

# GLOA101: Introduction to Global Affairs

(3 credits) Summer 2022

**Instructor:** Dr. Byunghwan 'Ben' Son

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**On-line Office Hours:** TR 10:00-11:00am

- via email ✉ only
- **No** in-person/real-time office hours as this is a 100% asynchronous class.

## COURSE INFORMATION

We live in an era in which anything is hardly 'domestic'. In this class, we study the driving forces that got us in this situation, namely, globalization. Rather than focusing on specific event, country, or subject, we take a comprehensive approach to how the globalizing world affects cultures, societies, organizations, and individuals (and vice versa). For the first half of the semester, we will focus on examining how we got here; what globalization is, and how it is understood in a number of different dimensions. The second half of the semester will be spent on the substantive issues of globalization that we deal with in a daily basis, including (but not limited to) violence, justice, governance, environment, and crime. The class serves as an introduction to the study of global affairs and aims at helping students establish analytical tools to understand global issues.

## Course Delivery

This course will be delivered online using an **asynchronous**, non-real time format via the Blackboard learning management system housed in the MyMason portal. There are well-known **pros and cons** of an asynchronous class. In a summer semester when many people are away and committing to regular meetings is difficult, the pros outweigh the cons quite significantly. This particular section is to accommodate this situation. Throughout the course of this class, *there won't be any real-time contact* by design, therefore.

## 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.

## Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course each student will:

1. Share and discuss global patterns and processes and their interaction with society.

2. Interpret the interconnectedness, difference, and diversity of a global society.
3. Apply awareness of global issues to a consideration of individual or collective responsibilities within a global society.
4. Reflect, compare, and analyze analytical, practical, or creative responses to global problems or issues.


## COURSE REQUIREMENT

### Required Textbooks

You are asked to complete all the readings before coming to class (see below for reading schedule). The importance of reading in higher education cannot be overstated. You learn the most while you read. Class serves to affirm what you learned from the reading. These are NOT available in the University Bookstore as this is an online course. You can purchase these books fairly easily from online. The readings for the first week are available in Blackboard (first week's module).

- Campbell, Patricia J. et al. 2010. *An Introduction to Global Studies*. Wiley-New York: Blackwell (marked as *CMS* in Course Schedule below).
  - You can read this book online for free through the Fenwick Library webpage. Simply search for the book using the title.
- Steger, Manfred. 2020. *Globalization: A Very Short Introduction*. New York: Oxford University Press (5th Edition, though **any** edition is acceptable) (marked as *Steger* in Course Schedule below).
  - Instead of purchasing a hard-copy (which would require some delivery time), you are strongly recommended to get an electronic copy of this book. You can find a fairly cheap e-book copy of this book in various online book stores (e.g., **a**).
- Additional articles are assigned. These will be made available in Blackboard.

### Software Requirement for Video Assignments

The preferred software for making video assignments in this course is YouTube . It's easy and simple. Make the videos using either its App or its webpage and submit to our course page in Blackboard just **a link** to it. A simple, selfie-style video is perfectly fine. There won't be any extra points to beautiful videos. Nor will there be any punishment for an ugly one (as far as clarity is there). There's no extra point for a fancy-looking video (But IF you're into making fancy-looking videos, here's an easy **first step**). It is recommended that you keep the 'visibility' of the video 'unlisted' (what is 'unlisted?').

Alternatively, you can use *Kaltura CaptureSpace*, which is embedded in Blackboard. Follow these step by step procedures [here](#). You can also upload your video or record new video from a mobile device (<https://goo.gl/r9xLPW>) and upload it directly to Blackboard Assignment in this course using Kaltura.

## Course Schedule

This course consists of five modules. Each module takes one week (seven days). In our Blackboard page, go to “**Weekly Module.**” This is where things start and end.

Week	Topics	Textbook	Assignments/Deadline
W1 (May 23-29)	Introduction; What is globalization	CMS ch.1; Steger ch.1-2	My View of Globalization (non-graded, due <b>S 5/29</b> )
W2 (May 30-June 5)	Economic Globalization	Steger ch.3	RE #1 ( <b>R 6/2</b> ); PR #1 ( <b>S 6/5</b> )
W3 (June 6-12)	Political Globalization	CMS ch.3, 4; Steger ch.5	RE#2 ( <b>R 6/9</b> ); PR #2 ( <b>S 6/12</b> )
W4 (June 13-19)	Global Conflicts, Crimes, and Terrorism	CMS ch.10	RE#3 ( <b>R 6/16</b> ); PR #3 ( <b>S 6/19</b> )
W5 (June 20-22)	Global Environment	CMS ch.5-6; Steger ch. 6	My View of Globalization (Graded, <b>W 6/22</b> )

### Note:

- RE: Report Essay / PR: Peer Reflection Video/ R: Thursday / S: Sunday
- Each week, in addition to the textbook readings, there’s a video or two to watch. In some weeks, there are additional readings (specified in the weekly module).

## Assignments (70%)

Given that the course is offered 100% online, the importance of completing assignments cannot be exaggerated. There are various types of activities the assignments involve including writing and video-recording. We have two different types of assignments.

