environment is accessible. Students who require accommodations should contact the Center for Students with Disabilities, Wilbur Cross Building Room 204, (860) 486-2020 or http://csd.uconn.edu/.

Blackboard measures and evaluates accessibility using two sets of standards: the WCAG 2.0 standards issued by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) and Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act issued in the United States federal government." (Retrieved March 24, 2013 from Blackboard's website)

Software/Technical Requirements (with Accessibility and Privacy Information)

The University has set minimum device requirements for all students. **NOTE:** Chromebooks do not meet the minimum requirements.

The software/technical requirements for this course include:

- HuskyCT/Blackboard (HuskyCT/ Blackboard Accessibility Statement, HuskyCT/ Blackboard Privacy Policy)
- Adobe Acrobat Reader (Adobe Reader Accessibility Statement, Adobe Reader Privacy Policy)
- Microsoft 365 (free to UConn students) (Microsoft Accessibility Statement, Microsoft Privacy Statement)
- Dedicated access to high-speed internet with a minimum speed of 1.5 Mbps (4 Mbps or higher is recommended).
- Webcam

For information on managing your privacy at the University of Connecticut, visit the University's Privacy page.

NOTE: This course has NOT been designed for use with mobile devices.

Help

This course is facilitated online using the learning management platform, HuskyCT. The IT Knowledge Base provides students with support, troubleshooting, and how-to information about HuskyCT. The IT Knowledge Base includes a video tour of HuskyCT.

For technical help with HuskyCT, you have access to the in-person/live person support options available during regular business hours through the Technology Support Center. You also have 24x7 Course Support outside of business hours, including access to live chat, phone, and support documents.

Technical and Academic Help provides a guide to frequently asked questions for online students.

Study Groups

Are you interested in forming a study group with other students in the class? There is a study group application in Nexus that can help you get started. View this video for more information.

Minimum Technical Skills

To be successful in this course, you will need the following technical skills:
Use electronic mail with attachments.

- Save files in commonly used word processing program formats.
- Copy and paste text, graphics or hyperlinks.
- Work within two or more browser windows simultaneously.
- Access PDF files.
- Use a webcam and microphone.

Evaluation of the Course

Students will be provided an opportunity to evaluate instruction in this course using the University's Student Evaluation of Teaching (SET), which is administered by the Office of Budget, Planning and Institutional Research (BPIR).

Additional informal formative surveys may also be administered within the course as an optional evaluation tool.