

GLOA 101-K01: Introduction to Global Affairs SPRING 2024

Professor: Gyu Tag Lee

Time: Monday / Wednesday 10:30 – 11:45

Room: G106

Email: gleeg@gmu.edu

Office: #608

Office Hours: Tuesday 15:00-17:00 or by appointment

Course Overview (Course Description):

Three decades ago the terms “global” or “globalization” were rarely employed in academic or non-academic conversations. Today the terms are firmly etched in the popular imagination. This merits asking: in what sense has our world suddenly become “global”? What was our world before it became “global”? What is Globalization? How does Global Affairs help us understand Globalization and make sense of our changing world and engagements across the globe?

In this course we will examine logics and architectures of contemporary global affairs and globalization – including agents, actors, institutions and social structures. We explore common questions including: what do we talk about when we talk about globalization and global affairs?

- Who do we imagine as the participants and the drivers of globalization and global affairs? Why?
- Is globalization a broad and amorphous process or does it describe a set of concrete shifts?
- Why is globalization contentious, or more accurately, what aspects of globalization are contentious?
- Does globalization draw everyone metaphorically closer, or does it push some people to the metaphorical global outskirts?
- Is globalization a theoretical construct or does it reflect new political-economic and socio-cultural practices?
- Is globalization a synonym for transnational capitalism or something more? If so, what are its defining features, and who are its participants?
- How do we more effectively talk about the effects of a range of globalizing processes that are undeniable?
- What is the link between globalization and global affairs, are they describing different sets of processes?

This course provides an introduction to the interdisciplinary field of global affairs. 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 this interdependence has occurred. Throughout the semester, we will explore the economic, cultural, political, and ecological dimensions of globalization. Our course readings and discussions will allow us to examine how individuals and communities navigate 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.

Learning Outcomes (Course Objectives):

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

- **Apply** key terms of global studies to **assess** the study of global issues and our own position in these structures.
- **Articulate and analyze** the multi-faceted cultural, political, economic, and environmental dimensions of globalization that shape, and are shaped by, interconnected global processes.
- **Reflect critically** on everyday representations of global issues and challenges, **articulate** possible solutions, and common obstacles.
- **Apply** an interdisciplinary lens to **evaluate** the representation of how global issues and potential solutions affect places and peoples unevenly/unequally across the world.
- **Engage in analysis and dialogue** with classmates about how global aspects of justice, diversity, inclusion, and equity have defined the historical global relations and continue to operate in our vastly disparate contemporary global context.
- **Develop** their own academic reading and writing skills: to identify in their own work and in that of others the elements of a strong academic analysis.

This course fulfills the Global Understanding/Global Context requirement in the Mason Core.

- Upon completing a **Global Understanding** core course, students will be able meet at least three of the following learning outcomes:
 1. “Identify and articulate one’s own values and how those values influence one’s interactions and relationships with others, both locally and globally.
 2. Demonstrate understanding of how the patterns and processes of globalization make visible the interconnections and differences among and within contemporary global societies.
 3. Demonstrate development of intercultural competencies.
 4. Explore individual and collective responsibilities within a global society through analytical, practical, or creative responses to problems or issues, using resources appropriate to the field.”(These goals are quoted from the Mason Core website <http://masoncore.gmu.edu/global-understanding-2>)
- Upon completing a **Global Contexts** core course, students will be able to:
 1. Identify and explain how patterns of global connections across nations and/or cultures have shaped societies to create interdependence and inequality.
 2. Use a disciplinary lens to demonstrate knowledge of how at least one nation and/or culture participates in or is affected by global contexts.

