

## **GLOA 101-K02: Introduction to Global Affairs**

George Mason University  
Spring 2022  
Classroom: TBA  
W 10:30am -11:45am F 10am-11:15am

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### **Course Description**

This course provides an introduction to the interdisciplinary field of global studies. Globalization often refers to the increasing ties among nations, cities, and individuals across the world. Although these kinds of global exchanges have been occurring for a very long time, technology has facilitated connections between more spatially distant locations and increased the pace at which interdependence has occurred. Throughout the semester, we will explore the cultural, economic, political, and ecological dimensions of globalization. Our course readings and discussions will allow us to examine how individuals and communities negotiate the effects of globalization in their everyday lives. We will critically examine the unevenness of global processes, exploring how these may provide benefits in some contexts, while producing negative impacts in others. We will also consider the use of words such as globalization, globalism, and transnationalism by different actors in different contexts and with different aims. This course includes virtual meetings and activities with GLOA 101 at Fairfax with Dr. Jennifer Ashley.

### **Course Learning Outcomes**

This course fulfills the global understanding requirement in the Mason Core. It is designed to help you to meet the following learning outcomes:

- Familiarize students with key terms related to global studies
- Acquaint students with various cultural, political, and economic dimensions that not only shape but are also shaped by global processes
- Encourage students to use an interdisciplinary lens to critically engage the representation of global issues and their potential solutions
- Support students in developing academic writing skills

By the end of the course, students should be able to

- Apply key terms to the study of global issues
- Describe the multiple dimensions of global processes
- Reflect critically on everyday representations of global issues and conflicts
- Identify in their own work and in that of others the elements of a strong academic analysis

### **Required Textbooks**

Steger, Manfred. 2020. *Globalization: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford University Press. (Fifth Edition)

Bofane, In Koli Jean. 2018. *Congo, Inc.: Bismark's Testament*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.) \*\*Bofane's Congo, Inc is freely available on GMU online library\*\*

Additional readings and course materials will be posted on Blackboard. Blackboard will also be used to post announcements (including schedule changes and extra credit opportunities).

### **Assignments Description**

**1. Map Quizzes (5% = 5 x 1% each):** You will have five map quizzes over the course of the semester in which you will be asked to identify countries that appear in course readings and discussions. Quizzes are closed book. Please check the course schedule for details. Practice outlines are available here: <https://www.worldatlas.com/>.

**2. Attendance and Participation (10%):** Attendance and participation are mandatory for this class. I will take attendance every time we meet. You are expected to attend every session unless you have a documented excuse for being absent. You are allowed to have one unexcused absence, but it would be your responsibility to make up the session. If you have more than two unexcused absences, I will deduct 0.5 point from your attendance grade for each absence. Six unexcused absences mean failure of the course by university policy. There will also be participation credits. Active participation in our course will take various forms. **It will include journaling about cross-campus activities (4%) on blackboard, a debate on course topics (3%) and attendance (3%).**

**4. Exams (75% = 3 x 25% each):** You will have three exams over the course of the semester. You will be asked to identify key terms and write short essay responses. Exams will cover course readings, lectures, and in-class discussions. Details will be provided a week before the exam.

**5. Presentation (10%):** You will be assigned to a book club with your colleagues. Your group will read a chapter of the book, Bofane's Congo, Inc. and prepare a 20-minute presentation to introduce the chapter with your group members. In your presentation, you group will raise two important questions to discuss in class. During and after the presentation, you will have to answer questions from audience.

### **Grading Scale**

Grades will be calculated on a non-curved A-F scale.

A+ (97.0-100.0)	A (93.0-96.9)	A- (90.0-92.9)
B+ (87.0-89.9)	B (83.0-86.9)	B- (80.0-82.9)
C+ (77.0-79.9)	C (73.0-76.9)	C- (70.0-72.9)
D (60.0-69.9)	F (less than 60)	

### **Technology Requirements**

**Blackboard Login Instructions:** Access to [MyMason](#) and GMU email are required to participate successfully in this course. Please make sure to update your computer and prepare

yourself to begin using the online format BEFORE the first day of class. Check [the IT Support Center](#) website. Navigate to [the Student Support page](#) for help and information about Blackboard. In the menu bar to the left you will find all the tools you need to become familiar with for this course. Take time to learn each. Make sure you run a system check a few days before class. Become familiar with the attributes of Blackboard and online learning.

**Hardware:** You will need access to a Windows or Macintosh computer with at least 2 GB of RAM and access to a fast and reliable broadband internet connection (e.g., cable, DSL). A larger screen is recommended for better visibility of course material. You will need speakers or headphones to hear recorded content and a headset with a microphone is recommended for the best experience if the course requires online meetings. For the amount of Hard Disk Space required taking a distance education course, consider and allow for:

1. the storage amount needed to install any additional software and
2. space to store work that you will do for the course.

