

## Certificate in Global Studies and Research

A certificate in Global Studies and Research is designed to promote interdisciplinary study and research from a global perspective at the undergraduate level. Majors, minors, approved clusters of courses, or semester-long study abroad programs would be designed as foundation courses that lead to an interdisciplinary capstone course for all majors: HON 43xx: Global Studies and Research. Whatever option students choose would require a minimum of 15 semester credit hours, 9 hours of which must be advanced, plus the 3 hour capstone course (see section below on "Eligibility and Approved Courses for the Certificate"). Students pursuing the certificate would also be encouraged to attend events such as speakers with the World Affairs Council, participate in study abroad programs in order to enhance their facility in languages other than English, and to develop their research for a senior honors thesis. Students conducting independent research may qualify for SURF (fellowships) and PURS (scholarships).

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### **A Description of HON 43xx Global Studies and Research**

The capstone course for the certificate would be HON 43xx: Global Studies and Research. This course would have a common set of readings on globalization, both as a process shaping our world and being shaped by competing forces and agents at work in our world, and as one of the controlling narratives of our time. While globalization is not the primary focus of the entire course, it is the context within which students would do further readings, participate in an interdisciplinary group project with a global dimension, and complete an individual research project, also from a global perspective (minimum of 3,000 words; designed to meet the university Writing in the Discipline Core requirement).

In bringing together students from different disciplinary backgrounds, the course will introduce them to a range of approaches to the study of globalization. Input from UH faculty in different disciplines will be solicited in selecting the readings and designing different parts of the course. Students will be invited to go further than mastering concrete facts about the subject. The course will challenge them to think analytically, to question the idea that globalization is the inevitable working out of natural laws, to search for explanations that demonstrate how the process is socially, politically, and economically constructed, and to make connections between the local, national, and global levels. In addition to expanding students' knowledge base, this course aims to improve their oral and written expression of ideas and sharpen their skills in critical reading and writing. They should learn to evaluate and take a position in debates over globalization, to develop a research question on a topic of interest informed by their reading and group projects, and to write up the results of their research.

The course would be offered as a Special Topics course number (HON 3397) until it is approved by Undergraduate Council with a permanent course number:

**HON 43xx: Global Studies and Research Capstone** Cr. 3 per semester.  
(3-0). Prerequisite: completion of or concurrent enrollment in approved

foundation courses for the certificate in Global Studies and Research, and a 3.5 cumulative GPA. Advanced reading and discussion of globalization, with interdisciplinary group projects and individual research on topics from a global perspective. [Meets Core Writing in the Discipline requirement.]

### **Syllabus Abstract for HON 43xx**

Weeks 1-5: Readings and Discussions of Globalization

1. Definitions of Globalization

How do we define the concept in relation to other concepts that describe global processes and change?

Capitalism? Imperialism? Market integration?  
Democratization? Liberalization?

2. Periodization and Boundaries of Globalization

Where do we place globalization in history? What parts of the world has it encompassed?

3. Economics of Globalization

What are the processes integrating economies on a global scale?

4. Cultures of Globalization

How are cultural influences transmitted under globalization?

5. Metrics of Globalization

What have been the effects of globalization on growth, poverty, and inequality?

Weeks 6-10: Topical Readings and Presentations. Each week will feature common readings on two different topic areas. Students will do in-depth readings on one topic area of their choice and lead class discussion on that topic.

Paired Topic Areas:

Energy/Environment

Finance/Economics

Production/Manufacturing

Politics/Diplomacy

Popular Culture

Arts & Literature

Labor/Migration

Health & Education

Transportation & Communications

Science & Technology

Weeks 11-15: Guided Individual Research and Paper (3,000 word minimum). Students will choose a research project within their topic area. In small assigned groups, they will read and critique each other's proposals and drafts.

### **Background**

The concept of globalization has been around a long time. The earliest use of the adjective "global" dates back to the 1890s. During the early 1900s, the term rapidly caught on. Newspapers used it to describe trade discussions in the 1920s, and it was taken up to describe the new "global warfare" in the 1940s. After the war, the term "globalism" was used as a counterpoint to nationalism and isolationism. In 1961, "globalization" made it into *Webster's Dictionary*. Economics journals employed the

term in discussions about the European Common Market. Normal usage of the term, however, still required elaboration: “globalization of production, trade, etc.” Only in the late 1980s did we start to see the free-standing word, “globalization.” By the mid-1990s, the word globalization was increasingly seen with the prefix “anti-“ in front of it: “Anti-globalization.” Journalists began writing about globalization on a daily basis, and academics turned the subject into a dynamic growth industry. In 1996, the publication of 200 books and 213 articles containing globalization in the title were registered with the Library of Congress. In an essay in *Demystifying Globalization*, Andreas Busch quotes M. Waters, who describes globalization as “the concept of the 1990s, a key idea by which we understand the transition of human society into the third millennium.”

