Is globalization sustainable—economically, politically, socially, culturally, environmentally? This is at the heart of many debates about trends in the world today and where we are going in the future. The answers will determine the fate of each of us, individually and as part of different groups and nations.

Globalization is a process of growing interdependence and interconnectedness at a world scale. Throughout the course, I will challenge you to think about the dimensions of globalization and their links to key sustainability concepts. This course explores the issues from an interdisciplinary perspective, with emphasis on the social sciences.

We meet once a week in lecture class, and then divide into smaller discussion sections. BSGC101 is the first in a two-course sequence. It fulfills the General Education requirement for I-Series and Distributive Studies—History and Social Sciences.

Learning Objectives
--define and identify key characteristics of globalization
--identify the elements of sustainability and how they are related to globalization
--recognize major sources of debate stemming from differences in how groups and countries experience globalization and value sustainability
--understand your place in the world with respect to the impact of globalization
How Will You Approach This Course?
Some of you know a lot about world affairs, while others are less knowledgeable. We aim to help you develop a stronger background on the causes and character of globalization, while introducing you to foundational concepts and approaches. You should identify where you stand in relation to the course material, using the following categories as a guide. We want to move everyone from the first category to the last during this semester.

**Snack**
You need to learn the basics of globalization—key terms, major actors and events—but need to take it in small bites in order not to be over-whelmed. “Snackers” tend to look at the readings and professor as mutually reinforcing, telling the same story, and providing the key facts to learn. They are concerned with the WHAT of things. The course provides this basic introduction, but also challenges this way of thinking. Be prepared.

**Dine**
You understand the basics of globalization and are familiar with current events. You have studied this in high school, or explored it on your own. You are ready to savor a more complex array of concepts, facts, and theories. “Diners” notice contradictions in the readings and lectures, and respectfully critique them through debate in class or in exams and assignments. They want to know the WHY and HOW of things.

**Cook**
You know about globalization and current events, and are aware of the competing arguments. You seek alternative interpretations and sources. You want to know how to gather and assess evidence to come to your own conclusions. You don't want to taste others' creations—you want to develop your own. "Cooks" do not see the course's structure or content as fixed or authoritative. They wonder about GAPS, new THEORIES, and EVIDENCE.

**Course Material**
The textbook for the course is available at the University Book Center. Other required readings, videos, and websites are listed on the syllabus and available online at [www.elms.umd.edu](http://www.elms.umd.edu)

**What is ELMS?** The University uses the ELMS course management system, based on the Canvas platform, as a way to collect all your courses, assignments, readings, and grades in one location. Go to [www.elms.umd.edu](http://www.elms.umd.edu) to login, and look at the Quick Guides there to help you get started. You can set up the Notifications for the course to go to your university email address, another email address, or texted to your phone.
Course Requirements
We have more details posted on ELMS!

**Participation** (100 points)—Quality and quantity of contributions to class discussion reflecting understanding of reading material and lectures.

**Global news discussion postings** (100 points)—weekly posting of relevant news, with comments.

**Mapping Globalization wiki project** (200 points)—Group investigation of globalization through analysis of interconnection and interdependence; create a wiki on ELMS to share your work.

**ICONS simulation** (100 points)—Collaborative online simulation of a negotiation over responses to globalization; group background and position report; individual post-simulation assessment.

**Experiential** (100 points)—attend a relevant event, field trip, or other experience and write a reflection paper on it.


**Final exam** (250 points)—Final essay addressing questions about globalization, including use of key terms, concepts and theories.

**Notice about Late Work**
All assignments, papers, and presentations must be turned in by the deadline listed in the syllabus. Work turned in after the deadline without an extension will be marked down 5 points for each day late.
Course Policies

Attendance
All students are expected to attend both lectures and discussion section. University policy excuses absences due to illness, religious observance, official University activities, and circumstances beyond your control. Let us know in advance if you will miss a class and provide a signed note explaining why. If you are ill during a major grading event (e.g., an exam or presentation) or experience prolonged illness you must provide official documentation from your medical caregiver.

We are happy to make alternative arrangements for those who will miss class due to religious observances. If you have a disability documented by University Disability Support Services, we are happy to make arrangements to accommodate you. Let us know within the first two weeks of the semester of any planned absences or need for accommodation.

Technology
Electronic devices can be great tools for information retrieval and communication …but if misused they can be disruptive to your classmates and undermine your concentration. Therefore, you are not allowed to use electronic devices in class unless we explicitly request it.

Doing your own Work
You must do your own work! If you use ideas and information that someone else developed, you must acknowledge the source. I do not tolerate cheating on exams or assignments. If you are caught, you will be referred immediately to the Student Honor Council. For a guide to how to avoid plagiarism, see http://www.lib.umd.edu/ues-guides/academic-integrity

For a guide to the Student Honor Council, see http://studenthonorcouncil.umd.edu

Need Help?

Come talk with us!
Or use the many campus resources available for you:

McKeldin Library—Libraries are not just for coffee! The librarians want to help you with your research, and are standing by to help. The social sciences librarian is Judith Markowitz judym@umd.edu and the main website is www.lib.umd.edu
Be sure to get familiar with online searches of the library’s resources!

Learning Assistance Center—The LAC provides a variety of services to help you succeed academically, including time management, reading and math learning skills, note-taking, and others. Contact them at 2202 Shoemaker Building, 301-314-7693.

Peer Tutoring—Get help by going to Wiseguy.com to find other students who can help you.

