

# American College Dublin

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## IB408 CONTEMPORARY GLOBAL CHALLENGES

<b>Credits:</b>	3 US credits / 6 ECTS credits
<b>Credit level:</b>	Stage award
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	IB305
<b>Mandatory:</b>	Yes
<b>Contact hours:</b>	40
<b>Academic Year:</b>	2016/17
<b>Semester:</b>	2
<b>Lecturer:</b>	Zahra Al-Nasser

### MODULE DESCRIPTION

This module concentrates on the recent dynamics of the global environment focusing on the changes in the geopolitical and economic map, the crisis in the Western World, the power of states in market economies, the central role played by innovation and technology in development and the challenging global imbalances, such as commodity markets and environmental issues.

### INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of this course students will have:

1. Developed a comprehension of the kind of knowledge pertaining to contemporary global issues;
2. Developed the analytical skills to examine different contemporary economic scenarios;
3. The ability to integrate knowledge and analyse information regarding the role and power of the state in economic markets;
4. Acknowledged the vital role played by technology and innovation in a knowledge economy to generate economic growth and development;
5. A critical understanding of the general ideological implications of the current upheavals occurring in the Western World;
6. Learned to generate appropriate opinions as to possible outcomes of the current global imbalances.

### TEACHING METHODS

Lectures, group and class discussions based on current articles from the business press and case studies or videos, guest speakers, analysis of case studies.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES MAP

Learning Outcomes	Content	Delivery	Assessment
1.	All sections	Case study analysis, group and class discussion, and lectures.	Class participation, assignments and exam.
2.	Section 2	Case study analysis, group and class discussion, and lectures.	Class participation, assignments and exam.
3.	Section 3	Case study analysis, group and class discussion, and lectures.	Class participation, assignments and exam.
4.	Section 4	Case study analysis, group and class discussion, and lectures.	Class participation, assignments and exam.
5.	Section 5	Case study analysis, group and class discussion, and lectures.	Class participation, assignments and exam.
6.	Section 6	Case study analysis, group and class discussion, and lectures.	Class participation, assignments and exam.

## COURSE OUTLINE

## WEIGHTING

- |                                                        |     |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Founding theories and contemporary market economies | 15% |
| 2. Major changes in the geopolitical map               | 10% |
| 3. Innovation, technology and knowledge                | 15% |
| 4. Power of States and TNCs                            | 15% |
| 5. Crisis of the Western model                         | 15% |
| 6. The European turmoil                                | 15% |
| 7. Global imbalances and challenges                    | 15% |

## REQUIRED TEXT

Blanchard O., Amighini, A., Giavazzi, F. (2010), *Macroeconomics: a European perspective*, Harlow: FT Prentice Hall, Pearson Education.

## SUPPLEMENTARY READING LIST

Baldwin, R., Wyplosz, C. (2006), *The economics of European Integration*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed., New York: McGraw-Hill Education, McGraw-Hill;

Brancaccio, E., Fontana, J. (2011), *The global economic crisis: new perspectives on the critique of economic theory and policy*, Eds., Routledge;

Carbaugh, R., J. (2011), *Global Economics*, 13<sup>th</sup> Ed., South-Western Cengage Learning;

Dicken, P. (2011) *"The Global Shift"*, 6th Edition, Sage Publication, London;

Ehrenreich, B. (2001) *Nickel and Dimed*, Granta Books, London;

Ehrenreich, B. (2006) *Bait and Switch*, Granta Books, London;

Friedman, T. (2005) *The World is Flat, A Brief History of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, Harper Collins, New York;

Gilpin, R. (2001), *Global Political Economy: Understanding the International Economic Order*, Princeton University Press, Princeton;

Glyn, A. (2006) *Capitalism Unleashed: Finance, Globalization, and Welfare*, Oxford;

Hertz, N. (2001) *The Silent Takeover, Global Capitalism and the Death of Democracy*, Arrow Books;

Howells, J. and Michie, J. (eds., 1999), *Innovation Policy in a Global Economy*, New York: Cambridge University Press, pp.163-184;

Kierzkowski, H. (ed., 2002), *Europe and Globalization*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan, London;

Kogut, B. and Zander U. (1993) 'Knowledge of the Firm and the Evolutionary Theory of the Multinational Corporation', *Journal of International Business Studies* 24 (4): 625-45;