3. Apply an understanding of one's own positionality within a globally interdependent and unequal world to analyze solutions to global problems.
(These goals are quoted from the Mason Core website: <https://masoncore.gmu.edu/mason-core-course-categories/global-contexts/>)

Course Textbooks:

- 1) SMALLMAN, Shawn and BROWN, Kimberley (2020). *Introduction to International and Global Studies*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press.
- 2) PATEL, Raj and MOORE, Jason (2017). *A History of the World in 7 Cheap Things: A Guide to Capitalism, Nature, and the Future of the Planet*. Oakland, CA: University of California Press. (This book is available online through the library.)
- 3) Additional readings and course materials not listed in the course schedule may be provided via Blackboard if necessary.
- 4) Another important "text" for this course is your **GMU email account**. I will be periodically sending out updates, announcements, and syllabus changes to your GMU email addresses and it is your responsibility to regularly check your email and maintain space in your inboxes. The phrase "I did not get your email" is not an acceptable excuse.

* I usually do not open emails during weekend and holidays. You may receive a reply from me after the beginning of workdays.

Course Policies and Student Responsibilities:

NOTE: Class Etiquette

This class covers many important and, at times sensitive, human issues. The classroom should be a comfortable place to discuss concerns, hear ideas, and engage in friendly debate. This includes our physical classroom, the online Discussion Board, and all the ways that we interact with each other for the course.

We are all expected to be respectful to everyone that is involved with GLOA 101 this semester. Please remember that some behaviors may be bothersome to others or are distracting. I hope we can create a shared learning environment where we all help each other learn more about ourselves, each other, and our world. Avoid language that is offensive, any comments made in-person or online that could marginalize anyone or make anyone feel like they do not belong here are unacceptable. Please be open to learning and sharing. I learn a tremendous amount from my students each semester.

I ask that please don't use your laptop or other device during class to participate in the class discussion more and not to become distracted by it. This means no surfing the web or being on social media during our class meeting. I reserve the right to not allow any devices or

electronics during our meetings if they become too disruptive (except for those needed for university approved learning purposes). This class is a 3-credit course.

1. Attendance

- a. You are expected to **attend all classes**, arriving **before** the class begins and remaining engaged for the duration of each class meeting. If you cannot attend class due to illness or other emergency, you should notify your professor directly or by email before class.
- b. Arriving late or leaving early is equal to 1/2 absence. **Any more than 3 absences** will result in a grade penalty in participation.
- c. If a student misses **more than seven(7) classes** (eight(8) classes or more) he or she would be fail.

2. Class Preparation and Participation

a. Class Preparation and Participation

- Students must prepare in advance for every class meeting (recommended reading and written homework). Class participation means that you actively engage in the discussions/activities and that you take notes during discussions and lectures.
- DO NOT WORK ON OTHER CLASS ASSIGNMENTS, TEXT MESSAGE/KAKAO TALK, READ EMAIL, FACEBOOK OR ENGAGE IN OTHER SOCIAL MEDIA DURING CLASS TIME. Your grade will be seriously lowered if the instructor finds you doing those things.

b. Mobile Phones and Other Electronic Devices (Laptops, Tablets, etc.)

- During class all mobile phones should be switched off or to silent mode, and put away out of sight. Mobile phones on your desk, lap, or within sight are not allowed. Using phones without permission can negatively impact your participation grade.
- If mobile phones or other devices use continues after the start of class you may be asked to leave the classroom, which could also affect your attendance score.
- Students should keep in mind that this is a **laptop ban class** when we have a face to face meeting.

c. Homework and Written Assignments

- You must complete the homework and written assignments *independently and individually*. **Copying homework and/or a written assignment from a current or former student is cheating.** University policies for cases of academic integrity can be found at: <http://oai.gmu.edu/>. If you have any questions about these policies, please ask your professor before completing the assignment.

d. Course Readings and Worksheets

- You are responsible for completing reading homework for every class meeting if there is any. You should be prepared to share the main ideas from each reading and have the written assignments ready for in-class discussions/activities. Your

professor may check to see if your homework is complete at any time. These homework checks are part of your Preparation and Participation Grade. Do not email “missing” or late worksheets to your professor. You must be present in-class to receive credit for homework.

e. Graded Assignments

- These must be typed using MS Word. All text must be in 12-point font and double-spaced. Please check spelling and grammar prior to submitting your assignments.

f. Using AI writing programs (such as ChatGPT)

- The use of artificial intelligence (AI) to produce writing for this course is NOT ALLOWED unless it is otherwise stated by the instructor. If a student is found to have used AI-generated content for an assignment, that student may fail the assignment or even the course.