Although there is still much disagreement and debate about the definition of globalization, most scholars accept that it refers to a set of economic, social, political, technological, and cultural processes that have been at work since the middle of the nineteenth century. Although deterred by two world wars, the Cold War, a global war on terrorism, and now by a worldwide recession and a rise in trade barriers, forces of integration that transcend national boundaries continue at an accelerating pace. Globalization is also a way we conceptualize and talk [ABOUT] the world. It has become a part of a public narrative by which we define ourselves, or against which we define ourselves.

Globalization was supposed to make the world smaller and everyone more worldly. It was supposed bring about greater international understanding and tolerance. Has this been the case, or has globalization bred greater ignorance and intolerance toward other cultures, traditions and values? As Martin Jacques wrote in *The Guardian* in 2006: “The idea that each culture is possessed of its own specific wisdom and characteristics, its own novelty and uniqueness, born of its own individual struggle over thousands of years to cope with nature and circumstance is drowned out by the proclamation that the world is now one, that the Western model of neoliberal markets and American-style democracy is the template for all.” Western values, economic systems, social arrangements, and business organizations were supposed to become those of the world. The underlying assumption was that the whole world is moving in the same direction, towards the same destination: it is becoming, and should become, more like the West. The increasing shift in the world economy’s center of gravity to the East, along with the Western financial collapse of 2008-2009, however, has exposed the hubris in this kind of thinking and shaken the faith that the Western, or Anglo-American, model of development should set the example for the rest of the world.

After three decades of headlong globalization, the world finds itself at a pivotal moment. What new directions will the process of integration take? What are globalization’s potential and limitations? What can the history of globalization teach us about its present incarnation? Can globalization survive intensifying cycles of crisis, especially if it continues to foster the illusion of intimacy while breeding powerful and unyielding intolerance?

## Readings

The first section of the course will draw on an interdisciplinary group of core and supplemental readings on the general topic of globalization, with possible selections listed below. Selections for the topical readings to be assigned in the second section of the course will be made in consultation with faculty experts from various disciplines across campus.

### Core (selections from the following)

- Appadurai, Arjun, ed. *Globalization*. Durham: Duke University Press, 2001.
- Chanda, Nayan. *Bound Together: How Traders, Preachers, Adventurers, and Warriors Shaped Globalization*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2007.
- Held, David, Anthony McGrew. *The Global Transformations Reader: An Introduction to the Globalization Debate*. Cambridge: Blackwell, 2002.
- Held, David, Anthony McGrew, David Goldblatt, and Jonathan Perraton. *Global Transformations: Politics, Economics, and Culture*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1999.
- Hopkins, A.G., ed. *Globalization in World History*. New York: W.W. Norton, 2002.
- James, Harold. *The Creation and Destruction of Value: The Globalization Cycle*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2009.
- Jameson, Fredric and Masao Miyoshi, eds. *The Cultures of Globalization*. Durham: Duke University Press, 1998.
- Jones, Andrew. *Dictionary of Globalization*. Boston: Polity, 2006.
- Lechner, Frank J. and John Boli, eds. *The Globalization Reader*. Malden, MA.: Blackwell Publishers, 2000.
- MacGillivray, Alex. *A Brief History of Globalization*. New York: Carroll and Graf, 2006.
- Marks, Robert. *The Origins of the Modern World: A Global and Ecological Narrative from the Fifteenth to the Twenty-first Century*. New York: Rowman and Littlefield, 2006.
- O'Rourke, Kevin H. and Jeffrey G. Williamson. *Globalization and History: The Evolution of a Nineteenth-Century Atlantic Economy*. Boston: MIT Press, 1999.

Pomeranz, Kenneth. *The Great Divergence: China, Europe, and the Making of the Modern World Economy*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2000.

Steger, Manfred. *Globalization: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2009.

