A. **TITLE:** Contemporary Global Issues

B. **COURSE NUMBER:** SSCI 271

C. **CREDIT HOURS:** 3

D. **WRITING INTENSIVE:** Optional

E. **COURSE LENGTH:** 15 weeks per semester

F. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Fall

G. **HOURS OF LECTURE, LABORATORY, RECITATION, TUTORIAL, ACTIVITY:** 3 per week

H. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

This course introduces students to global politics and issues through the lens of globalization. In this class, students will learn about how globalization relates to political systems, environmental issues, poverty, migration, human rights, terrorism, conflict, the economy and trade. The focus is on the interrelated nature of politics, society, and economics across the globe and on the shared future we forge.

I. **PRE-REQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES:** None

J. **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

At the end of this semester, students should:

| A. Be able to define and explain globalization. | 2. Critical Thinking |
| B. Be able to evaluate the effect of globalization on the relationships between states, democracy, and human rights. | 2. Critical Thinking |
| C. Be able to explain and analyze the relationship between globalization, weapons proliferation, terrorism, and conflict. | 2. Critical Thinking |
| D. Be able to describe the global nature of environmental degradation and climate change and the level of global cooperation on this issue. | 2. Critical Thinking |
| E. Be able to explain how | Critical Thinking |
globalization, the global economy, and global trade relates to poverty, migration, crime, and health.

K. TEXTS: To be determined by instructor

L. REFERENCES:


M. EQUIPMENT: Smart classroom (computer/projector at the minimum)

N. GRADING METHOD: A-F

O. MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:

Determined by instructor. Options include, but are not limited to: examinations, weekly/regular assignments and/or quizzes, final exam, class presentations, and research paper.

P. DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE: Attached

Q. LABORATORY OUTLINE: Not applicable
DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE
SSCI 271: CONTEMPORARY GLOBAL ISSUES

I. Globalization
   A. Definitions
   B. Pluralism and Interdependence
   C. Sovereignty and the Modern State
   D. Forms of Globalization
   E. Globalization Debates

II. International Relations and Globalization
    A. Power and Leadership
       1. Rise and Fall of Great Powers
       2. Maintaining Global Power
    B. American Hegemony and Challengers
       1. Emerging Powers
       2. Nonstate Actors

III. Democracy & Human Rights
     A. Human Rights
        1. Globalization and Human Rights
        2. Development of Human Rights
        3. Controversies over Human Rights
           a. Women and Human Rights
           b. Religion and Human Rights
        4. Enforcing Human Rights
     B. Democracy
        1. Overview of Democracy
           a. Political participation
           b. Promoting Democracy
           c. Global Civil Society
           d. Democracy by Force
        2. Transitions to Democracy
        3. Global Governance and Democracy

IV. Global Violence
    1. Global Terrorism
       a. Defining Terrorism
       b. Factors Conducive to Terrorism
       c. Goals, Strategies and Weapons of Terrorism
       d. Financing Terrorism
       e. Kinds of Terrorism
          i. Domestic
          ii. Nationalist
          iii. Religious
          iv. State
          v. Global
    2. Weapons Proliferation
       a. Proliferation of Weapons
          i. Reasons
ii. Small Arms
b. Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
c. Chemical and Biological Weapons
d. Nonproliferation Regimes

3. Global Conflict

4. Global Crime
   a. Globalization of Crime
   b. Global Drug Problem
   c. Smuggling of Migrants
d. Contemporary Slavery and Human Trafficking
e. Criminal Gangs
f. Illegal Trade in Endangered Animals and Plants
g. Cybercrimes and Piracy
h. Global Responses

5. Global Conflicts
   a. International Conflict
      i. Decline of International Conflict
   b. Civil War/Internal Conflict
      i. Revolution
      ii. Ethnic Conflict
c. Internationalized conflict

V. Global Economy & Human Security

1. The Global Financial Crisis
   a. Causes
      i. Deregulation
      ii. Financial Innovations
      iii. Interest Rates
      iv. Speculation
   b. Impact
      i. Foreclosures
      ii. Decline in Manufacturing and Trade
      iii. Global Power Shift
   c. Global Responses

2. Global Trade
   a. Globalization of Trade
      i. Free Trade
      ii. Exchange Rates, Budget Deficits, and Trade
      iii. Barriers to Free Trade
   b. Global Companies and Global Factories
   c. The Race to the Bottom
   d. Global Trade and the Environment
   e. Regional Trade Blocs

3. Global Inequality and Poverty
   a. Does Globalization Create Inequality?
   b. Industrialization, Development, and Inequality
   c. Closing the Gap

4. Global Migration
a. Population
   i. Developed Countries
   ii. Developing Countries
b. Global Migration
c. Push and Pull Factors
d. Social, Economic, and Political Implications
5. The Globalization of Disease
   a. Infections Diseases
   b. Influenza and Avian Flue
c. Malaria, Dengue, and Yellow Fever
d. Tuberculosis
e. HIV/AIDS
f. Ebola
g. Global Responses

VI. Globalization and the Environment
1. The Tragedy of the Commons
2. Biodiversity
3. Deforestation
4. Ocean Pollution
5. Global Warming and Climate Change
6. Water Scarcity
7. Global Responses