※ If you want to get advising for your writing assignment, you can visit GMUK Academic Resource Center. Please find more information about it at the end of this syllabus.

3. Late Work

- You must get permission from the Professor to submit work after the posted due date. Otherwise, late work will not be accepted and will result in a “zero” grade. Even when permission is given, late work may be subject to a certain percent grade penalty (20-25% deduction).

4. Blackboard

- a. You are expected to use Blackboard to access course materials. Also, you should be able to access your GMU e-mail account.
- b. Should any class sessions need to be recorded, students will be notified in advance. Any recordings will be stored on Blackboard and will only be accessible to students taking the course during this semester.
- c. A selection of certain works (e.g., articles, podcasts, videos, book chapters) will be available to students through Blackboard and remain subject to all rights and restrictions of the publisher and are to be used solely for academic purposes.
- d. Course materials and recordings are not to be distributed, sold, or employed for any other purposes.

5. Quizzes/Exams

: Basically, no make-up quizzes/exams will be given. If you have any issue on the quiz/exam date, you should tell the instructor prior to the date and discuss what you can do.

6. Time Management

: You are encouraged to make an appointment with the course professor as soon as you experience difficulty in the course or have questions about an assignment or exam. Do not wait to get help. Keep in mind that poor planning on your part does not constitute

an emergency on the part of your professor (i.e. if you wait until the last minute to make an appointment with your professor, you may not have the opportunity to do so).

University Policies:

1. Academic Integrity

: It is expected that students adhere to the George Mason University Honor Code as it relates to integrity regarding coursework and grades. The Honor Code reads as follows: “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: Student members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal and/or lie in matters related to academic work.” More information about the Honor Code, including definitions of cheating, lying, and plagiarism, can be found at the Office of Academic Integrity website at <https://oai.gmu.edu/mason-honor-code/>.

2. Students with Disabilities

: If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Office of Academic Affairs at 032-626-5060. All academic accommodations must be arranged through the Office.

3. Notice of mandatory reporting of sexual or interpersonal misconduct

: As a faculty member, I am designated as a “Non-Confidential Employee,” and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, sexual harassment, interpersonal violence, stalking, sexual exploitation, complicity, and retaliation to Mason’s Title IX Coordinator per University Policy 1202. If you wish to speak with someone confidentially, please contact Mason Korea’s Title IX Coordinator by calling 032-626-5110, or emailing mktix@gmu.edu. You can find detailed information on our website <https://masonkorea.gmu.edu/resources-and-services/title-ix>.

4. Equity and Inclusion

: Mason Korea is an intentionally inclusive community, promotes and maintains an equitable and just work and learning environment. We welcome and value individuals and their differences including race, economic status, gender expression and identity, sex, sexual orientation, ethnicity, national origin, first language, religion, age, and disability.

5. Anti-racism Statement

: We are committed to an anti-racist approach to higher education that acknowledges the ways that individual, interpersonal, institutional, and structural manifestations of racism against Black individuals and other people of color contribute to inequality and injustice in our classrooms, on our campuses, and in our communities. We aim to interrupt cycles of racism and to cultivate a more equitable, inclusive, and just environment for students, staff, faculty, alumni, and friends of all racial backgrounds.

