GLOBALIZATION

DEGREE COURSE YEAR: 1st
1º SEMESTER ☒ 2º SEMESTER ☐
CATEGORY: ☒CORE ☐ COMPULSORY ☐ OPTIONAL
NO. OF CREDITS (ECTS): 6
LANGUAGE: English
TUTORIALS:
FORMAT:
PREREQUISITES:

1- SUBJECT DESCRIPTION

Globalization is a term that describes a set of economic, political, ideological, cultural, technological and social changing processes that are shaping the contemporary social life. It is a concept that refers to the intensification and acceleration of activities, mechanisms, and developments that are promoting global interdependence and global integration. As a process, globalization is a transforming force that is leading to a World where people, governments, corporations, media, social groups and other institutions are more closely connected than ever before. In this sense, globalization can be understood as a multifaceted phenomenon that can be analyzed from many different perspectives. As a result, globalization is a contested concept.

This course introduces students to the major topics in globalization studies. In the first part of the course we will explore when globalization emerged and spread. Next, we will study the most influential ways of understanding globalization in the contemporary world, including the main debates, perspectives and theories about the concept.

The second part of the course will focus on the multidimensional understanding of globalization. Therefore, we will examine the economic, political, ideological, cultural, technological and social dimensions of globalization. In particular, we will analyze the role of media and global communications technologies in shaping the new “globalized” world.

2- OBJECTIVES AND SKILLS

By the end of the course, students should have a solid understanding of the main concepts, debates, theories, actors and phenomena linked with globalization. The learning objective is that the student develops the ability to describe, explain, and interpret globalization as a multidimensional concept. Students should have a general knowledge of the economic, political, social, cultural and technological approaches to globalization, and they should also be able to asses and evaluate the changes that globalization has meant for these fields.
After completing the course, students should be prepared to apply this knowledge and skills to their future work as communication professionals.

The course is designed to develop the following competences:

**Generic competences**

- Analytical skills and ability to synthesize information
- Ability to apply knowledge and concepts in practice
- Ability to obtain, analyze, process and transmit information, either oral or written (Information management skills)
- Interpersonal skills
- Ability to work in group
- Research skills
- Computer and ICT skills

**Specific competences**

- Ability to apply abstract theoretical concepts and other tools in analyzing global issues and processes linked with globalization.
- Be able to read, understand, and analyze documents (articles, reports, video, films, etc) of varying complexity on global topics;
- Skills to critically study and discuss current global issues events and processes.
- Be able to work with the resources on globalization available through the world wide web
- Ability to prepare and communicate information on globalization and global issues to specialist and non-specialist audiences.
- Skills to apply knowledge on globalization in professional practice.

### 3- CONTENTS

**Sessions 1, 2.**

- **Introduction**
  - Welcome and introductions
  - Course/Syllabus overview
  - Introduction to Globalization

**Sessions 3, 4.**

- **Conceptualizing Globalization**
  
  **Learning Objectives:**
  - To explore the importance of studying social change.
  - To understand global flows, barriers and structures.
  - To analyze different definitions of globalization and identify associated problems.
  - To identify and discuss key theoretical questions.
  - To understand and evaluate the main debates on globalization.
Sessions 5, 6.

Is Globalization a New Phenomenon?: Origins and History of Globalization

**Learning Objectives:**
- To Explore the different perspectives on the origins of globalization.
- To Identify the different stages in the history of globalization.
- To Discuss and assess whether globalization is a new phenomenon or not.

Sessions 7, 8, 9.

The ideological dimension of Globalization

**Learning Objectives:**
- To understand the key ideological concepts that describe the processes and structures involved in historical and contemporary realities.
- To explore how these concepts relate to or overlap with processes and structures of globalization.
- To explore the theory of neo-liberalism and its importance to the development of globalization.
- To examine theoretical alternatives to neo-liberalism.
- To reflect on the impact of recent global events, and the implications for the relationship of neo-liberalism and globalization.
- To analyze the ideological movements both for and against globalization.

Sessions 10, 11, 12.

The economic dimension of Globalization. Global Economy and Market Integration

**Learning Objectives:**
- To explore the economic structures involved in globalization.
- To examine the global flows involved in production and consumption.
- To understand the historical development of the economic structures and key economic organizations.
- To discuss and assess critiques of the international economic system and its organizations.
- To reflect on the changing relationships of economic structures and the impact of economic crisis.

