

GEO 2500: Global and Regional Economies
University of Florida Department of Geography
HyFlex Sections (27246 & 27247)
Spring 2021, 3 Credits
MWF Period 5 (11:45 – 12:35)

Instructor: Alexandra Sabo

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Office Hours: Online via Zoom M & W 12:45 – 1:45 or by appointment

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Course Description:

This course explores contemporary perspectives, themes, and research in economic and political geography focusing on events and issues associated with regional and global economic and demographic change. Regional variations and disparities in growth and development are analyzed and policy implications discussed.

Student Learning Outcomes:

After the completion of this course, you should be able to:

1. Describe the processes and systems which have led to globalization
2. Define the impact of historical events and culture on economic development patterns
3. Critically explain current issues associated with the world economy
4. Recognize how globalization affects our everyday lives
5. Summarize concepts, theories, and narratives concerning globalization and develop strategies to live and work in a globalized world

Required Textbooks:

Knox, Paul; John Agnew, and Linda McCarthy. 2014. *The Geography of the World Economy*. 6th edition. New York: Routledge.

Colin Flint and Peter J. Taylor. *Political geography: World-Economy, Nation-State and Locality*. 2018. 7th edition. New York: Routledge.

The books are available through the UF Course Reserves. You can readily access them from any computer with Internet access. For direct access, select the Course Reserves button from the navigation menu on the left side of the course webpage.

You must have the UF virtual private network (VPN) client installed on your computer to be able to view online Course Reserve materials using an off-campus network. You can follow step-

by-step instructions on how to install the VPN here. For additional orientation, go to Course Reserves How-Tos for Students. If you need technical help, please contact the UF Computing Help Desk on the phone at (352) 392-4357 or via email at helpdesk@ufl.edu. Remember: you should connect to UF VPN each time you need to access library resources remotely (off campus). With this system, you will be virtually on the UF network, and will have full access to electronic library resources.

Additional Resources:

Additional instructional resources and materials including videos, book chapters, scholarly and non-scholarly articles, infographics, URL links will be posted on Canvas.

Technology Requirements:

Canvas e-Learning System will work best in Google Chrome (web browser).

For F2F students, if available, please bring to class a laptop, tablet, or phone capable of connecting to Zoom. This will help in administering Zoom polls and other course activities.

UF Help Desk:

For all your computing questions and technical problems with Canvas e-Learning, contact the UF Computing Help Desk at 342-392-HELP (4357), select option 2, or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu. UF HelpDesk is open 24/7, except for Holidays and Breaks.

Grading Policy: All assignments and due dates are listed in the course schedule which can be found at the end of this syllabus as well as on the Canvas E-Learning website. Grades for each assignment can be found on the Grades Page of the Canvas course site.

Grades are used as a tool to measure performance. To perform well in this class the following will help you: (1) attend class regularly (2) take lecture notes and set aside time to read the pertinent parts of the text (3) participate in class exercises. If you are not doing well and have studied, read, and attended class, please e-mail me or come and see me – do not wait until the end of the semester.

GRADING SCALE:

A	94-100%	C	74-76%
A-	90-93%	C-	70-73%
B+	87-89%	D+	67-79%
B	84-86%	D	64-66%
B-	80-83%	D-	61-63%
C+	77-79%	E	0-60%

Graded assignments: There are five areas where grades will be issued: essays, class participation, final student presentations, and exams. Each will be described below, followed by more specific Gordon rule criteria for the essay portion of the assignments.

- (1) **Essays (45% of final grade):** This course requires **four essays for a total of 6,000 words** to be written throughout the semester. They are to be turned in via the Canvas course website by midnight the day they are due. More details on how essays will be assessed can be found under the 'Writing Evaluation' section below.
- (2) **Discussion Posts (20%):** students will be expected to contribute a discussion post related to most modules, as well respond to classmate's posts. Discussion posts should raise questions about the readings and critically evaluate them or connect them to current events, rather than simply summarizing them. Some weeks will have quizzes rather than discussion posts. Other course activities include group work and presentations. Discussion posts will not be accepted late.
- (3) **Quizzes and In-class Activities (15% of final grade):** All quizzes will be administered via Canvas. Other graded in-class activities include presentations and debates.
- (4) **Final Student Presentations (10% of final grade):** Each student will be required to present their final essay topic at the end of the semester. It will be graded on the clarity and quality of the presentation and depth of engagement with geographic concepts.
- (5) **Class participation (10% of final grade):** Students are expected to attend class as well as participate in class discussions.

