PIEDMONT COLLEGE

Course Name: Global Issues
Course Prefix and Number: POSC 4405
Section: ONL01
Term: Spring 2020
Class Time & Place: Online Only (Canvas)
Campus: Online

Course Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): None

Course Description: This is an interdisciplinary course focusing on the interplay of cultural, economic, environmental, political and social factors in global issues and problems. Topics to be examined may include the present and future state of life on Earth, natural resource issues, economic and social development, and world conflict and peace.

Course Credit Hours: 3

Instructor Name: K. Anne Watson (Annie)
Instructor Email Address: kwatson@piedmont.edu
Office: NA
Office Phone: NA
Office Hours: By appointment

Textbook & Class Materials: None (all materials will be provided on Canvas)

Student Learning Outcomes: By the end of this course, students will be able to…
- Define globalization and identify its positive and negative effects.
- Identify key international actors, both state and non-state, as well as key motivating principles in international affairs.
- Identify the role that identities play in international political issues.
- Connect the practices of democracy, good governance, and respect for human rights.
- Understand key global economic trends, actors, and activities and discuss how these trends create winners and losers around the world.
- Identify current and upcoming challenges and opportunities for global health, energy, and the environment.

- Discuss common sources of movement for people around the world, including smuggling, human trafficking, and refugee flows, and identify the challenges these pose for global governance and protection.
- Propose viable solutions for today's global challenges.
- Thoroughly explore how a single product can experience or exhibit a wide range of global issues.

Minimum Technology Requirements for Online or Hybrid Courses:

Minimum technology requirements for online and hybrid courses may be found by clicking "Technology Requirements" on the Distance Learning page of the Piedmont College website available at the following URL: https://www.piedmont.edu/distance-learning

---

Grading Scale: Grades will be calculated on the classic scale, from 0 to 100 points, with letter grades ranging from A to F.

Letter Grade	Points
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	0-59

Grading System:

Points Summary
- Quizzes (5 points each for 45 points)
- Discussion posts (3 points each for 27 points)
- Research project (28 points, in stages)

Quizzes (5 points each for 45 points)

There will be a quiz for each module of the class, as well as a syllabus quiz. Each quiz will cover the material of the module for which it was assigned; this includes any videos, readings, and other content included in the module. Quizzes have 10 to 20 multiple choice questions and will be graded automatically by Canvas. There is a 30-minute time limit for 10-question quizzes, a 35-minute time limit for 15-question quizzes, and a 45-minute time limit for 20-question quizzes. Plan accordingly. These quizzes must be completed by the closing date of the module for which they are assigned.

The syllabus quiz is due January 10th by 11:59pm.

Discussion Posts (3 points each for 27 points)

Each module also requires the completion of a discussion post after taking the module quiz. You should type these assignments directly into the dialogue box provided for the discussion board, **not** upload it as a Word document or other type of file. Most of these assignments require you to refer to course materials, but some will refer you to other materials, and most will also require you to gather sources of your own. While you may write using the first person, these are to be treated as formal academic writing assignments. Refer to the rubrics on the associated discussion boards for the grading criteria. **You are required to include proper citations—in-text AND in a works cited list in these posts for credit.** These posts must be completed by the closing date of the module for which they are assigned. These are not graded automatically by Canvas; I will post your grades for these before the next module closes.

Your introductory post must be completed by January 10th at 11:59pm.

Research Project (28 points, in stages)

Over the course of the semester, each student will complete a research project, which will be submitted in pieces. Students will pick one thing from their daily lives—a food product, a form of technology, a particular kind of media, etc.—and answer the question, "Why is/are _____ a global issue?" The final paper will be 7-8 pages and follow the outline of the semester's topics. Individual pieces will be turned in as the last piece of each of the module grades. Refer the assignment on Canvas (as well as the example provided there) for further instructions. These also have to be graded by hand; I will return grades and feedback for these before the next module closes.

The final draft of the research project is due to the appropriate folder on Canvas by 11:59pm on May 5th.

Attendance Policy: This is an asynchronous online course, which means there are no set times when you have to be available to "join" the class. You schedule your own hours to complete the course requirements by the dates given. The course consists of eight modules. All assignments for a module are due by the time they close. **Once a module is closed, there will be no opportunity to make up incomplete work, so be sure to plan ahead and leave yourself enough time.** All of the modules will be open at the beginning of class, and you may work as far in advance of the due dates as you would like.