**Software:** Many courses use Blackboard as the learning management system. You will need a browser and operating system that are listed compatible or certified with the Blackboard version available on the [myMason Portal](#). See [supported browsers and operating systems](#). Log in to [myMason](#) to access your registered courses. Some courses may use other learning management systems. Check the syllabus or contact the instructor for details. Online courses typically use [Acrobat Reader](#), [Flash](#), [Java](#), and [Windows Media Player](#), [QuickTime](#) and/or [Real Media Player](#). Your computer should be capable of running current versions of those applications.

Students owning Macs or Linux should be aware that some courses may use software that only runs on Windows. You can set up a Mac computer with Boot Camp or virtualization software so Windows will also run on it. Watch [this video](#) about using Windows on a Mac. Computers running Linux can also be configured with virtualization software or configured to dual boot with Windows.

Note: If you are using an employer-provided computer or corporate office for class attendance, please verify with your systems administrators that you will be able to install the necessary applications and that system or corporate firewalls do not block access to any sites or media types.

### **Course Policies**

**Readings:** All required readings should be completed before class. If you have any problem to access required readings, please contact me as soon as possible.

**Late Work Policy:** All assignments must be turned in on the due date. Late work will never be accepted unless there is an extraordinary circumstance. Except in such cases, a penalty of a full letter grade may be assessed for each day the assignment is late.

**Electronic Devices:** I strongly encourage students to keep cellphones, tablets, and laptops, out of sight for the duration of the class.

**Instructor-Student Communication:** You can always post your question on Blackboard (Ask Prof. Lim) or send an email to me. If a question is related to the course, posting the question on Blackboard would also be helpful for other students. If you send me an email, I would respond to your emails within 48 business hours. If I will be away from email for more than one day, I will post an announcement on Blackboard. Before sending an email, please check the syllabus unless the email is of a personal nature.

### **University Policies and Resources**

- a. Academic Honesty: You are expected to be familiar with and abide by the University's Honor Code. The Code can be found [here](#). It is your responsibility to see me if you have questions about these policies. George Mason University has an honor code that states the following:  
*"To promote a stronger sense of mutual responsibility, respect, trust, and fairness among all members of the George Mason University community and with the desire for greater academic and personal achievement, we, the student members of the University Community have set forth this Honor Code: Student members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal, or lie in matters related to academic work."*
- b. Notice of mandatory reporting of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking: As a faculty member, I am designated as a "Responsible Employee," and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason Korea's Deputy Title IX Coordinator pursuant to University Policy 1202 and 1412. If you would like to speak confidentially with the Mason Korea counselor, please see <https://masonkorea.gmu.edu/resources-and-services/counseling-and-wellness> for more information. For more information about what Title IX is, please see <https://masonkorea.gmu.edu/resources-and-services/title-ix>.
- c. Students must follow the university policy for [Responsible Use of Computing](#)
- d. Student services: The University provides range of services to help you succeed academically and you should make use of these if you think they could benefit you. I also invite you to speak to me (the earlier the better).
- e. Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their George Mason University email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. **All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students solely through their Mason email account.**
- f. If you are a student with a disability and need academic accommodations, I invite you to talk to me at the beginning of the semester so that we can talk about a plan to best meet your needs. Please note that accommodations **MUST BE MADE BEFORE** assignments or exams are due. I cannot adjust your grade after the fact.
- g. Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be turned off during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.
- h. Diversity: George Mason University promotes a living and learning environment for outstanding growth and productivity among its students, faculty and staff. Through its curriculum, programs, policies, procedures, services and resources, Mason strives to maintain a quality environment for work, study and personal growth.

### **COVID-19 Guidelines and Instructions: Spring 2022**

In the interest of everyone's safety, students and faculty must follow these guidelines during the semester.