1. **Report Essay** (3×10=30%): Report Essay involves writing a short essay given each week’s theme. Specific ‘essay questions’ as well as instructions for writing are posted in each week’s module. This short piece usually is no longer than 800 words. Report essays are typically due each midnight Thursday (11:59PM). **Important:** make sure you also submit the *same exact file* to ‘RE / Final Exam’ tab in Blackboard. This is for streamlining grading and giving feedback. This ‘double-submission’ only pertains to RE.
2. **Peer Reflection** (3×10=30%): when the Report Essay papers are made available online by midnight Thursdays, you are asked to react to your classmates’ papers. You may choose two that interest you, and make a video reflection on these two papers that is **no longer than three minutes**. You may make it clear 1) *why* each student’s paper was interesting; 2) what’s the *difference/similarity* between your and the student’s papers; and 3) whether reading these papers actually *changed* your initial ideas and why (not). Please do **not** upload a video file itself (e.g., .mp4 or .mov) or a link to the file via GoogleDrive or Dropbox directly to the Blackboard Discussion Board. There are legal and ethical issues here. Video submission made in these forms will not be graded. You should use instead a video-sharing service like [YouTube](#), [vimeo](#), or [Kaltura](#). If you are using the likes of Youtube, you can simply submit a **link** to the video. Simple as that. Peer Reflections are typically due each midnight Sunday (11:59PM).
3. **My View on Globalization** (10%): You will share your view of globalization during week 1 which is a non-graded but required activity. Then, during the last week (W5), you will

revisit your post from the first week (W1) and reflect on how your view of globalization has changed during this course. Only the second reflection (W5) will be graded (but if you didn't submit the first, ungraded one, 2% penalty applies). To complete My View of Globalization, you will be asked to create and submit a short video. The video shouldn't be longer than 3 minutes.

Please consult the *Weekly Module* for the details of each assignment.

## Final Exam (30%), deadline: 11:59AM, 6/24

We have one final exam, which will take a form of an essay. A link that contains the essay question(s) will be made available in the left-hand side of our Blackboard page 24 hours in advance (that is, Noon 6/23). The submission will be completed in the same link no later than 11:59AM, 6/24. Do **not** consider this a 'take-home exam' which would take a very long time to complete. Instead, this would be a typical final exam that take 2-3 hours on average. It's only that we are taking this exam online because, duh, it's an online class. You are given 24 hours because I want to give you some flexibility (life happens!). So, barring medical emergencies, there shall be absolutely no extension for this deadline.

## Grading Scale

>= 93.00	A	77.00 - 79.99	C+
90.00 - 92.99	A-	73.00 - 76.99	C
87.00 - 89.99	B+	70.00 - 72.99	C-
83.00 - 86.99	B	60.00 - 69.99	D
80.00 - 82.99	B-	<= 59.99	F

## COURSE POLICIES

### Assignment Submission

- Late submissions will be penalized 5% of the assignment grade per a day. Assignments submitted in the same day *after* the class will be considered one day late. Weekends and holidays still count here (for example, a Monday submission of an assignment that was due Friday will be considered three days late). Beyond twelve days from the submission, the grade penalty for any late assignments will be equally 60%.
- If you are submitting a document file (such as MS Word or PDF file), please include 1) your name (seriously!), 2) date of submission, 3) word count, and 4) title.
- **NO early submission.** Do not submit assignments early. Strictly adhere to the weekly module. That is, do not submit an assignment any earlier than *60 hours* before its deadline. One letter-grade reduction will accrue from an assignment not complying with this rule.
- And I repeat this: Please do **not** upload a video file itself (e.g., .mp4 or .mov) or a link to the file via GoogleDrive or Dropbox directly to the Blackboard Discussion Board. There are legal and ethical issues here. Video submission made in these forms will not be graded. You should use instead a video-sharing service like [YouTube](#), [vimeo](#), or [Kaltura](#). If you are using the likes of Youtube, you can simply submit a [link](#) to the video. Simple as that.

## **Instructor-Student Communication**

I will respond to your emails within 24 hours during week days. If I do not respond within 24 hours, please drop another message. If I am to be away from email for more than one day, I will post an announcement in the Blackboard course folder. Before sending an email, please check the following (available on your Blackboard course menu) unless the email is of a personal nature:

1. syllabus
2. Ask Professor
3. On-demand Blackboard videos on how to use Blackboard features and Technical Requirements. In compliance with a University-wide initiative, our correspondence will be only through GMU assigned email accounts. Please check your GMU email regularly for updates and important announcements.

## **Attendance / Make-up**

Given the online, asynchronous nature of the course, there is no 'attendance.' To obtain the extension, you must submit to me a written request that identifies the date and cause of the emergency. This written request must be submitted no later than 48 hours after the designated deadline.

## **Participation**

You are expected to actively engage in all online activities throughout the semester, which include viewing all course materials, completing and participating in all course activities and assignments.

## **Log-in Frequency**

You should check the course Blackboard site and your GMU email for communications from the instructor, at the very minimum, four times per week.