Make-up Policy: Again, all of the assignments are available to students as soon as the course opens. Once the modules close, no make-up work will be allowed. Plan for this in advance.

Class Policies:

Academic Honesty

Academic integrity is a core value of institutions of higher learning. It is your responsibility to avoid plagiarism, cheating, and dishonesty. To qualify the application of the academic honesty in this course: quizzes should be entirely your own work with no assistance from anyone else; papers and discussion posts should also be your own work (though you may ask others for suggestions). Any material drawn from other sources should be properly cited. Lack of knowledge of the academic honesty policy is not a reasonable explanation for a violation. Questions related to course assignments and the academic honesty policy should be directed to the instructor.

Class Discussion and Debate

Political debates and discussions can become quite heated. This passion is part of what makes the study of politics fun. However, the fun ends where personal attacks and disrespect begin. All students are expected to be courteous and considerate of their classmates. Disrespectful language and personal attacks will not be tolerated.

Communicating with the Instructor

My primary method of communicating with you will be through e-mail. You have each been assigned an email address by the college and will be held responsible for regularly checking this account. Assignment changes, important dates, and other valuable information may be sent to this account over the course of the term. Please check it daily. I do my best to answer e-mails sent to me within 24 hours (but rarely answer e-mails at night or on weekends). If you would like to meet in person to discuss the class, I am happy to make an appointment with you.

Changes to the Syllabus

The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations by the instructor may be necessary. As such, I reiterate the absolute necessity that you regularly check your e-mail.

Course Outline:

The course consists of 8 modules. All assignments for a module are due by the time that module closes (every other Friday night at 11:59pm). **Once a module has closed, there will be no opportunity to make up incomplete work from that module, so be sure to allocate yourself sufficient time to complete all of your assignments.**

As you begin to explore the course, remember that each module represents two weeks of work in an in-person course. Imagine a Monday, Wednesday, Friday class. That's three hours of lecture/class time, with one or two associated hours of homework for each day of class, as well as time spent working on an ongoing term project and/or studying for multiple exams. Now multiply that by two, and you will have the approximate amount of work required for each module. You certainly *can* start a module at 11:00pm the night it's due. It is unlikely, however, that you will be able to successfully complete it at that point.

Within each module there are 5 key parts:

1. **Module Introductory Notes and Task List**—Each module begins with a brief set of introductory notes (the "lecture" of the class, so to speak). Included in this file are the required pieces of content for the module (more on this below), a task list for the module that includes the discussion post and research check-in assignments (more below), and some optional (but extremely helpful) questions to guide you as you explore the module content.

2. **Required Content**—These are the readings, websites, videos, podcasts, and other sources of material that are meant to illustrate key aspects of the lesson. I am committed to making my classes as affordable as possible, so all of these materials are open access. Where possible, I have provided PDFs of readings in addition to the hyperlinks. Feel free to use whichever is most convenient for you. At some points in the module notes, I also provide optional content, in case you find yourself particularly interested in a topic. These resources will be clearly marked as **optional**.

   I strongly recommend taking notes on this content (and the "lecture" notes) as you explore them. You may have it in front of you doing the quizzes, but the time limits will make it extremely difficult to try look at all of them for the first time as you take the quizzes.

3. **Quiz**—Each module has a quiz based on the required content. The questions provided to guide your reading will be very helpful to you when preparing for these quizzes. As mentioned above, these are timed quizzes, with a 30-minute time limit for 10-question quizzes, a 35-minute time limit for 15-question quizzes, and a 45-minute time limit for 20-question quizzes.

4. **Discussion Post**—After each quiz, you will write a post on a discussion board on Canvas. These assignments vary, but they will require 300-400 words on a topic related to the module (often crafting and supporting an argument of some kind). Specifics are included in the Module Task List. The rubrics I will be using to grade these will be provided on their respective discussion boards. Respectful and constructive commenting on each other's posts is both welcome and encouraged.

5. **Research Check-In**—As the final component of each module, you will turn in a section of your research project related to the module topic. The specific assignments for each of these sections will be provided to you in the Module Task List; they are also gathered in one place with further instructions in the Research Project Assignment uploaded to Canvas.

