

**MGT 590.01 W – Global Competitiveness
Fall 2015**

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Office Hours: 10-12 a.m. Wednesday; others by appointment only; will schedule a virtual chat upon request
Classroom: Virtual
Meeting Time: Virtual
Note: All times and deadlines for this course are listed as Central Standard Time (CST) Zone (Commerce, TX)

Course Description:

A study of those factors which contribute to the competitiveness of businesses, industries, and societies operating within a world economy. Primary focus is on the interaction of management, labor, and government policies.

Global Course (GLB):

This course has been selected as a Global Course – tied to the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). Texas A&M University-Commerce QEP seeks to prepare students for an interconnected world. In relation to the QEP, students completing this course will be able to (LO1) demonstrate knowledge of the interconnectedness of global dynamics (issues, trends, processes, and systems), (LO2) apply knowledge of the interconnectedness of global dynamics, and (LO3) view themselves as engaged citizens within an interconnected and diverse world. The term project in this course will be utilized to assess the QPE student learning outcomes for each student. Students are responsible to upload a copy of the project to their ePortfolio in ManeSync. Several assignments will be also be designated as global (GLB) assignments for students to include in their portfolios.

Course Objectives:

1. Develop an awareness of the competitive issues facing nations, companies, and individuals in a global economy.
2. Develop an understanding of the issues, policies, and actions that nations should pursue to develop and maintain raising standards of living for its citizens.
3. Develop an understanding of the issues, strategies, and actions that companies should pursue to develop and maintain organizational strengths that will endure the competitive environment of global markets.
4. Consider the issues that are relevant at an individual, personal level to retain personal competitiveness in a smaller, more dynamic, and intense labor market.
5. Develop personal action plans for participating at all three levels of creating more competitive nations, companies, and persons.

Course Text (Required):

“International Business – Environments & Operations”, Daniels, Radebaugh, and Sullivan, 15th Edition, 2015, Pearson. ISBN: 10:0-13-345723-0

Academic Honesty Policy:

Academic Honesty is the foundation of the university community. Cheating, plagiarism, or other acts of academic dishonesty compromise the integrity of the academic process and community and are subject to disciplinary action. For this class, plagiarism will result in automatic failure (final course grade of F).

An academic honesty policy has been posted under the Doc Sharing tab in your course. You should read this document, initial it, and submit it to me via the corresponding Dropbox.

Comments on Academic Honesty

There seems to be a belief among many that anything found on the Internet is free to use as one wishes. The "cut and paste" option also makes it quite tempting. However, information on the web must be properly cited just as you would any "hard copy" periodicals or books. Keep the following in mind:

1. It is generally not advisable to quote anything verbatim in a paper unless there is an overriding reason to do so, such as the use of a particular phrase or sentence that illustrates a point well and should not be changed. When you do quote directly, you must place the statement in quotes in addition to a footnote at the end of the quote (or for longer quotes, offset the quoted section). Not placing the statement in quotes implies that the wording is your own.
2. Simply changing a few words in a sentence (for example, "large" to "big") may alleviate the need for quotes (depending on how much you change), but it is not the best way to go. If you are not going to provide a direct quote, then the material should be stated in your own terms. Changing a couple of words implies laziness.
3. Every idea you get from another source must be cited. Placing 100 citations in a paper does not imply that the work is not original, but that you did a proper job of giving credit where it was due.
4. The real danger in a "cut and paste" approach to report writing is that you end up including a lot of information that is related to the topic about which you are writing, but does not really address what you are trying to say. Putting things in your own words allows you to focus your comments more effectively.
5. Material that would be considered to be common knowledge in the field (like the general strategic management model) would not likely require a citation.
6. All papers will be graded using turnitin.com software.

Any deviation from the guidelines concerning quotes and citations constitutes **plagiarism**, as it suggests that you are trying to submit someone else's work and creativity as your own. If you have any questions, please let me know. Guidelines for properly quoting someone else's writings and the proper citing of sources can be found in the APA Publication Manual.

Syllabus Subject to Change Statement:

I anticipate that we will follow the schedule I have outlined in this syllabus, but I may make adjustments. If I do so, I will inform you in writing. Remaining in the course after reading this syllabus will signal that you accept the possibility of changes and responsibility for being aware of them.

Course Format:

This course is scheduled for online delivery. You will submit your class assignments through the eCollege location (Dropbox) and your grades will be recorded for you in the course grade book. PowerPoint slides will be available for each of the book chapters, under the Doc Sharing tab. I will also host class chat sessions where I will discuss the course material and assignment requirements. These class chat sessions are recorded and a link to the recordings will be provided to you. I expect that even if you are not able to attend the live class sessions, you will review the recordings. You are responsible for the material covered during the chat sessions.

Course Policies and Procedures:

Students are required to meet the expectations listed below:

Professional behavior: it is important that you maintain a professional demeanor at all times, including during electronic communication. Texas A&M Commerce expects this from you, and do future employers. Since so much communication in today's workplace is electronic, this course will be a good place to practice interacting in a manner appropriate to a professional setting.