1. Use the basement entrance to enter and exit Mason's building. Your temperature will be screened each time you enter the building. Allow additional time before class to complete the entrance screening procedure. Carry your student ID card with you at all times and be ready to show it when you enter and exit the building. Do not prop doors or let others enter the building through doors on the ground floor.
2. Wear a face mask at all times. Remain 6 feet apart from others. Clean your seat and desk space with disinfectant wipes before you begin class. Use hand sanitizer regularly, and avoid shaking hands or other forms of physical contact. Do not share pens, pencils or other personal items. Limit your use of the elevators, and use stairs to travel between floors of the building. Students are expected to purchase their own masks for personal use. Disinfectant wipes and hand sanitizer will be available in each classroom.
3. Classrooms are marked to indicate appropriate seating to allow for social distancing. Only sit in allowable seats, and maintain current set-up of classroom furniture. If you are asked to re-arrange classroom furniture by your professor for in-class exercises, return furniture to its original position when you are finished.
4. Observe these rules at all times during the class period and while in Mason's building or other public areas of the campus. This includes during class breaks, in small group work (in or out of class), meetings with your professors during office hours, tutoring sessions at the Academic Resource Center, socializing in common areas, or any other activities on campus.
5. Make sure windows and doors remain open during the class period to promote circulation of outside air. Classrooms without windows have mechanical systems that vent air, but doors should be kept open at all times.
6. The safest option for studying is to study alone in your dorm room or at home. If you must study in the building, alone or in groups, observe these rules at all times.
7. All faculty and students must abide by these rules in the classroom. If you see others who are not observing the rules outside the classroom, you may report this to your instructor, student affairs or academic affairs.
8. Do not enter the Mason building or come to class if you have symptoms such as fever, chills, sore throat, persistent cough, shortness of breath or other respiratory difficulties. If you must miss class for this reason, send an email immediately to the professor prior to the beginning of class. You will not be penalized for missing class for this reason, but you may be asked to provide documentation that you sought medical diagnosis or treatment. You are responsible for making up any missed assignments or tests as a result of your absence.
9. Students who come to class with visible signs of illness will be asked to leave the classroom immediately and seek assistance from the IGC Health Clinic. Faculty will report your name and symptoms to the Office of Student Affairs ([mksa@gmu.edu](mailto:mksa@gmu.edu)) to confirm that you have sought medical assistance.
10. Failure to comply with any of these guidelines may result in disciplinary action through the Student Code of Conduct.

## **Course Schedule**

\*The instructor reserves the right to change course schedule and/or assignments as deemed necessary to meet desired learning outcomes.

<b>WEEK</b>		<b>TOPIC/READINGS</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS DUE</b>
<b>Introduction to Globalization</b>			
<b>WEEK 1</b>	Wed 23 Feb	Introduction to the Course What is Globalization? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read: Steger (2020), Chapter 1 (What is Globalization?)</li> </ul>	
	Fri 25 Feb	Is Globalization New? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read Steger (2020), Chapter 2 (Globalization in History)</li> <li>Watch: Clash Course World History "Globalization: Good or Bad"</li> </ul>	
<b>Part I: Economic Dimensions of Globalization</b>			
<b>WEEK 2</b>	Wed 2 Mar	From Keynes to Hayek <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read: Steger (2020), Chapter 3 (The Economic Dimension of Globalization)</li> </ul>	
	Fri 4 Mar	Global Commodity Chains <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read Sparke (2013), "What is a commodity?"</li> <li>Read Sparke (2013), "Global Commodity Chains"</li> <li>Watch "What Global Trade Deals are Really About"</li> <li>(Recommended) Watch "The True Cost"</li> <li>Synchronous session with FFX</li> </ul>	Journal Entry #1 due by midnight
<b>WEEK 3</b>	Wed 9 Mar	NO CLASS (Presidential Election)	
	Fri 11 Mar	Informal Economy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Watch "How North Korea Thrives on its Black Market"</li> <li>Watch "This is Cuba's Netflix, Hulu, and Spotify – all without the Internet"</li> <li>Read Nordstrom (2005) "Extrastate Globalization of the Illicit"</li> <li>Read Cearns (2020) "Connecting to Cuba"</li> <li>Synchronous session with FFX</li> </ul>	Journal Entry #2 due by midnight
<b>WEEK 4</b>	Wed 16 Mar	Global Economic Governance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read: Friedman (2005) "<a href="#">It's a Flat World, After all.</a>"</li> </ul>	

