I. Basic Course Information
   A. Course Number and Title: **SOCI-208 Introduction to Global Studies**
   B. Date of Proposal: **October 2006**
   C. Sponsoring Department: **Humanities, Social Sciences and Education**
   D. Semester Credit Hours: **3**
   E. Weekly Contact Hours: Lecture: **3**
                               Laboratory: **0**
   F. Prerequisites: **Any one of the following: Introduction to Sociology, International Relations, Cultural Anthropology, World Civilization II, America 1877 to Present, or America Since 1945**
   G. Laboratory Fees: **None**

II. Catalog Description
    This course will introduce students to global studies by examining a number of global issues, which will include (1) national security, nuclear proliferation and interventionism, (2) war, political violence, and militarism, (3) trade and natural resources, (4) democracy and democratization, (5) global stratification and (6) sustainable development and scarce resources. An underlying theme in the course is the concept of globalization since the end of World War II. Theories and concepts will form a framework for analyzing the transformations of institutional systems, social structures and environmental contexts at global, national and local levels.

III. Statement of Course Need
    This course will provide students with an introduction to global issues with an emphasis on globalization and its consequences. Today, students are confronted with a shrinking global village characterized by rapid social change and serious social, political, religious, environmental, and ethical challenges. The course is designed to help equip students with increased global awareness, knowledge and ability to adapt to these changes and to make a contribution in this changing world. This course directly addresses the RVCC general education goal of having student develop a global perspective on problems and issues that humankind faces.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum
    • General Education Elective (Social Science)
    • Satisfied Diversity Requirement

V. Outline of Course Content
    This course focuses on:
    • Defining globalization
    • The modern world and the global system: the Cold War and the Third World (1945-1989)
    • “New World Order” and the Third World (1989-present)
• Ethnocentrism and global problems
• Global stratification
• Economic systems: markets and exchange in local, national and global contexts
• Development and trade
• Political and social organization: forms of governance
• Democracy and democratization
• Technologies: power sources and technological systems
• Environment: consumption and sustainable development
• Population: growth and migrations
• Resource allocation
• Consumption and the environment
• National security and interventionism, nuclear proliferation, war and political violence
• Anti-globalization responses

VI. Educational Goals and Learning Outcomes

General Education Goals

Students will:
2) analyze data comparing selected characteristics of nations (G. E. 2, G. E. 3, G. E. 5, G. E. 6, G. E. 7)

Student Learning Outcomes

Student will be able to:
1) distinguish among the various theories and concepts of global issues;
2) identify political, economic and social issues within various global contexts;
3) critically evaluate interventions to improve Third world conditions;
4) identify and critically analyze ethical dilemmas in global issues;
5) demonstrate the capacity to express ideas clearly, coherently, and grammatically in oral and written forms.

VII. Modes of Teaching and Learning

- lecture/discussion
- small-group work
• independent study

VIII. Papers, Examinations, and other Assessment Instruments
Assessment methods may consist of:
• reflection papers
• in-class group activities
• project or term paper
• midterm and final examinations
• participation in class discussions

IX. Grade Determinants
In order to evaluate achievement of the goals and outcomes listed above, possible grade determinants may be:
• In-class activities
• Examinations
• Class participation
• Term paper or research project

X. Texts and Materials

Suggested Textbooks


Other Readings


Web sources
XI. Resources

- library resources (additional books focusing on globalization and on selected topics)
- films
- CATT room for classroom instruction