

**INTER AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO
GUAYAMA CAMPUS
EDUCATION, SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANISTIC STUDIES**

GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

Syllabus

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Course Title	: GLOBAL SOCIETY
Code Number	: GEHS 3020
Credits	: Three (3)
Professor	:
Hours of office	:
Telephone of office	:
Email	:

II. DESCRIPTION

The course will study issues of global society and its components, from the economic, political and sociological perspectives. The course will also address discussion and analysis of concepts and arguments for or against the globalization movement. The discussion will provide the student with a better understanding of the challenges and problems of the contemporary world.

III. OBJETIVES

1. To identify the fundamental sociological, political and economic theories involved in the study of society.
2. To explain social life in relation to the role played by the political systems, based on their economic and cultural arrangements.
3. To understand and explain the basic political ideologies and organizations as per their complexities and sociopolitical arrangements.
4. To understand, explain and analyze different forms of economic organization and their impact in the social order.
5. To understand, explain and analyze the basic characteristics of a global system, from a comparative perspective.
6. To define Global Society.
7. To analyze specific problems and challenges of today's Global Society.

IV. COURSE CONTENT

A. Basic Concepts

1. Social Life – people, culture; citizenship, nationality, language, political activity, social life.
2. Global Society – political systems, global communication, economic interdependence and political, industrial and post-industrial.
3. Institutions – political parties, civil organizations, universities, church, family, courts, corporations.
4. Social organization - modes of production and procurement of food, social stratification and minorities, technology; failed political and economic systems.
5. Social change – causes natural or managed

B. Perspectives on Social Analysis

1. Fundamental ideas of social analysis - sociological, political, and economic.

C. Vision of the Global Society

1. Sociological perspective

- a. Fundamental questions: What is society? How and why is made? What are its basic institutions?
- b. Basics concepts: society, groups, system, culture, subculture, social change, religion, language.

2. Political Perspective

- a. Fundamental questions: What is government? How does it work? Who constitute the government?
- b. Basics concepts: government, state, nation, power, authority, ideology, representative government.

3. Economic perspective:

a. Fundamental Questions: What is economics? What needs to be produce and in what quantities? What kind of economic systems success or fail?

b. Basics concepts: means of production, distribution, capital, international markets, economic organizations, international trade, market failures, equality, efficiency, and privatization.

D. Challenges and Problems of Global Society: Case Studies Examples

1. Environment: management and conservation of natural resources, sustainable economic development, pollution, public policy.
2. Urban development: concentration, planning, population flow, growth vertical / horizontal.
3. Population: migration, population aging, population growth, population policy.
4. Social Justice: inequalities, the poor, discrimination based on age, gender, ethnicity, disability and / or mental, economic and political instability.
5. Science, Technology and Society: internet, human resources, capital resources, tools.
6. Colonialism and nations: nation-state, identity, ethnic conflict, economic dependence and political.
7. Fundamental human rights universal declaration.

V. **ACTIVITIES**

1. Forums
2. Debates
3. Case studies

VI. **EVALUATION**

- | | |
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| 1. Midterm Exam..... | 30% |
| 2. (5) Written assignments..... | 30% |
| 3. Final Exam or Paper..... | 30% |
| 4. Class assistance and participation..... | 10% |

VII. SPECIAL NOTES

A. Special assistance

Rights of students with disabilities – In accordance with **Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Law**, the Inter American University of Puerto Rico will be providing reasonable and necessary accommodation to the degree that is possible for students with disabilities so that they can participate in academic life in the same manner that other students without disabilities are able to participate.

B. Plagiarism policy

All students should read the *Student Regulations Handbook* to become familiar with the possible sanctions you are exposed to when you do not comply with its regulations. Following is the link:

Plagiarism, dishonesty, fraud, and any other type of manipulation or inappropriate behavior related with academic performance are unacceptable in our institution. Disciplinary actions will be taken on students found guilty of such practice as established in Chapter V, Article 1, Section B.2 of the Students' Rules and Regulations Handbook.

http://www.inter.edu/documentos/pdf/reg_est_eng_08.pdf

Inter has very strict regulations regarding plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of others without giving proper credit), so it is important that you specifically read Chapter 5, Section B.2.a. This section clearly explains what plagiarism is. In addition, it explains the types of sanctions students are exposed to when they commit it.