6. Land Acknowledgement Statement

: Land acknowledgement engages all present in an ongoing indigenous protocol to

enact meaningful, reciprocal relationships with ancestors and contemporary tribal nations. As a state university, we have a responsibility to include and support indigenous communities and sovereign tribes in our work. At the place George Mason University occupies, we give greetings and thanksgivings to these Potomac River life sources, to the Doeg ancestors, who Virginia annihilated in violent campaigns while ripping their lands apart with the brutal system of African American enslavement, to the recognized Virginia tribes who have lovingly stewarded these lands for millennia including the Rappahannock, Pamunkey, Upper Mattaponi, Chickahominy, Eastern Chickahominy, Nansemond, Monacan, Mattaponi, Patawomeck, and Nottaway, past, present, and future, and to the Piscataway tribes, who have lived on both sides of the river from time immemorial.

7. Diversity Statement

: Mason Korea seeks to create a learning environment that fosters respect for people across identities and perspectives. We hope to continue to create an intentionally inclusive community that promotes and maintains an equitable and just work and learning environment. We (and I!) welcome and value individuals and their differences, including gender expression and identity, race, economic status, sex, sexuality, ethnicity, national origin, first language, religion, age and ability. We encourage all members of the learning environment to engage with the material personally, but to also be open to exploring and learning from experiences different than their own.

Course Assessments and Grading Scale
SPRING 2024

Your course grade will consist of the following:

1. Map Quizzes (Five [5] total)	5% (total 50 pts.)
2. Film Essays (Two [2] total)	10% (total 100 pts.)
3. Group Presentation	20% (200 pts.)
4. Cultural Exhibition / Event Reflection Paper	10% (100 pts.)
5. Blackboard Discussion	15% (total 150 pts.)
6. Participation	20% (total 200 pts.)
5.1 Coming to Class and Listen to others (Attendance)	10% (100 pts.)
5.2 Classroom Discussion Participation	10% (100 pts.)
7. Final Exam	20% (200 pts.)
Total	100% (1,000 pts.)

Grading Scale

- A+ = 98.0~100, A0 = 94.0~97.9, A- = 90.0~93.9
- B+ = 86.0~89.9, B0 = 82.0~85.9, B- = 78.0~81.9
- C+ = 74.0~77.9, C0 = 70.0~73.9, C- = 66.0~69.9
- D0 = 60.1~65.9, F = 0 to 59.9

Overview of Course Assignments

1. Map Quizzes: 5 x 1% each = 5% (total 50 pts.)

: 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. Details will be provided before the quiz. Practice outlines are available here: <https://www.seterra.com/#quizzes> or <https://www.worldatlas.com/>.

2. Media Essays: 5 x 2% each = 10% (total 100 pts.)

- a. Throughout the semester, we will be using media to provide real world examples for the purpose of grounding theoretical terms in the textbook. The media is not optional, but key to applied learning which illustrates the themes contemporary topics in Globalization (what quite frankly can otherwise seem like dry boring topics) and to make them come off the page, into real life.
- b. After watching the film/other media format, you will write a short essay about it. The essay does not have to be very formal and strictly academic. You can write your thoughts, opinions, and arguments more freely than the typical academic essay.
- c. **Avoid summarizing** the readings and other references – move quickly into an analytical response and show your own arguments/opinions. This essay should be

argumentative, rather than too descriptive and/or informative.

- d. Note on grading: When marking this, I will NOT be strictly looking for grammar, organization, and so on. I will be looking for evidence that you are engaged with what we've done during the class, and your own thoughts/reflections/opinions about the topic that you choose to write about. Papers that simply re-hash the lectures or the readings, or that fail to show an explicit connection to the class **will receive reduced or even zero credit**.

3. Group Presentation and Leading Discussion: 20% (200 pts.)

- a. A group of students (consisting of two or more) chooses a topic among main themes of each week and prepare a 15-minute presentation to introduce them to classmates.
- b. In the presentation, each group should find appropriate examples and cases that we have found and experienced in our everyday life along with a brief summary of the chapter.
- c. Also, in the presentation, each group should introduce any media products including, but not limited to, novels, films, TV shows/dramas, commercial advertisements, Youtube/Netflix or other internet-based media platform that would help us to understand themes that they discuss.
- d. After the presentation, we will have a discussion session about it. First, two discussants appointed by the Professor at random will ask questions and give comments on the presentation. Then other students can jump into the discussion.