Course Schedule:

Date	Topic	Module Assignments	Module Closes
January 6-17	Module 1: Globalization and Global Goals	Syllabus Quiz	January 10th at 11:59pm
		Introductory Post	
		Module 1 Content	January 17th at 11:59pm
		Module 1 Quiz	
		Research Progress	
January 20-31	Module 2: Key International Actors	Module 2 Content	January 31st at 11:59pm
		Module 2 Quiz	
		Discussion Post	
		Research Progress	
February 3-14	Module 3: Identity	Module 3 Content	February 14th at 11:59pm
		Module 3 Quiz	
		Discussion Post	
		Research Progress	
February 17-28	Module 4: Governance, Conflict, and Responsibility	Module 4 Content	February 28th at 11:59pm
		Module 4 Quiz	
		Discussion Post	
		Research Progress	
March 2-6, 16-20 (**Spring Break March 9-13**)	Module 5: Economy	Module 5 Content	March 20th at 11:59pm
		Module 5 Quiz	
		Discussion Post	
		Research Progress	
March 23-April 3	Module 6: Health, Energy, and the Environment	Module 6 Content	April 3rd at 11:59pm
		Module 6 Quiz	
		Discussion Post	
		Research Progress	
April 6-17	Module 7: Movement	Module 7 Content	April 17th at 11:59pm
		Module 7 Quiz	
		Discussion Post	
		Research Progress	
April 20-29	Module 8: Media, Culture, and the Arts	Module 8 Content	April 29th at 11:59pm
		Module 8 Quiz	
		Discussion Post	
		Research Progress	
May 5	**Research paper final drafts are due to Canvas by 11:59pm.**		

Piedmont Policies:

The Learning Center exists to help our students reach their various academic goals. The Learning Center offers academic support in all areas, including accounting, foreign languages, math, science, and writing. Our tutors are selected by department chairs, trained in the art of tutoring, and monitored to provide the individualized attention our students need to achieve their personal best. We offer by-appointment or walk-in hours during both working and after-business hours. For more information, please visit: https://www.piedmont.edu/learning-center or call 706-778-8500, ext. 1503 (Demorest) or 706-543-6973 (Athens).

Accessibility and Accommodations: It is the College's goal that learning experiences be as accessible as possible. Should you choose to disclose a disability, contact your professor and Disability Support so that possible accommodations can be discussed. Accommodations are designed to minimize the impact of a disability and ensure access to programs for all students with disabilities. Piedmont College, professors and staff make every effort to provide reasonable and appropriate accommodations. The Disabilities Support Staff can be reached at disabilityservices@piedmont.edu or 706-778-8500, ext. 1504.

Statement on Academic Integrity: Students must be familiar with the College Academic Integrity Policy. Plagiarism, the intentional or unintentional use of another's words or ideas as one's own, will not be tolerated. Instructors must send any Academic Integrity concerns directly to the dean who is responsible for the discipline in which the course is taught. See Catalog at https://www.piedmont.edu/catalog for complete policy.

Student Email Policy: All Piedmont College students are required to use their Piedmont Lions email account (see Catalog at https://www.piedmont.edu/catalog for complete policy). Since the Lions account is the official communications channel of the College, students are responsible for all information distributed to them through their account. Students are expected to check it daily.

Withdrawal Policy: Within the first several days of a term, students may add and drop courses with the permission of their advisor. The ranges for drop/add vary depending on the term (Fall, Spring, or Summer) and duration of the class (8 week or 16 week). Students should check the academic calendar for specific information. After this time, students may withdraw from a class. Please refer to the College Catalog at https://www.piedmont.edu/catalog for the particulars regarding the withdrawal policy.

Starfish®: We Care About Your Success! We have partnered with Starfish Retention Solution, creating a platform for communication and resources focused on supporting your efforts throughout your educational journey. During the semester you may receive emails or texts from Starfish® regarding your course grades or academic performance. Please pay attention to these communications and consider taking the recommended actions. They are sent to help you be successful! In addition, your instructor may: (1) request that you schedule an appointment by going to Starfish, or (2) recommend that you contact a specific campus resource, such as tutoring or counseling. You may also be

contacted directly by one of these services. You can quickly connect to many resources using Starfish. We hope you will choose to use the tool to support your success, we will be!

Piedmont College Library is dedicated to student success both on- and off-campus. The Library's website (library.piedmont.edu) offers the fastest, simplest solution to finding the authoritative sources you need. In addition to our online catalog, you will find valuable resources for every subject and discipline: journal citations and full-text articles, books and ebooks, study guides, encyclopedias, streaming video, and more. Overwhelmed? Need help navigating? No problem: reference assistance is available via chat or email.