C. Electronic devices

All electronic devices, including cell phones, can interrupt teaching, learning or alter environmental conditions that lead to academic excellence. In order to guarantee maximum learning conditions, electronic devices are prohibited during exams.

D. Compliance with the Provisions of Title IX

The Federal Higher Education Act, as amended, prohibits discrimination because of sex in any academic, educational, extracurricular, and athletic activity or in any other program or function, sponsored or controlled by a higher education institution, whether or not it is conducted within or outside the property of the institution, if the institution receives federal funds.

In harmony with the current federal regulation, in our academic unit an Assistant Coordinator of Title IX has been designated to offer assistance and orientation in relation to any alleged incident constituting discrimination because of sex or gender, sexual harassment or sexual aggression. The Assistant Coordinator can be reached

by phone at _____, extension _____, or by e-mail
_____.

The Normative Document titled **Norms and Procedures to Deal with Alleged Violations of the Provisions of Title IX** is the document that contains the institutional rules to direct any complaint that appears to be this type of allegation. This document is available in the Web site of Inter American University of Puerto Rico (www.inter.edu).

VIII. EDUCATIONALS RESOURCES

Text Books

1. Bender, Lynn-Darrell. *Global Society- Framework for Study*. San Juan. Publicaciones Puertorriqueñas, 2003, 156 pags.
2. Shively, W. Phillips. *Power and Choice: An Introduction to Political Science*. 11th Ed. McGraw-Hill, 2008, 464 pags.

Brown Lester, *Full Planet Empty Plates: The New Geopolitics of Food Scarcity*, Norton New York (2012).

United Nations, “*Human Development Report 2013*”, New York (2013).

Jared Diamond, “*Guns, Germs and Steel*” Norton, New York (1997) (2005).

Jared Diamond. “*Collapse*”, Viking, New York (2005).

Meier, Gerlad y Rauch, James, *Leading Issues in Economic Development*, 7th Ed. Oxford University Press, New York (2000).

Del la Porta Donatella y Keating, Michael, *Approaches and Methodologies in the Social Sciences*, Cambridge University Press, New York (2008).

Worldwatch Institute, *State of the World 2013: Is Sustainability still Possible?* Island Press Washington (2013).

Randers, Jorgen, *2052: A Global Forecast for the Next Forty Years*, Chelsea Green Publishing, Vermont (2012).

A. Internet

Santiago García Echevarria, La globalización de la economía como motor de cambio económico-social y empresarial,
<http://dspace.uah.es/dspace/bitstream/handle/10017/9787/La%20Globalizaci%c3%b3n%20de%20la%20Econom%c3%ada.pdf?sequence=1>

Francisco Mochón Morcillo, Globalización: Retos de cara al futuro,
<http://externos.uma.es/cuadernos/pdfs/pdf613.pdf>

Leonardo Granato y Nahuel Oddone, Estado y sociedad en las relaciones internacionales contemporáneas: evolución y transformaciones, <http://www.eumed.net/rev/sg/03/go.htm>

Politika. Revista de Ciencias Sociales, Glocalización, estrategias globales y estrategias locales,
<http://www.hegoa.ehu.es/dossierra/DHL/Glocalizacion,estrategiasglobales.pdf>

Naciones Unidas, CEPAL, Globalización y desarrollo: Desafíos de Puerto Rico frente al siglo XXI, <http://www.eclac.org/publicaciones/xml/3/20443/L646-1.pdf>

B. Internet

ONU: <http://www.un.org> UNESCO:
<http://www.unesco.org> UNICEF:
<http://unicef.org>

International Monetary Fund: <http://www.imf.org/external/spa/index.htm>

The New York Times: <http://www.nytimes.com>
<http://www.clacso>.