



UNIVERSITY OF
APPLIED SCIENCES IN NYSA



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TITLE OF THE COURSE

Global Issues: Social, Economic, Environmental

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The latest from 2020 the world economy faced a meltdown. A financial crisis began with covid pandemic in China and soon spread around the world. Slowly when the world learned how to get out from this virus and its impact; another virus of war was imposed in February 2022 between Ukraine and Russia. War at the European land slowly became a global issue as it started to define and divide the world community. The tensions between Western World, its alliances (including the USA, EU, and NATO), and Russia affected the global economy imbalances and fueled the crisis into recession that affects every citizen of the global world.

These events highlighted the growing tensions between Western world, and the Eastern emerging economies (including Russia and China). It also presents the challenges of globalisation, shifting global power, and the role of institutions in the changing scenario of economic globalisation. The perspectives and tools for studying economic globalisation are then applied to help us make sense of globalisation and its impact on the world economy. What is globalisation and what challenges pose for all states in the world economy?

It is often assumed that existing international institutions and organisations will manage these challenges but evidently, we've seen such institutions and organisations struggling for years that affect the life of millions, which describes the cross-border relations between the nations and expresses the increase of international exchanges and the interdependence of countries. It also describes the expansion of social structures of modernity (capitalist relations, industrial system, etc.) all over the world, as well as the procedure of destruction of special ways of production and local identities. The procedure of expanding ideas and experiences for the people in every corner of the world, and releasing procedure from geographical space, as the social space can no longer be entirely mapped with territorial terms. The procedure of destruction can be analysed on the basis of economic benefits, market size, consumer's need and availability of natural resources, and hegemonic balance of power.

Globalisation has featured extensively in the debates economic liberalisation and ethical concerns as the world is connected and policy making mechanisms are affecting our behavior, ethics and business strategies.



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HOST PROFESSORS

mgr Sebastian Zatylny, University of Applied Sciences in Nysa, Poland

Assistant in the Faculty of Modern Languages at the University of Applied Sciences in Nysa. Former high school teacher of English. His scholarly interests include global issues, post-modern education, didactics and methodology of teaching English, teaching speaking skills in English, and sociolinguistics.

Laura Seelig, M. SC., Hochschule Mittweida, Germany

Ms. Laura Seilig is working in the International Office at Hochschule Mittweida. She is responsible for the supervision and advising of international exchange and full-time students. Ms. Laura's research interests are in the area of global political economy, labor processes theory and socio-economic inequality.

Course Level

Bachelor/Master/not defined

Language of Instruction: English

Duration: June 30 – July 11, 2025

Working Time (Lesson Hours – 45 min/day): 4 hours per day

Number of ECTS Credits: 4

Teaching Method: Lectures, case studies, presentations.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Globalisation and interconnected economic policies have had far-reaching effects on our lifestyle. It has led to faster access to technology, improved communication and innovation. Apart from playing an important role in bringing people of different cultures together, it has ushered through a new era in economic prosperity and has opened up vast channels of development. However, globalisation has also created some areas of concern, and prominent among these is the impact that it has had on our day-to-day's life, not only financially but also ethically.

The goal of the course is to raise awareness of global issues that concern modern societies. During the course the selected global issues are taken into account. They are categorized into:

- environmental, such as global warming, pollution, water crisis,
- economical, such as unequal distribution of wealth, poverty,
- social, such as illiteracy, human rights violation, child labor, limited access to education.

The course outlines how international economic relations and institutions are interconnected and creates a sphere of economic globalisation. It also outlines three traditional approaches to international political economy that help to identify key actors, process, and level of analysis.



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The second part focuses on social problems. Students are introduced to the concepts of human rights and their protection, and afterwards some of the global issues are presented. The participants are to prepare projects about selected problems. Furthermore, some ethical considerations are introduced both in economic and social activities of the people.

COURSE CONTENT

1. **Education and illiteracy** - to begin with, the students are introduced to the concepts of post-modern education compared to traditional ones. Afterwards, the different educational systems are compared worldwide, based on the experiences of both students and the lecturer. The presentation triggers discussion about what educational changes should be introduced in different countries.
2. **Illiteracy** - concerns illiteracy as a global issue. The students are to investigate data from reports about illiterate people worldwide. The concept of secondary illiteracy is introduced. Finally, the students are checking the correspondence between illiteracy and other social issues.
3. **Ethical considerations** - the classes are about sustainability, based on the case of a garment industry. The participants discover where do our clothes come from – based on the Bangladesh case where the child labor still exists. The second block concerns ethical issues in business. Participants investigate different cases worldwide to determine the framework of human activity.
4. **Imperial Mode of Living** - the classes are devoted to economic issues and present interesting theories about discrepancies all around the world. The concept that explains poverty and injustice is called the imperial mode of living.
5. **Human rights** - the classes begin with a workshop about the introduction to human rights. Afterwards, the selected violation of human rights is present “Bodily integrity and human rights”. The students are to prepare projects about the violation of selected human rights worldwide.
6. **Discrimination** - focuses on different people’s stories who are discriminated against or unjustly sentenced. The workshop concerns “the prisoners of conscience”. The students check what can be done to help the selected
7. **Presentations** - to sum up the course, the students present selected social issues and human rights violations. The presentations are an essential requirement to complete the course.

VERIFICATION OF LEARNING OUTCOMES

- **Class Attendance and Active Participation: 20%**
Active participation in class discussions presupposes that a student has displayed the knowledge of data and notions from the lectures, the correct use of terminology and the understanding of basic ideas expressed in papers offered for home reading.
- **Individual presentation / Group presentation - 20%**
Students are supposed to create presentations on the basis of the course material.
- **Essay/paper/portfolio - 20%**
The element is given in the form of a written task.



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International
**Summer
Programme**
UAS Nysa 2025



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- Individual project/ group projects- 40%
A group project aimed at researching the given topic.

PREREQUISITES

- English B1/B2 level

SUGGESTED LITERATURE

- U. Brand, M. Brandt, *The Imperial Mode of Living: Everyday Life and the Ecological Crisis of Capitalism*, Verso, London, 2019.
- J. Baylis, S. Smith, P. Owens, *The Globalisation of World Politics: An introduction to international relations*, Oxford University Press, United Kingdom, 2014.
- P. Pant, *International Relations in the 21st Century*, McGraw Hill Education (India) Private Limited, New Delhi, 2015.
- P. Murali, *Evolution of Markets and Institutions: A Study of an Emerging Economy*, Routledge, London, 2006.
- M. Rabij, *Życie na miarę. Odzieżowe Niewolnictwo*. W.A.B. Warsaw.