4. Cultural Exhibition/Event Reflection Paper: 10% (100 pts)

- a. During this semester, you should see at least one cultural exhibition/event related to the globalization themes that we learn and discuss. After seeing it, you will write **one (1), 350-word reflection paper about it**.
- b. It can be any kind of event unless it is related to globalization. But you cannot write a paper about TV programs or internet media content. Also, you cannot write about the event/exhibition that you saw before the semester.
- c. You can submit your reflection paper anytime during the semester via Blackboard. The due date for your reflection paper is **Jun. 6, 2024**.
- d. When you write this reflection paper, you should attach your ticket and/or brochure for the performance (if applicable), or the photo including your selfie to your paper as evidence.
- e. If you submit multiple reflection papers, (up to three including the mandatory assignment), you will get some extra credit (total 30 pts when you submit additional two papers).

5. Blackboard Discussion: 5 x 3% each = 15% (150 pts.)

- a. During the semester, students will have to participate in about five online Blackboard Discussions. Professor often will give you a couple of discussion questions sometimes with reading materials (such as newspaper/magazine articles) or videos through Blackboard Discussion section. Please read the assigned article(s) and make your own thoughts and replies to others' thoughts on the Blackboard.
- b. You will make comments on others by the different due date from your own discussion. Details will be announced on each Discussion forum.
- c. If your answer is well-made and seems more insightful/interesting than usual, you will get up to 5 extra points. If you get those extra points for some of your discussions, your total points can be more than 150 pts.
- d. If you don't make reply to others' answers when participating in the discussion, 5 pts will be deducted (for example, you make a less satisfying answer without making reply to other, you may get only 20 pts).

6. Participation: 20% (total 200 pts.)

In-class participation is important not only to the individual student, but also to the class as a whole.

6.1 Attendance: 10% (100 pts.)

: Refer to the course policy section 1.

6.2 Classroom Discussion Participation: 10% (100 pts.) → *Very Important!*

- a. Class participation is crucial to one's overall grade. It will be assessed by your participation during other students' presentation and other usual class participations.
- b. ***This is separate from your general attendance. They are separately graded. It means your attendance does not count as classroom discussion participation.***
- c. It will be counted based on how many times you participate. Therefore, you can get zero if you do not make any participation during class discussions in the semester. You can get the full participation grade when you make four(4) participations through the whole semester (you will get some extra credit if you make participations more than six(6) times).
- d. Just saying 'yes' or 'no' or rising your hands when the instructor asks simple OX questions will not count as participation.

7. Final Exam: 20% (200 pts)

: Details will be announced later. (Spring 2024 Final Exam Schedule is below:
<https://masonkorea.gmu.edu/academic-calendars/spring-2024-final-exam>)

Class Schedule:

(All dates are subject to change)

Week 1 (02. 19 / 02. 21)**Course Introduction**Reading:

Smallman and Brown (2020). *Chapter 1: Introduction*

Week 2 (02. 26 / 02. 28)**What Is Globalization?**Reading:

Smallman and Brown (2020). *Chapter 2: History*

Week 3 (03. 04 / 03. 06)**Economic Globalization**Reading:

Smallman and Brown (2020). *Chapter 3: Economic Globalization*

First Group Presentation**Week 4** (03. 11 / 03. 13)**Political Globalization**Reading:

Smallman and Brown (2020). *Chapter 4: Political Globalization*

Week 5 (03. 18 / 03. 20)**Cultural Globalization**Reading:

Smallman and Brown (2020). *Chapter 5: Cultural Globalization*

Week 6 (03. 25 / 03. 27)**Film (1): *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* 臥虎藏龍**

Think about issues below when watching this film.

- How economic globalization is reflected in the film
- How cultural globalization is reflected in the film
- Fairness in the description of Chinese people and culture (non-Western)
- Power of media representation
- Etc.