Sessions 13, 14, 15.

The Political Dimension of Globalization.

**Learning Objectives:**
- To explore the political structures involved in globalization.
- To understand the historical development of nation-states, the changes in their relations and the change in the nature of power.
- To examine the development of other global and regional political organizations.
- To analyze wider issues of global governance and the role of civil society.

Sessions 16, 17, 18.

The Cultural Dimension of Globalization:

**Learning Objectives:**
- To understand the value of Identity in globalization.
- To identify and examine global flows of culture.
To consider differences in how and where the cultural flows move and barriers to them.

To explain and discuss theories of globalization related to cultural flows: cultural differentialism, cultural hybridization, and cultural convergence

To discuss whether there is cultural homogenisation or not.

Sessions 19, 20.

Globalization, Technology, Media and the Internet

Learning Objectives:
- To understand and discuss the relationship between technology and globalization
- To explore and analyze the connections between technology, the media and the Internet in relation to globalization.
- To assess the role of Media in a “globalized” society.

Sessions 21, 22, 23.

New and Old Issues: Migrations and Global Inequalities

Learning Objectives:
- To consider different types of global flows of people, and the issues and barriers involved.
- To analyze inequality among societies.
- To understand and debate over the relationship of globalization to global inequality.
- To explore majority-minority relations of ethnicity, race, gender, sexual orientation and children, and how this relates to globalization.

Sessions 24, 25, 26.

Global Security and Global Environmental Problems

Learning Objectives:
- To identify and evaluate the concepts of “negative globalization” and “negative flows” (Global Diseases, Crime, Conflicts, Terrorism)
- To analyze and assess the detrimental impact of globalization on the environment.
- To consider the global nature of the problems and the relationship between environmental damage and societal collapse.

Sessions 27, 28, 29.

The Future of Globalization.

Learning Objectives:
- To describe and assess the ways people and collectives have dealt with globalization.
- To consider how some people and social groups have resisted globalization.
- To examine some of the possible future scenarios for globalization.

4- METHODOLOGY AND ECTS WEIGHTING

The course is designed with a mixture of presentations by the professor, individual and group presentations by the students, class discussions and other learning activities, including case studies, viewings, simulations and debates.
Each topic will begin with a lecture to explain major concepts and theories, to introduce the historical context and to resolve questions. It will be followed by a group discussion and other activities.

There will be sessions devoted to discussion regarding assigned reading materials, followed by a test.

Students are required to write a short discussion paper (3-4 pages) based on a journal article or a piece of news dealing with globalization issues. Assignments will be made in consultation with the professor.

Students are expected to participate actively in class discussions and other learning activities. In this sense, regular attendance and proper preparation are expected of all students.

The professor strongly encourages reading a quality newspaper or journal to follow current developments in international affairs.

**ECTS WEIGHTING**

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<th>Individual Preparation Hours</th>
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5- EVALUATION SYSTEM

5.1. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

Attendance policy

- Students not attending 70% of the classes will not be allowed to take the final exam.
- Students not attending 70% of the classes will also lose the July’s retake chance.
- In July’s retake the maximum final score would be of 8 out of 10

Use of laptop in class

- We recommend the use of a laptop in class, Wi-Fi connection needed. In any case, the use of Wi-Fi for activities not related to this class will hinder your grade on participation.

The final grade will take into account all the learning activities undertaken during the course: participation in class activities, preparation of readings and cases, quizzes, oral presentations, written assignments and exams.

Any form of plagiarism or cheating will result in a failing grade for the course. In this respect, we will follow the IE Code of Ethics.

5.2. EVALUATION AND WEIGHTING CRITERIA

Final course evaluation (December or July exams) will be based on the following:

- Attendance and Participation: 10 %
- Readings/viewings/quizzes/Case Studies: 40 %
- Individual/group presentations: 10 %
- Short Paper: 10 %
- Final exam: 30 %

To pass the course it is necessary to pass the final exam (≥5). If the student fails the final exam, the final grade of the course will be the equivalent to the exam’s grade. In this last instance, non-exam grades (participation, readings, presentations, etc.) will be maintained for the next evaluation, in July.

The evaluation system for the students who are registered for the 3rd and 4th exam session is maintained, but the percentage assigned to the Final Exam will be 40% and there will be no percentage assigned for Attendance and Participation.