Supplemental (selections from the following)

Bamyeh, Mohammed A. *The Ends of Globalization*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2000.

Barber, Benjamin R. "Jihad Vs. McWorld." *The Atlantic Monthly* March 1992: 53-65.

Bauman, Zygmunt. *Globalization: The Human Consequences*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1998.

Beck, Ulrich. *What Is Globalization?* Trans. Patrick Camiller. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishers, 2000.

Berger, Peter L. and Samuel P. Huntington, eds. *Many Globalizations: Cultural Diversity in the Contemporary World*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2002.

Bhagwati, Jagdish. *In Defense of Globalization*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2004.

Friedman, Thomas L. *Hot, Flat, and Crowded: Why We Need a Green Revolution--and How It Can Renew America*. New York: Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 2008.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Lexus and the Olive Tree*. New York: Anchor Books, 1999.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The World is Flat, 3.0: A Brief History of the Twenty-First Century*. New York: Picador, 2007.

Gilpin, Robert. *Global Political Economy: Understanding the International Economic Order*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2001.

Greenberg, Jack. Interview. "McAtlas Shrugged." *Foreign Policy* May/June, 2001: 26-37.

Greider, William. *One World, Ready or Not: The Manic Logic of Global Capitalism*. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1997.

Hay, Colin and David Marsh, eds. *Demystifying Globalization*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 2000.

- Huntington, Samuel P. *The Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of World Order*. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1996.
- Isaak, Robert A. *The Globalization Gap: How the Rich Get Richer and the Poor Get Left Further Behind*. New York: Prentice Hall, 2005.
- Micklethwait, John and Adrian Wooldridge. *A Future Perfect: The Challenge and Hidden Promise of Globalization*. New York: Times Books, 2000.
- Milanovic, Branko. *Worlds Apart: Measuring International and Global Inequality*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2005.
- Rodrik, Dani, *One Economics Many Recipes: Globalization, Institutions, and Economic Growth*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2007.
- Rosenberg, Justin. *The Follies of Globalisation Theory: Polemical Essays*. London: Verso, 2000.
- Stiglitz, Joseph E. *Globalization and Its Discontents*. New York: W.W. Norton and Company, 2003
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Making Globalization Work*. New York: W.W. Norton, 2006.
- Veseth, Michael. *Globaloney: Unraveling the Myths of Globalization*. New York: Rowman and Littlefield, 2005.
- Wright, Robert. "Will Globalization Make You Happy?" *Foreign Policy* September/October 2000: 54-64.

#### **Eligibility and Approve Courses for the Certificate**

Students must have a cumulative 3.5 GPA, **OR INSTRUCTOR'S APPROVAL** to enroll in the capstone course. Majors, minors, approved clusters of courses, or semester-long study abroad programs can be **USED, SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE GLOBAL STUDIES CERTIFICATE PROGRAM, AS** foundation courses that lead to the capstone course. Whatever option students choose would require a minimum of 15 semester credit hours, 9 hours of which must be advanced, plus the 3 hour capstone course. Routes to the certificate would include: 1) the capstone course on top of an approved minor; 2) 12 credit hours of approved study abroad plus the capstone; 3) 9 credit hours of approved study abroad, plus 3 credit hours of approved upper-level courses with an international focus, plus the capstone; 4) 6 credit hours of approved study abroad, plus 6 credit hours of approved upper-level courses with an international focus, plus the capstone; 4) 15 credit hours of approved courses with an international focus, plus the capstone.

Below is a list of all minors offered at the University of Houston that are approved for the certificate. Others could be approved, depending on specific courses taken, such as a **ANTHROPOLOGY**, History, Political Science, or Economics that involved primarily international courses. Corresponding majors would also be approved.

Deleted: , with an asterisk (\*) by those

Course approvals for the Certificate will be made by the Director of **THE Global Studies CERTIFICATE PROGRAM, WHO WILL BE APPOINTED BY THE DEAN OF THE HONORS COLLEGE.**

- African Studies, Business
- Asian Studies, Business
- Chinese
- <http://www.class.uh.edu/mcl/degree/minors1.html> European Studies, Business
- French
- French for Business-Related Professions
- German
- German Area Studies
- Global Business
- Global Energy Management
- **INTERDISCIPLINARY ARTS**
- Italian
- Latin American Studies, Business
- **PHRONESIS**
- Russian
- Spanish
- Spanish for the Business Professions
- World Cultures & Literature