## **Extra Credits and Incompletes ('I')**

Following the [general guideline](#), there is absolutely *no* extra credits to be granted in this class to improve grades. Likewise, 'incomplete' is granted only under extraordinary circumstances such as medical emergency. According to the Mason regulation, 'I' cannot be used just in anticipation of an unsatisfactory grades.

## **Grade Dispute**

If it is a simple calculation/typing error at my end, students can point me to it any time during the semester. For all other matters, students must wait 24 hours after receiving a grade or graded work before approaching me about the grade. If the student desires to challenge the grade, they need to write a detailed reasoning as to why he or she deserves a better grade which shall be submitted to me via email (for record). When the grade is disputed, I will reassess the whole assignment/exam. I reserve the right to either raise or lower the grade, based on the result of the re-assessment.

## Academic Honesty

The principle of academic integrity is taken very seriously in this class. George Mason University has [Honor Code](#) with clear guidelines regarding academic integrity: [cheating](#), [plagiarizing](#), [stealing](#), and [lying](#) are strictly prohibited.

Plagiarism is of particular concern: 1) all work submitted must be your own; 2) when using the work or ideas of others, including fellow students, give full credit through accurate citations. While collaboration and learning from others, especially established scholars in the field is not only encouraged but also required, using someone else's words or ideas without giving them credit is plagiarism. If you quote directly from any text, you **MUST** use the exact words (including punctuation) just as the words, phrases, and sentences appear in the original text. You must also follow proper citation rules to indicate that you are quoting directly from a text. If you paraphrase ideas, that is, convey the author's ideas in your own words, you must still cite the source, using an established citation format. Otherwise, even if you did not copy-and-paste the text, it still counts as plagiarism. In this class, APA Style is strongly preferred (use these resources: [Style Guide](#); [Online Citation Generator](#)).

**Your intentions do not matter**; if certain sentences/phrases of someone that is not you are used without citation, it is a plagiarism even if you did not mean to do it. The re-use of papers, presentations, and other materials from one course in another course is not appropriate unless the instructor permits. I expect that submitted work has been prepared for this class only (In that sense, I strongly advise against consulting those student essay webpages where you can 'sample' some of the examples; they are generally a mishmash of plagiarized texts; besides, the qualities of those 'samples' are generally laughable). When in doubt, ask me for clarification. GMU provides a range of services to help with test anxiety, writing and study skills, personal issues, and other concerns.

If determined to be plagiarism by the Mason Honor Committee, The instructor is supposed to submit my recommendation for the 'consequence' for it. In this class, my recommendation is zero point for the assignment. Read a [full description of George Mason's Honor Code](#).

Please note that SafeAssign automatically reports the 'likelihood' of plagiarism found in any documents. While this likelihood may not necessarily mean the presence of actual plagiarism cases, I will pay extra attention to the submitted documents that are 'red-flagged'.

## Diversity Statement

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.

An emphasis upon diversity and inclusion throughout the campus community is essential to achieve these goals. Diversity is broadly defined to include such characteristics as, but not limited to, race, ethnicity, gender, religion, age, disability, and sexual orientation. Diversity also entails different viewpoints, philosophies, and perspectives. Attention to these aspects of diversity will help promote a culture of inclusion and belonging, and an environment where diverse opinions, backgrounds and practices have the opportunity to be voiced, heard and respected. Besides, it's a practical tool. You (will) live in an increasingly diverse society when practicing inclusiveness might help you in the long-run (even if you do not agree with some of these values!). Please see [the full GMU diversity statement](#). You can check Mason University Life religious holiday [calendar](#). It is the obligation of the student to provide faculty, within the first two weeks of the semester, with the dates of major religious holidays on which they will be absent due to religious observances.

## Important Resource

The availability of these resources is subject to the GMU COVID19-related policies (<https://www2.gmu.edu/coronavirus>).

GMU Library: There are two libraries on Fairfax Campus: Fenwick and Johnson Center. You should be acquainted with these locations and how to use the library online catalog and databases. If you need any help with the library please do not hesitate contacting [the library staff](#).

Counseling Services: (703-993-2380; SUB I, Room 3129) provides individual and group sessions for personal development and assistance with a range of emotional and relational issues. In addition, the Learning Services Program (703-993-2999) offers academic skill-building workshops as well as a tutor referral service.

Office of Disability Services: (703-993-2474; SUB I, Room 2500) assists students with learning or physical conditions affecting learning. If you qualify for accommodation, the ODS staff will provide a form to give to your instructor at the beginning of every course. If you have a documented learning disability or other condition that may affect academic performance you should: 1) Make sure this documentation is on file with the Office of Disability Services to determine the accommodations you need; and Talk with me to plan your accommodation needs, especially regarding exams.

Student Technology Assistance and Resource (STAR) Lab: Johnson Center 229; 993-8990; <http://media.gmu.edu>

## Other Policies

All other policies that are not specified in this syllabus follows the policies of GMU. See the details in the following links.

- University Catalog: <http://catalog.gmu.edu/>
- University Policies: <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/>
- Student Rights & Responsibilities: <http://chssundergrad.gmu.edu/rights>
- Student Privacy: <http://registrar.gmu.edu/ferpa/>
- GMU Writing Center: <http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/>