

College of San Mateo
Official Course Outline

1. COURSE ID: GBST 102 **TITLE:** Global Issues

Units: 3.0 units **Hours/Semester:** 48.0-54.0 Lecture hours; 96.0-108.0 Homework hours; 144.0-162.0 Total Student Learning hours

Method of Grading: Letter Grade Only

Recommended Preparation:

Eligibility for ENGL 100 or ENGL 105. GBST 101 with a minimum grade of C

2. COURSE DESIGNATION:

Degree Credit

Transfer credit: CSU; UC

AA/AS Degree Requirements:

CSM - GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS: E5b. Social Science

CSM - GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS: E5c. Humanities

CSU GE:

CSU GE Area D: SOCIAL SCIENCES: DSI - Social Institutions

IGETC:

IGETC Area 4: SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES: Social and Behavioral Sciences

3. COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

Catalog Description:

This course introduces students to the origins, current status, and future trends of major transnational issues confronting the global community. Topics can include population trends, economic development and inequality, basic human needs (for food, water health care), human rights, international conflict and security concerns, and environmental problems. The course also focuses on global governance, including the study of collective global responsibilities.

4. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME(S) (SLO'S):

Upon successful completion of this course, a student will meet the following outcomes:

1. Identify major recurring and emerging global issues
2. Examine and critically analyze one or more specific global problems of international or regional nature, and discuss approaches to its/their solution (from an international and ethical perspective)
3. Critically analyze the interconnections between and among global issues
4. Compare and evaluate the efficacy and ethics of national, regional, and international efforts to solve the problems associated with global issues

5. SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES:

Upon successful completion of this course, a student will be able to:

1. Identify major recurring and emerging global issues
2. Examine and analyze one or more specific global problems of international or regional nature, and discuss approaches to its/their solution (from an international perspective)
3. Analyze the interconnections between and among global issues
4. Compare and evaluate the efficacy of national, regional, and international efforts to solve the problems associated with global issues

6. COURSE CONTENT:

Lecture Content:

I. Introduction: identification and definition of global issues/problems and related concepts such as interconnectedness of people, places, ideas through converging processes of economic, political, technological, environmental and cultural change.

II. An interdisciplinary study and application of some combination of the following issues suggested below, organized by either themes or regions.

1. The study of global population, which includes the evolution of population growth and predictions of the future, and demographic trends, and/or migration, as well as the concept of carrying capacity.

2. The study of global governance, including, but not limited to, the study of global and regional IGOs (roles, background), the role of nation states, the role of NGOs, communities and individuals. The focus is on various political actors' policy powers and limits thereof and their role in addressing existing global problems/ issues.

3. The study of social development/ underdevelopment, including, but not limited to, economic growth, the global economy, global inequality and its connection to environment and indigenous population.
4. Study of topic(s) related to human needs, including all or some of the following: a) food b) water: c) health: d) energy e) access to resources f) technology
5. The study of environmental issues such as, problems related to deforestation, threats to biodiversity, climate change, the pollution of scarcity of water, air and soil.
6. The study of human rights and ethical behavior, focusing on existing international law and on violations of human rights. Topics addressed might include, but are not limited to, the study of the status of women, the use of child soldiers, the status of refugees, human trafficking, and modern-day slavery.
7. The study of current conflict and security related issues including, but not limited to, current ethnic and sectarian conflicts, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and the threat of terrorism, human- and drug-trafficking, and piracy.
8. The study of technology, including, but not limited to, the benefits and problems of new technologies, problems related to access/ inequality of access, and cybersecurity.

III. For all global issues/ problems, the focus will be the historical/ causal analysis of the problem and exploring and enacting solutions.

7. REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

Typical methods of instruction may include:

- A. Lecture
- B. Critique
- C. Directed Study
- D. Discussion
- E. Field Trips
- F. Guest Speakers
- G. Individualized Instruction

8. REPRESENTATIVE ASSIGNMENTS

Representative assignments in this course may include, but are not limited to the following:

Writing Assignments:

Regular essay writing to be assigned as part of the overall evaluation for the course.

Problem sets (logic exercises; about 20 to 40 problems per week, depending on difficulty).

Reading Assignments:

Readings will be assigned regularly for the text and may include additional articles or books. The majority of readings will be primary texts.

Reading Quizzes: To motivate students to do their reading on time, there will be occasional reading quizzes.

Other Outside Assignments:

Class Participation: Students are expected to participate in the classroom discussions. They are strongly encouraged to share their perspective with the rest of the class and to be respectful of other's points of view.

9. REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF EVALUATION

Representative methods of evaluation may include:

- A. Class Participation
- B. Class Performance
- C. Class Work
- D. Exams/Tests
- E. Final Performance
- F. Group Projects
- G. Homework
- H. Oral Presentation
- I. Papers
- J. Portfolios
- K. Projects
- L. Quizzes
- M. Written examination

10. REPRESENTATIVE TEXT(S):

Possible textbooks include:

- A. Smil, Vaclav. *Making the Modern World*, ed. Wiley-Blackwell, 2014

B. Kolbert, Elizabeth. *The Sixth Extinction*, ed. Holt, 2014

C. Harf, James E. and Mark Owen Lombardi (eds.). *Clashing Views on Global Issues*, 10th ed. McGraw-Hill, 2018

D. Ryan, Christopher. *Civilized to Death*, ed. Simon and Schuster, 2019

Origination Date: September 2022

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Course Originator: Jeremy Ball