

FL 101 INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
FL 101H HONORS INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Professor: Dr. Christy
Office: 204 Wesleyan Hall (enter through 209)
Office Hours: TBA

Required Texts:

Jackson, Robert M., ed. 2010. *Global Issues 10/11*. 26th edition. ISBN: 978-0-07-805058-9.
Friedman, Thomas. 2000. *The Lexus and the Olive Tree*. ISBN: 0-385-49934-5.

Recommended:

Friedman, Thomas. 2008. *Hot, Flat, and Crowded: Why We Need a Green Revolution – And How it Can Renew America*. ISBN: 0-374-16685-4.
Friedman, Thomas. 2005. *The World is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-first Century*. ISBN: 0-374-29288-4.
Friedman, Thomas. 2002. *Longitudes and Attitudes: Exploring the World After September 11*. ISBN: 0-374-19066-6.
Harf, James, and Mark Lombardi, eds. 2009. *Taking Sides: Clashing Views on Global Issues*. ISBN: 978-0-07-351534-2.
Lasn, Kalle. 1999. *Culture Jam: How to Reverse America's Suicidal Consumer Binge – And Why We Must*. ISBN: 0-688-17805-7.
Lewis. 1996. *When Cultures Collide: Managing Successfully Across Cultures*.
Stiglitz, Joseph. 2006. *Making Globalization Work*. ISBN: 10-0-393-06122-1.

Expected Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course students should have a broad understanding of the interdisciplinary area of international studies, gained through examination of a broad spectrum of issues ranging from the importance of communication skills and historical awareness to the convergences and conflicts encountered in the global arena. Students will have gained an in-depth understanding of the increasingly internationalized world of culture and commerce, and, in the process, will have confronted and reassessed the assumptions and values which inform manifestations of culture, government and commerce in their native countries. Students will have enhanced sensitivity to situations involving trans-national, multilingual and cross-cultural complexities, and will have an understanding of global



educational, environmental and economic issues, as well as the role of technology in an increasingly interconnected world.

Representative Course Topics: Definitions and divergences of culture
Political, economic and behavioral value systems
National and social identity; stereotypes
Components of culture
Historical context of divergent traditions, motives and strategies
Sources of intercultural conflict
Language as a medium of culture
Culture shock
Weltanschauung
Corruption and socio-political systems
Space, place and size as culture variables
Divergent concepts of privacy
Individual rights vs. group rights
Law vs. custom
'Taken-for-granted' as a cross-cultural category
Assigning monetary value; pricing vs. haggling
Ethics and global labor/trade
Ethics and global environment
Trans-national corporate culture
Currency valuation in the age of global banking
Exchanging gifts
Manners, mannerisms, etiquette

Procedures: Lectures, and guest presentations (as available), will be supplemented by and integrated with discussion of assigned readings from the course texts. Applicable videos will also be shown to enhance and illustrate major themes. In addition to completing assigned readings and homework exercises, students will prepare a Powerpoint presentation in which they address political, social, business, and cross-cultural situations that relate to course topics. Specific topics will be taken from *Global Issues*.

Grade: <u>FL 101</u>	Presentation	20%
	Participation	20%
	Tests:	20%
	Midterm:	20%
	Final:	20%

Honors Students: Students enrolled in FL 101H must research and develop an additional presentation, with grade calculation as follows:

Grade: FL 101H

Presentation # 1:	15%
Presentation #2:	15%
Participation*	15%
Tests:	20%
Midterm:	20%
Final:	15%

Absence Policy: Consult the current *UNA Catalog*. This class meets 42 times [Spring Semester].

It is the policy of the University of North Alabama to afford equal opportunity in education to qualified students. If you have a disability that may prevent you from meeting the course requirements, contact the instructor within the first three class sessions to file a Student Disability Statement and to develop an accommodation plan. Course requirements will not be waived but accommodations will be made to allow you to meet the requirements, provided that you are timely in working with the instructor to develop an accommodation plan.