Regular and timely attendance: you are expected to log onto eCollege regularly. I can view how many times you have entered into the course and how much time you spent each visit. I can also view if you have accessed the link to the recording of the class chat sessions.

Assignments:

- ❖ Submitted assignments must be correctly formatted and free of grammatical and stylistic errors. You should have some skill with software for word processing, spreadsheets, graphics, and presentations. Spelling and grammatical errors will detract from your grade! APA format guidelines should be used.
- ❖ Assignments are due on the date and time listed on your course schedule.
- ❖ You must turn in all assignments ON TIME. I do not accept late assignments unless you have a university excused absence. Assignments must be complete.
- ❖ Please submit assignments that are in a format which is compatible with Microsoft Office 2010 or 2013. Backup copies are required in the event that there is a failure in the eCollege system.
- ❖ Make-up exams and work will only be given if you obtain University approved documentation for your excuse.

Communication:

Please communicate with me by using my e-mail: leslie.toombs@tamuc.edu. You are also welcome to post messages to the Virtual Office where either I or other students may respond to you. I will also make an appointment where I can virtually meet with you. The subject line in all e-mails should start with ... MGT 590.

Students must routinely check e-mail sent to his/her Texas A&M University student e-mail account address. This is my primary mechanism for communicating to the class – I also use the

announcement section of your course home page. I will respond to your e-mail within 24 hours Monday through Friday. During the weekend, I will respond to your e-mail within 48 hours.

Course Grading:

Country Assessment Paper and Discussions (GLB)	30%
Homework Assignments (Some GLB)	30%
General Course and Text Discussions	10%
Summary Activity	30%
Total	100%

Country Assessment Paper and Discussions (GLB):

The Country Assessment Paper will include a country competitive assessment for two countries. Students will select **two** countries from a list provided on the assignment sheet for this assignment on the course page using the following constraints for their selection. Students may choose no more than one country from each stage (or combination of stages) of economic development as outlined with the Global Competitiveness Index (three groups) and only one from a geographic region (four groups). The United States may not be chosen as a country for this assignment.

Three stages of economic development are:

1. Countries in stage 1
2. Countries in transition from stage 1 to stage 2 and countries in stage 2
3. Countries in transition from stage 2 to stage 3 and countries in stage 3

The geographic regions are:

1. Africa
2. Americas (North America, South America, and Caribbean countries)
3. Asia and Oceania (Middle East)
4. Europe

The issues to be researched and discussed will include economic, legal, social and demographic, access to technology and infrastructure and other competitive issues.

To allow opportunities for discussion of the countries' competitiveness, discussion topics will be set up for this activity and will be opened during the time that the papers are under development and will remain open for a couple of weeks after the due date for the papers. Student papers will be shared with the class for students in the class to review country paper prepared by other students.

See the schedule for major assignments for the specific dates for this assignment. See the assignment instructions for further details about this assignment.

Homework Assignments:

This portion of the grading will include several assignments that will be graded. The assignments are not necessarily equally weighted in the course grade. Other assignments or cases may be included.

1. "Where is stuff made? and What stuff is made where?" (WISM & WSIMW) (**GLB**)

For this assignment students will examine the country of origin for a variety of products and develop lists of the sources of the products. Students will then make some observations and draw some inferences about the sourcing of manufactured products. This assignment is referenced below.

2. Contemporary Business Issues Paper (**GLB**): This homework item will be a relatively short position paper (four or five pages) for contemporary and, perhaps, controversial topics relating to a global business or a government topic of specific importance to business or economics.

3. Contemporary Social Issues Paper (**GLB**): This homework item will be a relatively short position paper (four or five pages) for contemporary and, perhaps, controversial topics relating to a global topic with more of a social context.

4. Management Across Cultures: Personal Reflections and Improvement Plans

This assignment will include two or three questions for chapters relating to personal reflections, applications, and improvement plans. These will generally be one to two paragraphs for each chapter selected.

General Discussions:

The general discussions associated with the readings and current events will be a graded item in this course. The discussions (or threaded discussions) will focus on current events relating to global competitiveness and the readings assigned during the term. Be sure to focus your comments on issues related to the forum or topic you have selected. The discussions should include proper language: keep it clean and non-offensive. Some occasions may exist where use of slang and other potentially "bad" language is somewhat required to illustrate the intended effect of the communication.

Summary Activity:

The Summary Activity will serve as the final exam for the course. It will be designed to provide students an opportunity to reflect on their semester of study of global competitiveness and relate it to various contexts and applications.

Course Outline for Assignments:

A course outline for each week and schedule of due dates for assignments will be provided in the doc sharing area of your course.

Disability Statement: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Halladay Student Services Building

Room 303 A/D

Telephone: (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

FAX: (903) 468-8148

Student Conduct Statement: “All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment.”

Students enrolled in on-line courses have the same rights and responsibilities as students in live-taught courses.