WEEK		TOPIC/READINGS	ASSIGNMENTS DUE
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read: Ghemawat (2009) "<a href="#">Why the World Isn't Flat</a>"</li> </ul>	
	Fri 18 Mar	Interdependence and Globalization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read: Drezner (2014) "The System Worked: Global Economic Governance during the Great Recession"</li> </ul>	Map Quiz #1 on Europe
<b>Part II: Cultural Dimensions of Globalization</b>			
<b>WEEK 5</b>	Wed 23 Mar	Cultural Dimensions of Globalization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read: Steger (2020), Chapter 5 (The Cultural of Globalization)</li> </ul>	
	Fri 25 Mar	Cultural Industry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read Miller's (2010) "Ugly Betty goes Global"</li> <li><a href="#">Synchronous session with FFX</a></li> </ul>	Journal Entry #3 due by midnight
<b>WEEK 6</b>	Wed 30 Mar	Cultural Industries and Soft Power I <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read Kokas's (2017) "Policy and Superheroes: China and Hollywood in Sino-US Relations"</li> <li>Watch Video 1: "China's Panda Diplomacy Explained"</li> <li>Watch Video 2: "How China is Changing Hollywood"</li> </ul>	Map Quiz #2 on South America and the Caribbean
	Fri 1 Apr	Cultural Industries and Soft Power II <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Watch "Why the Korean Wave is more than BTS or Blackpink"</li> <li>Read Kim's (2019) "Hallyu and North Korea: soft power of popular culture"</li> <li><a href="#">Synchronous session with FFX</a></li> </ul>	Journal Entry #4 due by midnight
<b>WEEK 7</b>	Wed 6 Apr	<b>Exam #1</b>	
<b>Part III: Political Dimensions of Globalization</b>			
	Fri 8 Apr	Political Dimensions of Globalization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read: Steger (2020) Chapter 4 (The Political Dimension of Globalization)</li> <li>Watch Crash Course "Nationalism"</li> </ul>	
<b>WEEK 8</b>	Wed 13 Apr	Nation-State, IGOs, and NGOs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read Sparke (2013) "NGOs"</li> <li>Read Campbell et al (2010) "IGOs"</li> <li>Watch "Brexit Explained"</li> </ul>	
	Fri 15 Apr	Human Rights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read Campbell et al (2010) "Human Rights"</li> </ul>	

WEEK		TOPIC/READINGS	ASSIGNMENTS DUE
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Watch "What are human rights?" (5 min.)</li> <li>Watch "Statement by the High Commissioner for Human Rights on COVID-19"</li> </ul>	
<b>WEEK 9</b>	Wed 20 Apr	Humanitarianism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Watch "Humanitarian Principles" (2 min.)</li> <li>Read Barnett (2011) "The Crooked Timber of Humanitarianism"</li> </ul>	Map Quiz #3 on Asia-Pacific
<b>Part IV: Ecological Dimensions of Globalization</b>			
	Fri 22 Apr	Ecological Dimensions of Globalization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read Steger (2020) Chapter 6 (The Ecological Dimension of Globalization)</li> <li>Read Resende (2020), "Climate Negotiations is like Sharing Pizza"</li> <li>Watch "Scientists really aren't the best champions for climate science"</li> </ul>	
<b>WEEK 10</b>	Wed 27 Apr	Gender and Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read UNDP (2019), "Gender inequalities" (Human Development Report)</li> <li>Explore multimedia site: UN Women "How COVID-19 affects Women and Girls"</li> </ul>	
	Fri 29 Apr	Global Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read: Sparke (2013), Chapter 9: Section 9.3 (Globalization and Global Determinants of Health)</li> <li>Watch Gates (2015), "The next outbreak? We're not ready"</li> <li>Watch Gates on The Daily Show with Trevor Noah (2020)</li> </ul>	
<b>WEEK 11</b>	Wed 4 May	Refugee Crisis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read Chouliaraki and Zaborowski (2017) "Voice and Community in the 2015 Refugee Crisis"</li> <li>Watch "Understanding the Refugee Crisis"</li> </ul>	Map Quiz #4 on the Middle East and North Africa
	Fri 6 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No Class (Spring Recess)</li> </ul>	
<b>WEEK 12</b>	<b>Mon 9 May</b>	Sustainable Development	



WEEK		TOPIC/READINGS	ASSIGNMENTS DUE
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read: United Nations (2021) "The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2021"</li> </ul>	
	Wed 11 May	<b>Exam #2</b>	
<b>Part V: Implications of Globalization</b>			
	Fri 13 May	Presentation I <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bofane Chapter 1-3</li> </ul>	
<b>WEEK 13</b>	Wed 18 May	Presentation II <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bofane Chapter 4-6</li> </ul>	
	Fri 20 May	Presentation III <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bofane Chapter 7-9</li> </ul>	
<b>WEEK 14</b>	Wed 25 May	Presentation IV <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bofane Chapter 10-12</li> </ul>	
	Fri 27 May	Course Wrap-up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read: Steger (2020) Chapter 8 (The Future of Globalization)</li> </ul>	Map Quiz #5 on Sub-Saharan Africa
<b>WEEK 15</b>	Wed 1 Jun	No Class (Regional Election)	
	Fri 3 Jun	<b>Exam #3 (Take-home Essay)</b>	
<b>WEEK 16</b>	Wed 8 Jun	<b>Submit your essay by noon</b>	