GRADING:

Assignment	% of Grade	Specific Requirements
Essays		
Essay 1:	10%	1,000 Words, minimum 3 sources
Essay 2:	10%	1,500 Words, minimum 4 sources
Essay 3:	10%	1,500 Words, minimum 4 sources
Essay 4:	15%	2,000 Words, minimum 5 sources
Other		
Discussion Posts	20%	Posting and responding
Quizzes and In-class Activities	15%	Quizzes, debates, presentations
Final Paper Presentation	10%	5-10 Minutes
Class Participation	10%	Attendance and Participation
Total	100	

Writing Evaluation:

The four essays required for this course will also fulfill the University's writing requirements, requiring a total of 6000 words. The writing will be evaluated on content, organization and coherence, argument and support, style and mechanics. Evaluations will be on individual work. To receive writing credit you must receive a minimum grade of C (2.0) and satisfactory completion of the writing component, according to the rubric that follows.

Writing Studio Support:

If you need assistance with writing (grammar, expression or style), I encourage you to contact the University Writing Program at <https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>. Services are free. You

are expected to use correct spelling, punctuation, and grammar in all your written work. You also must provide complete citations for each source that you use in your written work.

Gordon Rule - Rubric for Evaluation: “Satisfactory” and “unsatisfactory” indicate ranges for grades on Gordon Rule assignments.

	SATISFACTORY (Y)	UNSATISFACTORY (N)
CONTENT	Papers exhibit at least some evidence of ideas that respond to the topic with complexity, critically evaluating and synthesizing sources, and provide at least an adequate discussion with basic understanding of sources.	Papers either include a central idea(s) that is unclear or off- topic or provide only minimal or inadequate discussion of ideas. Papers may also lack sufficient or appropriate sources.
ORGANIZATION AND COHERENCE	Documents and paragraphs exhibit at least some identifiable structure for topics, including a clear thesis statement but may require readers to work to follow progression of ideas.	Documents and paragraphs lack clearly identifiable organization, may lack any coherent sense of logic in associating and organizing ideas, and may also lack transitions and coherence to guide the reader.
ARGUMENT AND SUPPORT	Documents use persuasive and confident presentation of ideas, strongly supported with evidence. At the weak end of the Satisfactory range, documents may provide only generalized discussion of ideas or may provide adequate discussion but rely on weak support for arguments.	Documents make only weak generalizations, providing little or no support, as in summaries or narratives that fail to provide critical analysis.
STYLE	Documents use a writing style with word choice appropriate to the context, genre, and discipline. Sentences should display complexity and logical sentence structure. At a minimum, documents will display a less precise use of vocabulary and an uneven use of sentence structure or a writing style that occasionally veers away from word choice or tone appropriate to the context, genre, and discipline.	Documents rely on word usage that is inappropriate for the context, genre, or discipline. Sentences may be overly long or short with awkward construction. Documents may also use words incorrectly.
MECHANICS	Papers will feature correct or error-free presentation of ideas. At the weak end of the Satisfactory range, papers may contain some spelling, punctuation, or grammatical errors that remain	Papers contain so many mechanical or grammatical errors that they impede the reader’s understanding or severely undermine the writer’s credibility.

	unobtrusive so they do not muddy the paper's argument or points.	
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TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE:

Important Note: This syllabus represents a tentative schedule for the fall semester. The instructor reserves the right to modify it. The first class will be dedicated in part to reviewing this syllabus to ensure all topics of interest to the majority of the students are included.

Date	Module & Topics	Reading before class	Assignments
Week 1 Jan 11-15	Introductions & Review syllabus Module 1: Introduction to Global and Regional Economies Module 2: Historical Dynamics of the World Economy	W: Knox et al. 2014 Ch. 1 F: Knox et al. 2014 Ch. 2	Syllabus Pledge Module 1 Quiz
Week 2 Jan 18-22	Monday: MLK Day – NO CLASS Module 2 cont.: Historical Dynamics of the World Economy	M: NO CLASS W: Knox et al. 2014 Ch. 3 F: Rodrik 2013, Who Needs the Nation State?	Essay 1 Due No Discussion Post
Week 3pp Jan 25-29	Module 3: Imperialism and Economic Development	M: Knox et al. (2014) Ch. 4 W: Knox et al. 2014 Ch. 8 (pp. 213-230) F: Flint & Taylor (2018) Ch. 3 (pp. 1-24) & Extra Resources	Module 3 Discussion Post
Week 4 Feb 1-5	Module 4: Industrialization, Technology, & Rise of Core Economies	M: Knox et al. (2014) Ch. 5 (pp. 116-130) W: Knox et al. (2014) Ch. 5 (pp. 130-144) F: Extra Resources	Module 4 Discussion Post
Week 5 Feb 8-12	Module 5: Globalization	M: Dicken (2014) Ch. 1 W: Knox et al. (2014) Ch. 6 F: Dicken (2015) Ch. 14	Module 5 Discussion Post
Week 6	Module 6: New International Division of Labor	M: Knox et al. (2014) Ch. 7	

