



## HC 301: Global Research

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2023

### INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Brittney Yager  
Office Location: Prairie Crossing Main Office  
Office Hours: M-F 8-4:30 by appointment  
Office Phone: 903-468-3001  
Office Fax: NA  
University Email Address: Brittney.Yager@tamuc.edu  
Preferred Form of Communication: **Email**  
Communication Response Time: 1 business day

### COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

**Course Description:** The concept of globalization, as seen through various disciplines, will be presented, contrasted, and critiqued. Special focus is given to developing a research acumen to investigate global issues and problems. A series of group presentations addressing a global topic or issue will require students to apply globalization theories learned throughout the semester, working to increase students' awareness of global issues and events.

**Course Materials:** There are no required textbooks this could but it will require extensive outside reading and research. Additional handouts and readings may be provided in class and/or online.

**Additional Requirements:** Access to myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace) and work processing system, preferably Microsoft Word. Also, for presentation creation and record, I suggest familiarizing yourself with a presentation platform which also has audio/visual capabilities. Students have successfully used GoogleSlides, Canva and Loom in the past.

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## Course Description

### Student Learning Outcomes

1. The student will demonstrate global awareness by looking at issues from multiple perspectives and drawing conclusions for effective, culturally sensitive problem-solving.
2. The student will exhibit the ability to communicate clearly and effectively.
3. The student will apply critical thinking skills and reasoning to demonstrate continuous inquiry, problem-solving, and learning.
4. The student will understand the complexity of framing a global “problem” and the ethics, biases, cultural differences, and context which complicate forming effective solutions.

### What can you learn in this class & how will we accomplish it?

- **How to investigate and explore the multiple dimensions (and causations) of significant global “problems” through guided research with a group;**

Students will work in small groups to investigate a global event, issue, or trend, determining its context, current status, and perceived implications for the US. Additionally, students will consult a variety sources in doing so, learning to use credible sources while also discovering/anticipating biases in coverage.

- **Examine elements of your own identity and culture so you understand how you interact with identities and cultures other than your own;**

Students will participate in reflective and interactive learning to label, understand, and acknowledge elements of their identity and how it shapes their interaction with the world.

Students will engage in exercises that provide feedback about their level of global competence, identifying areas of strength and growth in cultivating positive working relationships with others.

- **How to develop and refine your independent research skills, specifically in your capacity to use effective reasoning and critical thinking;**

Students will work independently and with their group on the chosen research project outside of class, using available resources to gather information to contextualize and frame their global issue.

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**- How to access, gather, and synthesize complex information from a variety of sources and articulate your findings through oral and written means;**

Students will sift through collected information to form and support a general thesis statement for their topic. There is significant leniency in this process and room for students to take their project in a chosen direction.

Decision-making will occur at the group level and the group is responsible for prioritizing what is presented in their oral and written work.

Students will submit a written work (process paper) which outlines the group's progression towards their final work.

**- How to look at research (and the presentation of it) as a process of constant improvement and refinement**

Students will participate in regular opportunities to share their learning by presenting their work in various forms and to varying groups of people to refine their oral presentation skills and also learn how to strengthen an argument.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Instructional Methods**

Class will take various forms- from lectures to presentations to activities in and out of class. Students commit to being active participants regardless of the mode of instruction. Students should come to class ready to participate, both in terms of preparation as assigned work and attitude toward class and colleagues.

**Participation:** Students must attend all class sessions unless they are able to present a valid university-recognized excuse. Though ninety percent of life is showing up, we want honors students to demonstrate strength in the other ten percent: going the extra mile through active involvement and contribution to the class. You will be asked to stretch your comfort zones. Participation will be documented through in-class activities, reflections and discussions both in class and online through D2L. Participation will be measured through completing in and out of class activities. A detailed breakdown of assignments and grades will be posted in the D2L course shell.

**Group Presentations:** The majority of the semester will be spent in small groups conducting research on a chosen topic. Topics will center on a global issue to be investigated and presented

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to peers, colleagues, and university staff/faculty. The assignment will be broken down into several steps. Details of the project expectations and point distribution will be available as a separate assignment discussed in class and available through the online course shell.

Category	Item	Points
In-Class participation/Activities and Homework	Daily activities/participation	30 points overall
	Assessment completion	5 points
	Cultural Identity Essay	5 points
Out of class assignments	Group meetings, discussions in D2L, etc.	25
Global Research Projects	Presentation 1	10
	Presentation 2	15
	Presentation 3	20
	Process Paper	5
	Peer Evaluation	10
	<b>Total Points</b>	<b>125</b>

## GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

Total points corresponding to the final letter grades

A = 112-125 Points

B = 100-111 Points

C = 87-109 Points

D = 75-86 Points

F = 74 & > Points

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## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Students will need access to a word processor and printer to prepare all assignments in the course. Additionally, components of the course such as the gradebook and discussions, will take place in D2L Brightspace.

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers. However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products. Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed.

A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year. Note the following:

- Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.
- For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.
- The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

## LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

[https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser\\_support.htm](https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm)

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

## ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

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You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu).

**Note:** Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

## COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

### Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

### Course Specific Procedures/Policies

#### Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

### University Specific Procedures

#### Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

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Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

### **TAMUC Attendance**

Attendance is critical to the course, including in-class meetings as well as meeting you're your group outside of class time. Excessive absences will be addressed by the instructor to determine the student's ability to successfully complete the course. Students should not attend class when ill or after exposure to anyone with a communicable illness. Communicate such instances directly with your instructor. Faculty will work to support the student getting access to missed content or completing missed assignments.

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

### **Academic Integrity**

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

### **Students with Disabilities-- ADA 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

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provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

### **Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

### **Nondiscrimination Notice**

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

### **Campus Concealed Carry Statement**

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

### **A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health**

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by

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calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit [www.tamuc.edu/counsel](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)

## COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Week	Topic	Due
8/28	Introductions and Syllabus Review Current Events	<b>Current Events worksheet due 9/7</b>
9/4	House Activity and Review GCAA	<b>GCAA due 9/11</b>
9/11	What is good research? Research Topics	
9/18	Creating a presentation	
9/25	Sources and Citations	
10/2	Group Work and presentations	<b>Presentation One due (times to be assigned)</b>
10/9	Group Work and presentations	<b>Presentation One due (times to be assigned)</b>
10/16	Reviewing your GCAA	
10/23	Identities and Privilege	
10/30	Understanding Culture	
11/6	Circles of Myself and Stereotypes	<b>Cultural Identity Essay due</b>
11/13	Ethnocentrism - Village of 100	<b>Presentation #2 Due 11/12– upload to D2L in Discussion so peers can review</b>
11/20	Bringing it together – HC 301 and study abroad	<b>Peer evaluations due 11/21</b>
11/27	Presentation #3 / Thanksgiving Week	
12/4	Presentation #3	<b>Process Paper due 12/8</b>
12/11	Finals week – no meeting	

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