

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
CANTON, NEW YORK



MASTER SYLLABUS

SSCI 271: Contemporary Global Issues

CIP Code: 30.2001

Created by Lenore VanderZee, J.D., Ph.D.

Updated by Jennifer Sovde / Maureen Maiocco

**SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND LIBERAL ARTS
SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT
Fall 2026**

A. **TITLE:** Contemporary Global Issues

B. **COURSE NUMBER:** SSCI 271

C. **CREDIT HOURS:**

# Credit Hours per Week	3
# Lecture Hours per Week	3

D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:**

Yes	
No	X

E. **GER CATEGORY: 10**

[1-2] Communication	
[3] Diversity: Equity, Inclusion & Social Justice	
[4] Mathematics & Quantitative Reasoning	
[5] Natural Science & Scientific Reasoning	
[6] Humanities	
[7] Social Sciences	
[8] Arts	
[9] US History & Civic Engagement	
[10] World History & Global Awareness	
[11] World Languages	

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

Fall	
Spring	
Fall and Spring	X

G. **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

In this course students are introduced to global politics and issues through the lens of globalization. Students examine how globalization relates to political systems, environmental issues, poverty, migration, human rights, terrorism, conflict, and the economy. The focus is on the interrelated nature of politics, society, and economics across the globe and on the shared future we forge.

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

I. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

<u>Course Student Learning Outcome [SLO]</u>	<u>GER</u>	<u>ISLO</u>
a. Define and explain globalization.	10:1	4 [GL]
b. Evaluate the effect of globalization on the relationships between states, democracy, and human rights.	10:2	4 [GL]
c. Explain and analyze the relationship between globalization, weapons proliferation, terrorism, and global conflict.	10:2	4 [G]L
d. Describe the global nature of environmental degradation and climate change and the level of global cooperation on this issue.	10:2	4 [GL]
e. Explain how globalization, the global economy, and global trade relates to poverty, migration, crime, and health.	10:2	4 [GL]
GER 10 Students will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrate knowledge of a broad outline of world history and/or the development of the distinctive features of at least one civilization or culture in relation to other regions of the world; and • demonstrate an understanding of the structures, systems, and interrelationships among civilizations and cultures within historical and/or contemporary contexts, and their impact on wellbeing and sustainability. 		

KEY	<u>Institutional Student Learning Outcomes [ISLO 1 – 5]</u>
ISLO #	ISLO & Subsets
1	Communication Skills Oral [O], Written [W]
2	Critical Thinking <i>Critical Analysis [CA], Inquiry & Analysis [IA], Problem Solving [PS]</i>
3	Foundational Skills <i>Information Management [IM], Quantitative Lit./Reasoning [QTR]</i>
4	Social Responsibility <i>Ethical Reasoning [ER], Global Learning [GL], Intercultural Knowledge [IK], Teamwork [T]</i>
5	Industry, Professional, Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

J. APPLIED LEARNING COMPONENT: No**K. TEXTS:** To be determined by instructor**L. REFERENCES:**

Hite, Kristen A. & John L. Seitz (2016). *Global Issues: An Introduction* (5th Ed). Wiley.
 Snarr, Michael T. & D. Neil Snarr, eds. (2016). *Introducing Global Issues* (6th Ed.). Lynne Reiner
 Payne, Richard J. (2015). *Global Issues* (5th Ed.). Pearson.

M. EQUIPMENT: Technology Enhanced Classroom / Learning Management System**N. GRADING METHOD:** A - F**O. SUGGESTED MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:**

Examinations, assignments, quizzes, class presentations, research paper

P. DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE:

- I. Globalization
 - a. Definitions
 - b. Interrelated global issues
- II. Colonialism & neo-colonialism
 - a. Legacies of colonialism
 - b. Modern colonialism
- III. Terrorism
 - a. Definitions & types
 - b. The War on Terror
- IV. The Middle East
 - a. Allies & adversaries
 - b. Western involvement
- V. War & Conflict
 - a. Types of war & conflict
 - b. Case Study
- VI. Nuclear Weapons
 - a. Development & ethics
 - b. International agreements
- VII. The United Nations
 - a. International cooperation
 - b. Promises & problems
- VIII. Human Rights
 - a. Types & Definitions
 - b. Universality
- IX. Immigration & Refugees
 - a. Global migration
 - b. Refugee crises
- X. Global Climate Change
 - a. Causes & consequences
 - b. Global action
- XI. Global Trade
 - a. Globalization
 - b. Race to the bottom
- XII. Global Poverty & Inequality
 - a. Inequality in the U.S.
 - b. Inequality across the globe
 - c. Poverty & its consequences
- XIII. Global Health
 - a. Pandemics
 - b. Access to health care
 - c. Case study