Feb 15-19		W: Dicken (2015) Ch. 3 F: Dicken Ch. 15	Essay 2 Due No Discussion Post
Week 7 Feb 22-26	Module 7: Agriculture	M: Knox et al. (2014) Ch. 9 W: Oxfam 2016 F: None	Module 7 Debate
Week 8 Mar 1-5	Module 8: Contemporary Path to Progress	M: Flint & Taylor (2018) Ch. 3 (pp. 24 – 50) W: Knox et al. (2014) Ch. 8 (pp. 230-244) AND Dicken (2015) Ch. 11 (pp. 380-387) F: Knox et al. (2014) Ch. 10	Module 8 Discussion Post
Week 9 Mar 8-12	Module 9: Winning and Losing in the Global Economy	M: Dicken (2015) Ch. 7 (pp. 230-250) W: Dicken (2015) Ch. 8 (251-278) F: Dicken (2015) Ch. 10	Module 9 Discussion Post
Week 10 Mar 15-19	Module 10: The Era of Services	M: Knox et al. (2014) Ch. 11 W: Dicken (2015) Ch. 16 F: Extra Resources	Module 10 Discussion Post
Week 11 Mar 22-26	Module 11: Integration & Regionalism	M: Knox et al. (2014) Ch. 12 W: Knox et al. (2014) Ch. 13 F: Extra Resources	Essay 3 Due No Discussion Post
Week 12 Mar 29-Apr 2	Module 12: Economic Development & the Environment	M: Dicken (2015) Ch. 9 (pp.280-303) W: Dicken (2015) Ch. 11 (pp. 355-380) F: Extra Resources	Module 12 Discussion Post
Week 13 Apr 5-9	Module 13: Energy & Extractive Industries: Going Green?	M: Dicken (2015) Ch. 12 (pp. 396-422)	

		W: Riofrancos (2019) What Green Costs F: Debate Prep	Module 13 Debate
Week 14 Apr 12-16	Module 14: Industries & World Trade: Going Green?	M: Dicken (2015) Ch. 17 (pp. 540-565) W: TBD F: Extra Resources	Module 14 Discussion Post
Week 15 Apr 19-21	M: Student Paper Presentations W: Student Paper Presentations	MWF: Student Presentations	Essay 4 Due Final Essay Presentations
Week 16 Apr 30	FINAL EXAM 4/30 7:30-9:30	No Final Exam	No Final Exam

UF POLICIES

COVID-19 Online Synchronous Learning Statement

The participation portion of your grade for this class will be calculated on the basis of your attendance and your participation in class activities. Since the pedagogical approach of this course depends heavily on student engagement and interaction, you are required, at a minimum, to participate in class activities through the audio function of Zoom. Your video presence is invited as well.

Academic Honesty, Regulations and the Honor Code

The very nature of higher education requires that students adhere to accepted standards of academic integrity. Details on student responsibilities and regulations can be viewed at <http://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/Pages/academic-regulations.aspx>

Academic dishonesty (cheating) is not accepted in any class at the University of Florida. The practice of any type of academic dishonesty will result in a failing grade for the entire class. You will find me to be a flexible faculty member in all aspects except academic honesty.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

In compliance with University of Florida policy and equal access laws, I am available to discuss appropriate academic accommodations that you may require as a student with a disability. You must be registered with Disabilities Resource Center (DRC) in Reid Hall for disability verification and determination of reasonable academic accommodations. Requests for academic accommodations need to be made during the first week of the semester (except for unusual circumstances) so arrangements can be made. For more information, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/ 352-392-8565

Course Evaluation

I would be grateful to receive feedback on this class. The University of Florida provides you with 10 criteria with which to evaluate the quality of instruction. Feedback can be provided online at <http://evaluations.ufl.edu> and evaluations are usually open the last 2 weeks of the

semester. I am sincerely committed to improving the class experience for you and always learn from student feedback.

Getting Help:

For issues with technical difficulties for E-learning in Canvas, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- Learning-support@ufl.edu
- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>

Other resources are available at <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help> for:

- Counseling and Wellness resources
- Disability Resource Center
- Resources for handling student concerns and complaints
- Library Help Desk support

Special Accommodations:

If you need special accommodations, please register with the UF Disability Resource Center (DRC). The DRC has an array of services available to support you. The DRC prepares accommodation letters which you must provide when requesting accommodations for the course. This documentation is confidential. Contact the DRC as soon as possible if you need this service. DRC phone number: 352-392-8565. Website: <https://drc.dso.ufl.edu/>

UF Counseling Services:

Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking a clear career and academic goals which interfere with their academic performance. These resources include:

1. University Counseling Center, 301 Peabody Hall, 392-1575, personal and career counseling
2. Student Mental Health, Student Health Care Center, 392-1171, personal counseling
3. Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS), Student Health Care Center, 392-1161
4. U Matter We Care, 352.294.CARE(2273)