

Department: Political Science

Course No.: POLS 212W

Credits: 3

Title: Globalization and Political Change

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WQ: W only

Catalog Copy: POLS 212: Globalization and Political Change

Either semester. Three credits

The origins and contested definitions of globalization, and its impact on national, regional and international institutions and political processes. Designed for upper-level undergraduate students with a solid grounding in comparative politics and international relations.

POLS 212 W: Globalization and Political Change

Prerequisite: ENGL 110 or 111 or 250

Course Information: This is an existing course for which we are adding a W variant in order to meet GEOC's expectations of a 200-level W in the major. CLAS C&C also approved a change in the title and course description so that it would more adequately reflect the content of the course and disciplinary changes. The changes are meant to reflect more contemporary conceptualizations of the issue and to update the relevant literature and analytical frameworks. The course aims to provide students with a solid

grounding in political science literature related to globalization. It gives students the analytical skills to understand the debates over the nature of the process itself, as well as the ability to analyze the effect of the process on other variables (such as institutions at the national, regional and global level and political corresponding processes). There will be no mixing of POLS212W and the regular POLS212

W Criteria: 1. When taught as a W-variant, this course will require students to produce a 20-page research paper. The first draft (worth 30% of the final grade) must include an abstract, outline, working bibliography, and text. The instructor will meet with students individually to provide feedback and comments that students must address and accommodate in successive drafts. The final draft of the research paper is worth 50% of the final grade. Students will make in-class research presentations on their final papers in the W variant of the course. The major research paper required in the W variant enhances learning the content of the course by actively engaging students with the processes of globalization. The course also includes a significant participation component. The instructor will post weekly discussion questions to students via WebCT, and students serve as discussion leaders throughout the semester, facilitating discussion of these questions among their peers during class.

2. The primary mode of writing instruction will include individual conferences with each student, in-class seminars on writing and research techniques, and written commentary on drafts-in-progress.

3. Substantial revision will be undertaken between drafts based on individual feedback and written commentary from the instructor. Students must submit both drafts at the end of the course so that the instructor can evaluate how well students have incorporated comments and suggestion.

4. The final grade is calculated so that the non-writing components of the course are worth 20%, while the writing components of the course constitute 80% of the final course grade. The syllabus will clearly state this and reiterate that failure to pass the W component of the course, which involves writing quality, will result in failure of the course.

Role of Grad Students: The course is taught by a regular faculty member. If graduate students were to teach this course, they would have to undergo the necessary training at the Writing Center according to GEOC rules and expectations. They would also be supervised by a faculty advisor and receive intra-department training.