

## ***Course Syllabus – The Global Economy***

### **Course Information**

Course number – GEOG 3370  
Course title – The Global Economy  
Term – Spring 2013  
Section – 001  
Classroom – GR 2.530  
Time – Monday/Wednesday, 11:30 am-12:45 pm

### **Professor Contact Information**

Name – Dr. Irina Vakulenko  
Phone number – 972-883-6718  
Email – [ivakulenko@utdallas.edu](mailto:ivakulenko@utdallas.edu) (best way to contact me)  
Office location – GR 3.213  
Office hours – Tuesday/ Thursday 10:00 -11:00 am; by appointment

### **Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions**

There are no formal prerequisites for this course. General academic skills of analytical thinking, comparison, essay writing, working with statistical material, map reading will be helpful. Previous coursework in Economics or Introduction to World Geographic Regions is not essential but definitely helpful for this course. If you have not taken either of these please let me know.

### **Course Description**

This course offers an overview of various aspects of global economy within the field of economic geography and its linkages to related issues of resources, development, international business and trade. It investigates the phenomenon of globalization and seeks to provide understanding of today's increasingly interdependent world. Geographers are interested in examining the difference location makes to how economic activity is organized as globalization makes small differences among places increasingly important. This course recognizes that economy cannot be treated separately from other domains of social studies so such topics as political economic theories and models, historical context, consumption trends, role of telecommunications, and others will be discussed.

### **Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes**

Students will learn fundamentals regarding the dynamics of the global economy and a basic understanding of the evolution of spatial organization theory. They will explore characteristics of capitalist economies; examine economic causes of population change and new trends in urban sprawl, human modification of environment and impact of mass consumption, role play location decisions of firms and reveal geographic organization of corporations. The students will appreciate the effects of agricultural practices on the land, recent global shifts in manufacturing, growth of service sector, innovations in transport and communications. Map reading and making will be reinforced.

### **Required Textbooks and Materials**

The World Economy: Geography, Business, Development, 6th Edition by F.P. Stutz and B. Warf, Pearson Prentice Hall, 2012. ISBN-13; 978-0-321-72250-8.

### Suggested Course Materials

Students are expected to take notes during PowerPoint presentations and complete assignments before due dates. Lecture material shall be complimented by reading the appropriate chapters in the book. It is suggested that students make it a daily habit to read a reputable daily newspaper online or in print. This will help relate learning with contemporary events and provide deeper understanding into class material. I would also suggest that the students read the book titled “The World is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-First Century, Release 3.0” by Thomas Friedman, 2007.

### 3370 Assignments & Academic Calendar

#	Class Date	Topic	Chapter
1	1/14/13	Introduction to Global Economy Course: Geographic Perspectives.	Chapter 1
2	1/16/13	Globalization and Problems in World Development.	Chapter 1
3	1/23/13	Historical Development of Capitalism: Emergence and Nature. Industrial Revolution.	Chapter 2
4	1/28/13	Colonialism. Historiography of Conquest. Cultural Westernization.	Chapter 2
5	1/30/13	Theoretical Considerations. Factors of Location. Alfred Weber and Location Theory.	Chapter 5
6	2/4/13	Principals of Scale Economics, Product and Business Cycles, Geographic Organization of Corporations.	Chapter 5
7	2/6/13	Test 1 – 20% of final grade	
8	2/11/13	Demography: Population Change and Structure. Demographic Transition Theory.	Chapter 3
9	2/13/13	Migration and The Gravity Model. Population Distribution.	Chapter 3
10	2/18/13	Types of Resources and Their Limits. Resources and Population. Expanding Resource Base and Intensifying Productivity.	Chapter 4
11	2/20/13	Energy Resources: Production, Consumption, Alternatives. Human Modification of Environment.	Chapter 4
12	2/25/13	Agriculture. Land Use and Industrialization of Agriculture. Systems of Agricultural Production. Farming in North America.	Chapter 6
13	2/27/13	The Nature of Manufacturing. Manufacturing in the United States. Globalization of Manufacturing.	Chapter 7
14	3/4/13	Fordism and Flexible Manufacturing. Information Technologies as a Part of Manufacturing Economic Activity. New Emphasis on Manufacturing in US Economic Strategy.	Chapter 7
15	3/6/13	Test 2 – 20% of final grade	
16	3/18/13	Services and Forces Driving their Growth. Labor Characteristics: Intensity, Composition, Education.	Chapter 8
17	3/20/13	Producer and Consumer Services. Financial Services: Components, Regulations, Location, Technologies. Tourism.	Chapter 8