Kierzkowski, H. (ed., 2002), *Europe and Globalization*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan;

Krugman, Paul R. & Obstfeld, M., Melitz, M. (2011), *International Economics: Theory and Policy*, 9th edition, Harlow: Addison-Wesley;

O'Brien, R. and Williams, M. (2003) *Global Political Economy: Evolution and Dynamics*, Palgrave MacMillan;

O'Higgins, E.R.E. 2002. Government and the creation of the Celtic Tiger: Can management maintain the momentum? *Academy of Management Executive*, 16(3): 104-120;

Smith, R., El-Anis, I., Farrands. C. (2011), *International Political Economy of the 21<sup>st</sup> century: contemporary issues and analysis*, Harlow: Longman, Pearson Education;

Soros, G. (1999) *The Crisis of Global Capitalism*, Little Brown, New York;

Soros, G. (2000) *Open Society: Reforming Global Capitalism*, Public Affairs, New York;

Stiglitz, J. (2002) *Globalization and Its Discontents*, Penguin, London;

Stiglitz, J. (2003) *The Roaring Nineties: Seeds of Destruction*, Penguin, London.

## NEWSPAPERS & PUBLICATIONS

Financial Times	Irish Times	Business Week
Irish Independent	Wall Street Journal	The Economist

## INTERNET WEBSITES

<a href="http://www.wsj.com">http://www.wsj.com</a>	<a href="http://www.ft.com">http://www.ft.com</a>
<a href="http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/">http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/</a>	<a href="http://www.economist.com/">http://www.economist.com/</a>
<a href="http://www.guardian.co.uk/">http://www.guardian.co.uk/</a>	<a href="http://www.oecd.org/">http://www.oecd.org/</a>
<a href="http://www.worldbank.org/">http://www.worldbank.org/</a>	<a href="http://www.wto.org/">http://www.wto.org/</a>
<a href="http://www.bankofengland.co.uk/">http://www.bankofengland.co.uk/</a>	<a href="http://www.ecb.int/">http://www.ecb.int/</a>
<a href="http://www.eubusiness.com/">http://www.eubusiness.com/</a>	<a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk">http://www.bbc.co.uk</a>
<a href="http://www.afbis.com/analysis/index.html">http://www.afbis.com/analysis/index.html</a>	<a href="http://policydialogue.org/">http://policydialogue.org/</a>
<a href="http://www.actualidad.com/">http://www.actualidad.com/</a> ( <i>index of world newspapers</i> )	<a href="http://www.imf.int/">http://www.imf.int/</a>
<a href="http://www.undp.org">http://www.undp.org</a> (UN Development Program)	<a href="http://www.ireland.com">http://www.ireland.com</a>

## ASSESSMENT/GRADING

The following must be completed satisfactorily by any student undertaking the standard assessment of the course.

**Participation:** Students are expected to read in advance the material given in class. This will be the basis for class discussion. Students will be graded for participation based on their understanding of the materials and their capacity to answer the questions.

**Group presentation:** Students will prepare a 20mn presentation on a topic related to the material covered in class. **Due date:**  
Any late assignments will be subject to losing 1% of the *overall grade per day*.

**Individual assignment:** Students will prepare a paper of 1500 words on a topic related to the material prepared in class. **Due date:**  
Any late assignments will be subject to losing 1% of the *overall grade per day*.

**Final Exam:** The exam contains 6 questions and is 3 hours long. Students must answer 3 questions out of 6. The exam will cover material from the whole course.

**Assessment will take the form of:**

Individual assignment	20%
Group presentation	20%
Participation	10%
Final exam	<u>50%</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

### **Grading**

Each component of the course will be assessed separately. Students will be graded according to the attached grading system as outlined in the HETAC Marks and Standards 2009, available at:

<http://www.hetac.ie/docs/Fina%20English%20Assessment%20and%20Standards%202009.pdf> (page 21).

### **ATTENDANCE**

Class attendance is necessary for the achievement of intended learning outcomes. In the case of illness it is the student's responsibility to telephone the College office to notify the lecturer (see *Academic Policies and Procedures* in the ACD Catalogue and the QA Manual).

### **ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE**

Refer to the subsection on Academic Discipline in the current ACD Catalogue and the QA Manual.