Refer to Student’s Guide Book located at:

www.tamu-commerce.edu/studentlife/guidebook.htm

RESEARCH STUDIES/HUMAN SUBJECTS

Procedure A15.02

Texas A&M University-Commerce recognizes the need for investigation in which human beings may serve as research subjects. The University acknowledges and accepts its responsibilities for ensuring that the privacy, safety, health, and welfare of such subjects are adequately protected. All research, which involves any form of participation of human subjects, qualifies as human subject research. This includes certain survey research, research by students as well as by faculty and staff and both internally and externally funded research.

In order to comply with federal regulations as well as to conform to guidelines of the University's Institutional Review Board (IRB), the principal investigator should obtain approval of their research protocol from the IRB prior to any contact with human subjects.

If you are using humans in any of your research, contact your professor before proceeding with the research project. A determination will be made as to the need for IRB review and approval.

Contact your professor for assistance.

Grading Rubric for Country Assessment Paper and Discussions, written Homework Assignments, Management Across Cultures Reflections and Plans paper, General and Readings discussions, and Summary Activity.

Criterion	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Good	Exceptional
	D or < D Less than 70%	C 70 to 79%	B 80 to 89%	A 90 to 100%
Topics: Inclusion of topics appropriate for the assignment and use of qualitative and quantitative information appropriate for the topics	Paper does not include satisfactory discussion of the topics	Paper included a minimal presentation and discussion of assigned topics and appropriate supporting documentation	Paper included an appropriate presentation and discussion of assigned topics and appropriate supporting documentation	Paper provides an outstanding level of presentation and discussion of the topics
Learning and Comprehension: Demonstrate	Paper lacks a satisfactory understanding of the topic and/or	Paper demonstrates a moderate level of understanding of	Paper demonstrates a good level of understanding of	Paper demonstrates an outstanding level of

<p>understanding the topics including an ability to make an application of learning, Comprehend the topics by being able to express the topics in one's own words</p>	<p>inclusion of application of the topic to a management or business situation</p>	<p>the topic and/or inclusion of application of the topic to a management or business situation</p>	<p>the topic and/or inclusion of application of the topic to a management or business situation</p>	<p>understanding of the topic and/or inclusion of application of the topic to a management or business situation</p>
<p>Writing and paper process issues:</p> <p>Format using instructor's preferences from syllabus</p> <p>Style (APA)</p> <p>Organization</p> <p>Use of headings</p> <p>Use of tables, graphs, charts, maps, diagrams, etc. when appropriate</p> <p>Use of appendices when appropriate</p> <p>Provide a list of references and/or use of endnotes where appropriate to the assignment</p> <p>Proper grammar</p> <p>Spelling</p> <p>Appropriate use of words</p>	<p>Paper fails to meet guidelines of the instructor and/or has numerous grammatical and spelling errors and demonstrates a lack of use of organizational and presentation methods that can enhance the reader's ability to understand the paper.</p>	<p>Paper follows instructor's guidelines presented in the syllabus, has limited use of headings and other paper organizational methods to present the material. Paper has some grammar mistakes, misspelled and misused words</p>	<p>In addition to following the instructor's format guidelines presented in the syllabus, uses some headings and other paper organizational methods to present the material. Paper has limited grammar mistakes, misspelled and misused words</p>	<p>In addition to following the instructor's format guidelines and providing reader-oriented organization, the paper has virtually no grammatical or spelling errors and includes outstanding use of appropriate tables, graphs, etc.</p>

<p>Other specific instructions for the paper:</p> <p>Page or word length (maximums, minimums, and range)</p> <p>Due dates</p> <p>Use of drop box, email, or other methods to turn the work in</p>	<p>Student fails to get the paper in on time or has not met other instructions of the assignment referring to page length, and other issues.</p>	<p>Paper is turned in on time using the appropriate procedure and has followed the guidelines for length.</p>	<p>Paper is turned in on time using the appropriate procedure and has followed the guidelines for length and other instructions reasonably closely.</p>	<p>Paper is turned in on time using the appropriate procedure and has followed the guidelines for length.</p>
<p>Threaded Discussions:</p> <p>Discussions topics for this assignment will related to student papers and comments</p> <p>Posts should be original and unique, that is not be repetitive with other comments</p> <p>Replies should be meaningful and provide discussion beyond the "I agree" kind of statement</p>	<p>Student failed to make acceptable posts or replies as contributions to this discussion.</p>	<p>Student's posts and replies were of minimal quality for the level of work expected of a student at this level of their academic work.</p>	<p>Students should provide a moderate level of unique, original posts of reasonable quality and appropriate replies to the posts of other students for this assignment.</p>	<p>Student has demonstrated exceptional work with several high-quality, unique, original posts and replies.</p>

Appropriate use of words would include words that may not be caught by a spell checker but are incorrectly used. For example, using the word "aboard" when you mean "abroad" or using "then" when you are comparing something and should use "than".