18	3/25/13	Transportation Networks in Historical Perspective. Transportation Costs and Policy. Personal Mobility in the United States.	Chapter 9
19	3/27/13	Other Components of Infrastructure. Telecommunications and Geography. Impacts of Information Technologies.	Chapter 9
20	4/1/13	Cities as Reflection of Economic Development: from First Cities to Global Cities. Intraurban Spatial Organization.	Chapter 10
21	4/3/13	Urban Hierarchy. Sprawling Metropolis and Problems of the U.S. City. Global Cities. Urban Sustainability.	Chapter 10
22	4/8/13	Theoretical Perspective on Consumption. Geographies of Consumption. Environmental Dimensions of Consumption.	Chapter 11
23	4/10/13	Test 3 – 20% of final grade	
24	4/15/13	Notions of Comparative and Competitive Advantage. International Money and Capital Markets.	Chapter 12
25	4/17/13	Fairness of Free Trade. Barriers to International Trade and Regional Economic Integration. Lessons of Globalization.	Chapter 12
26	4/22/13	World Patterns of Trade. Role of The USA in the Global Trade. Emerging Markets and Global Trade Flows.	Chapter 13
27	4/24/13	Measurements and Geography of Economic Development. Major Theories: Modernization, Dependency, and World Systems.	Chapter 13, 14
28	4/29/13	Characteristic Problems of Developed and Underdeveloped Countries. Development Strategies.	Chapter 14
29	5/1/13	Review for the final exam.	Essay is due - 20% of final grade.
30	5/13/13	Final Exam – 11 am, 20% of final grade Perfect attendance and a perfect set of notes – 1 bonus point toward your Final Grade. Class participation by offering <u>productive</u> comments and <u>knowledgeable</u> insights is encouraged by 1 bonus point.	

### Grading Policy

You are required to complete all the assignments. Average of Test 1 and Test 2 will make your Midterm Grade to be posted on **March 9, 2013**. Each of 3 tests is 20% of total grade. Essay\* is due on **May 1, 2013** (20% of total grade). Detailed essay information can be found on e-learning.

The Final Exam on **May 13, 2013** will make other 20% of your grade. All graded material will be assigned a numerical value on a scale of 100. Letter Grades are given as follows: 97% and over A+; 93% to 96% A ; 90% to 92% A- ; 87% to 89% B+; 83% to 86% B; 80% to 82% B- ; 77% to 79% C+; 73% to 76% C ; 70% to 72% C- ; 67% to 69% D+ ; 63% to 66% D ; 60% to 62% D; Less than 60% F.

\* Essay requirement can be substituted by a 10 minutes PowerPoint presentation on a class related topic as a case study illustration of a general concept discussed that day. A presentation option MUST be discussed on an individual basis in advance to comply with the curriculum and be assigned a specific date. The PowerPoint presentation requires instructor's approval at least the night before to be allowed in class. On many occasions changes or improvements maybe required so last minute requests will not be granted.

### **Course & Instructor Policies**

Attendance is crucial for the successful learning and will be taken each class period. Many of my lectures and our discussions will include materials not found in the text. As a result a good set of class notes will be extremely helpful if you plan excelling in this course. To claim a bonus point for classroom work you need to have a perfect set of notes covering every topic discussed. If you missed a class the notes should be made as you read the assigned chapter in the book.

No makeup tests. (Individual consideration may be given in case of overwhelming circumstances). Although extra help may be provided to students, the professor will not hold alternate lectures or release lecture notes to students. Respectful discussions of the topics being studied are encouraged.

If you wish to look at the ancillary syllabus material, a link to that material is as follows  
<http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>.

***These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.***