The Counseling Center—If you are struggling to adjust to college life, or are dealing with personal problems that appear to be overwhelming, do not hesitate to ask for help—you are not alone. Please feel free to contact them at their office in the Shoemaker Building or at 301-314-7651. See http://www.counseling.umd.edu/
The HELP Center provides counseling and advice from your peers at 301-314-4357.

Emergency closures:
If campus closes due to an emergency such as a snow day, we will make up class through online notes, video lectures, and/or special assignments.
Organization of the Course

UNIT ONE: Is Globalization Sustainable?

**Read for today:** Rawlings, “College is not a Commodity” Washington Post

9/4 Discussion: How globally aware are you? Introductions, course overview. How to read for critical understanding. Setting up ELMS [www.elms.umd.edu](http://www.elms.umd.edu) 
**Read:** Ian Goldin, “Navigating our Global Future” TED Talk 2009 [https://www.ted.com/talks](https://www.ted.com/talks)

**Read:** Mann, The Real Story of Globalization

9/11 Discussion: Is the world flat? Definitions and evidence/ measures of globalization. Convergence or divergence/ race to the bottom or the top. 
**Do:** Select groups for Mapping Globalization assignment in class 
**Read:** Friedman, The World is Flat Naim, Think Again—Globalization 
**View:** Ghemawat, Actually it’s Not (TEDGlobal Talk) How to Survive the Zombie Apocalypse and Group Projects [http://teamwork.umn.edu/](http://teamwork.umn.edu/)

9/16 Lecture: Does technology make the world more or less sustainable? Defining sustainability. Technological innovation and globalization. Uneven information access, social media and sustainable development. 
**Due:** Draft data for mapping globalization assignment. 
**Read:** Castells, Information Technology and Social Development

**Read:** Kendall/ Voorhies, The Mobile-Finance Revolution
UNIT TWO: Globalization and Politics—Is the state and its borders relevant any more?


Due: Draft mapping globalization report—upload to Assignments
Read: Freeland, The Rise of the New Global Elite

Read: New Wars and Human Security: An Interview with Mary Kaldor

10/2 Discussion: How globalized is the world? Comparing countries.
Due: Mapping globalization assignment—presentation and report.

UNIT THREE: Globalization and Economics—How did markets become integrated?

10/7 Lecture: Why free trade and not protectionism? The great debate, historical development, and globalization.
Video: wetheneconomy.com “Globalization...Who Cares? You do"

Do: Assign roles for simulation exercise.
View: Fear the Boom and Bust http://econstories.tv/fear-the-boom-and-bust/

Read: Sukhdal, “Putting a Price on Nature”
10/16 Discussion: Why protect farmers from free trade?
Food security and national security
Case study: Botswana
**Do:** Simulation preparation.
**Read:** IFPRI, Globalization of Food and Agriculture

10/21 Lecture: Are corporations the main winners in globalization?
Multinational corporations and the supply chain revolution.
Race to the bottom or race to the top.
**Read:** Gereffi, The Rise of Wal-Mart

10/23 Discussion: Are corporations too big?
Corporate concentration and political/market power.
Sustainability of corporate globalization.
**Due:** Pre-simulation group Position Document due.
Individual Position Document due.
**Read:** Berne, Agropoly
**View:** PBS, “Poisoned Waters” (excerpt)

10/28 Lecture: What caused the Great Recession of 2008?
Financial interdependence and the “butterfly effect.”
**Read:** Economist, Crash Course

10/30 Discussion: What can we do about globalization?
**Do:** Group Project—Simulation part I

11/4 Lecture: Has globalization increased human development?
Definition and measures of human development.
Definitions and measures of sustainable development
**Read:** UNDP, “Human Development Report 2014”
UN, “New Sustainable Development Goals”

11/6 Discussion: Negotiating globalization
**Do:** Group project—Simulation Part II
**Due:** Simulation report.

**UNIT FOUR: Globalization, Identity and Governance—What happens to our identities under global pressures? Can or should we try to manage the world?**

11/11 Lecture: Are we creating a truly global society?
Homogenization, hybridization, and global values.
Definitions and concepts of global citizenship.
Evidence from trends in public opinion and cultural exchange.
**Read:** Cowen, The Fate of Culture
11/13 Discussion: Is intercultural conflict inevitable under global pressures? 
Defining and identifying cultures. 
Structure and agency. 
**Due:** Post-simulation assessment and reflection. 
**Read:** Huntington, The Clash of Civilizations

11/18 Lecture: Does globalization empower opposition to globalization? 
Transnational activist network, the “boomerang.” 
Anti-globalization movement and the case of food sovereignty. 
**Read:** Holt-Giménez, Food Movements Unite

11/20 Discussion: Is homogenization the same as Americanization? 
Evidence for and against American cultural dominance. 
Cosmopolitan individuals and national identity. 
**Read:** Appiah, The Case for Contamination

Trends in the movement of people. 
Drivers of emigration and displaced people. 
**Read:** Collier, “Now is the Time to Slow Down Immigration”

11/27 THANKSGIVING BREAK

12/2 Lecture: Should we create a global government? 
The externalities of globalization and the global commons. 
Global government, regional integration, and self-regulation. 
**Read:** ISN The Global Commons—Regulate or Self-Regulate?

12/4 Discussion: Globalization and food part I 
**Due:** Individual food globalization policy paper due. 
**Do:** Group presentations

12/9 Lecture: Is it possible to develop a global ethic? 
Local and global ethical requirements for justice. 
Distance, difference and an ethic of care—the monkeysphere. 
**Read:** Ignatieff, Reimagining a Global Ethic

12/11 Discussion: Globalization and food part 2 
Group presentations 
Where do we go from here? Problems and possibilities for the future.

**Final Exam**