Week 7 (04. 01 / 04. 03)**Meaning of Development in the Globalization**Reading:

Smallman and Brown (2020). *Chapter 6: Development*

Week 8 (04. 08 / 04. 10)

NO CLASS

*** 04. 08: Spring Recess**

*** 04. 10: National Assembly Election Day (대한민국 제22대 국회의원 선거)**

Week 9 (04. 15 / 04. 11)

Globalization in Practice: Security

Reading:

Smallman and Brown (2020). *Chapter 7: Security*

Week 10 (04. 22 / 04. 24)

Globalization in Practice: Food

Reading:

Smallman and Brown (2020). *Chapter 8: Food*

Week 11 (04. 29 / 04. 30)

Globalization in Practice: Health / Film (2): *Lost in Translation*

Reading:

Smallman and Brown (2020). *Chapter 9: Health*

Think about issues below when watching this film.

- How cultural globalization is reflected in the film
- Fairness in the description of Japanese people and culture (non-Western)
- Power of media representation
- Etc.

*** 04. 30: Make Up Day (Following Wednesday Schedule)**

*** 05. 01: NO CLASS (Labor Day 노동절)**

Week 12 (05. 06 / 05. 08)

Globalization in Practice: Energy

Reading:

Smallman and Brown (2020). *Chapter 10: Energy*

*** 05. 06: NO CLASS (Children's Day – Alternative Holiday 어린이날 대체공휴일)**

Week 13 (05. 13 / 05. 16)

Globalization in Practice: Environment

Reading:

Smallman and Brown (2020). *Chapter 9: Environment*

*** 05. 15: NO CLASS (Buddha's Birthday 석가탄신일)**

*** 05. 16: Make Up Day (Following Wednesday Schedule)**

Week 14 (05. 20 / 05. 22)

Conclusion: Where Do We Go Next?

Reading:

Smallman and Brown (2020). *Chapter 10-11: Where to Go Next? / Conclusion*

Week 15 (05. 27 / 05. 29 / 06. 03) Common Read: *A History of the World in 7 Cheap Things: A Guide to Capitalism, Nature, and the Future of the Planet*

Reading:

Patel and Moore (2017). *A History of the World in 7 Cheap Things: A Guide to Capitalism, Nature, and the Future of the Planet.*

06. 06 (THUR.): Cultural Exhibition / Event Reflection Paper Due

Final Exam Day: June 10th (Mon.), 10:30 am – 11:45 am

Enrollment

- : Students are responsible for verifying their enrollment in this class.
- : Schedule adjustments should be made by the deadlines published in the Schedule of Classes. Deadlines each semester are published in the Academic Calendar available from Mason Korea website (<https://masonkorea.gmu.edu/academic-calendars/academic-calendars>).
- : **Last day to add – Feb 26, 2024**
- : **Final Drop Deadline (with 100% tuition refund) – Mar 4, 2024**
- : **Unrestricted Withdrawal Period (100% tuition liability) – Mar 25, 2024**
- : After the last day to drop a class, withdrawing from this class requires the approval of the dean and is only allowed for nonacademic reasons.
- : Undergraduate students may choose to exercise a selective withdrawal. See the website for selective withdrawal procedures.

GUMK Academic Resource Center

: The Academic Resource Center, GMUK is in the business of looking at your papers and problems to improve your academic achievement in the area of Writing, Mathematics, Accounting, Statistics, and Economics. You are invited to utilize the faculty and student tutor services at a variety of stages in your academic activities, checking to see that your project specifically meets the directions specified by your instructor.

While tutors are 'fixing' your writing or projects, they do help you become conscious of particular error patterns that emerge in your work. For more information, please contact Professor Eunmee Lee, director of Academic Resource Center (elee45@gmu.edu). You can refer to Mason Korea website (<https://masonkorea.gmu.edu/resources-and-services/academic-resource-center/academic-resource-center>).

