

Syllabus

Course credits: One

Meeting time: Tuesday, 1:00–1:50, GILK 104

Student Learning Objectives

This course surveys current economic issues associated with globalization. At the end of this course students will be able to:

- explain what globalization is, why it is happening, and how it affects workers, businesses, and consumers,
- understand concepts such as comparative advantage, the democratization of finance, global movements of capital, offshoring of jobs, exchange rates, trade agreements, and the emergence of global institutions,
- evaluate arguments for and against different aspects of globalization.

Prerequisites: None

Instructor: Jeff Reimer (email: jeff.reimer@oregonstate.edu)

Office: 231 Ballard Extension Hall Phone: 737-1415

Office hours: After class, by appointment, or any time my door is open

Class web site: <http://oregonstate.edu/~reimerj/371.htm>

Grading

Homework 1	20%
Homework 2	20%
Homework 3	20%
Final exam	40%

After calculating your total score, your letter grade will be determined as follows:

95.0-100	A	73.0-76.9	C
90.0-94.9	A-	70.0-72.9	C-
87.0-89.9	B+	67.0-69.9	D+
83.0-86.9	B	63.0-66.9	D
80.0-82.9	B-	60.0-62.9	D-
77.0-79.9	C+	0-59.9	F

If a student withdraws from the course a W is awarded. If a student discontinues attendance without official withdrawal, an F is awarded. If a student does not complete the requirements an I is awarded.

Students with Disabilities

Accommodations are collaborative efforts between students, faculty and Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD). Students with accommodations approved through SSD are responsible for contacting the faculty member in charge of the course prior to or during the first week of the term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval through SSD should contact SSD immediately at 737-4098.

Expectations for Student Conduct (cheating policies)

Academic dishonesty includes: Cheating, Fabrication, Assisting, Tampering, Plagiarism. More information, including the process by which academic dishonesty cases are handled, is available at: <http://oregonstate.edu/admin/stucon/achon.htm>

Topics (tentative)

- Definitions of globalization
- History of globalization: early forms, globalization since World War II, reasons for globalization, role of government
- Emergence of global institutions; Bretton Woods institutions
- Basic concepts and schools of thought: mercantilism, absolute advantage, comparative advantage, Washington consensus, privatization
- International movements of capital: the democratization of finance, the “electronic herd”
- Labor issues: offshoring of jobs, lump of labor fallacy
- Trade policies: what they are and why they are used, including global trade agreements (WTO) and regional trade agreements (NAFTA)
- Foreign direct investment and multinationals: an alternative to goods trade, benefits and concerns
- Exchange rates: importance and welfare effects of changes in the value of a dollar
- Trade versus the buy local movement

Books

The Lexus and the Olive Tree: Understanding Globalization, by Tom Friedman, 1999

Globalization: the irrational fear that someone in China will take your job, by Bruce Greenwald and Judd Kahn, 2008

In Defense of Globalization, by Jagdish Bhagwati, 2007

Making Globalization Work, by Joseph Stiglitz, 2007

The World Is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-first Century, by Tom Friedman, 2007

Globalization and its Discontents, by Joseph Stiglitz, 2002

George Soros on Globalization, by George Soros, 2002

Schedule

Events may change at the instructor's discretion. Make-up exams are generally offered only in the case of a verifiable emergency.

Tuesday, March 31

Tuesday, April 7

Tuesday, April 14 Homework 1 due

Tuesday, April 21

Tuesday, April 28

Tuesday, May 5 Homework 2 due

Tuesday, May 12

Tuesday, May 19

Tuesday, May 26 Homework 3 due

Tuesday, May 2

Wednesday, May 10, 6:00 pm Final exam (110 minutes)