

PIA3151: MANAGING NEW GLOBAL CHALLENGES

Effective Term

Semester A 2024/25

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Managing New Global Challenges

Subject Code

PIA - Public and International Affairs

Course Number

3151

Academic Unit

Public and International Affairs (PIA)

College/School

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CH)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

3

Level

B1, B2, B3, B4 - Bachelor's Degree

Medium of Instruction

English

Medium of Assessment

English

Prerequisites

Nil

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

PIA4151 Managing New Global Challenges, GE3209 Managing New Global Challenges

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

This course exposes students to in-depth, critical discussions of a series of issues that present great challenges to human societies in the age of globalization. Drawing on cutting-edge research by scholars in multiple disciplines in social sciences and humanities, this course acquaints students with analytical concepts and qualitative approaches to participate in the debates on these issues. These issues are grouped under four themes: 1) uneven development and poverty; 2) care work and population; 3) science, technology, and society; and 4) climate change and Anthropocene. Weekly class lecture and discussion covers a specific topic such as slums and gentrification, urban sanitation, family change, platform economy, medicalization of birth and death, human and nature, and human-animal relations. While these issues are discussed separately, they are also interrelated. Discussions draw on empirical case studies in local settings, but to comprehend the depth of the issues requires a global perspective and an interdisciplinary approach.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Identify and describe key analytical concepts in designated themes in social sciences and humanities;	25	x	x	
2	Identify and describe qualitative research approaches in social sciences and humanities;	25	x	x	
3	Identify problems and analyze social phenomena critically and independently;	20	x	x	x
4	Demonstrate effective teamwork;	15	x	x	x
5	Apply the above-mentioned concepts, research methods, and other skills to specific case studies of particular social phenomena.	15	x	x	x

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs	Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Reading	Students will learn about debates regarding specific issues; will develop skills in reading and thinking in a critical manner.	1, 2, 3, 5
2	Lectures	Students will attend lectures introducing them to concepts, theories, histories, and debates through use of diverse pedagogical strategies.	1, 2, 3, 5

3	Discussions	Students will have opportunities to synthesize readings, raise questions, communicate with others, and debate in a critical yet respectful manner.	1, 2, 3, 5	
4	Group Projects	Students will work as a team together, in order to identify a social phenomenon of shared interests under the designated themes, draw on readings and lectures, conduct research, and make arguments.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	
5	Individual Essays	Students will synthesize, analyse, and evaluate arguments, preferably drawing on theories, debates and approaches from other courses.	1, 2, 3, 5	

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks (e.g. Parameter for GenAI use)
1	In-class discussion	1, 2, 3, 5	15	
2	Discussion on the course website	1, 2, 3, 5	15	
3	Group Projects	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	40	
4	Individual Essay	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	30	

Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Examination (%)

0

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

In class discussion

Criterion

To demonstrate the activeness of classroom participation

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Excellent participation in presentations and class discussion

Good (B+, B, B-)

Very good participation in presentations and class discussion

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Good participation in presentations and class discussion

Marginal (D)

Marginal participation in presentations and class discussion

Failure (F)

No attendance or participation in class discussion

Assessment Task

Discussion on the course website

Criterion

To demonstrate the activeness of discussion on website

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Excellent to excellent participation on website

Good (B+, B, B-)

Very good participation on website

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Good participation on website

Marginal (D)

Marginal participation on website

Failure (F)

No participation on website

Assessment Task

Group projects

Criterion

To assess presentation

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Demonstration of excellent understanding of the course

Good (B+, B, B-)

Demonstration of very good understanding of the course

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Demonstration of good understanding of the course

Marginal (D)

Demonstration of marginal understanding of the course

Failure (F)

Demonstration of no understanding of the course

Assessment Task

Individual essay

Criterion

To assess the ability to write a an essay of quality and relevance to course

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Demonstration of excellent understanding and critical evaluation of impacts of globalization on environmental problems and policies

Good (B+, B, B-)

Demonstration of very good understanding and critical evaluation of impacts of globalization on environmental problems and policies

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Demonstration of good understanding and critical evaluation of impacts of globalization on environmental problems and policies

Marginal (D)

Demonstration of marginal understanding and critical evaluation of impacts of globalization on environmental problems and policies

Failure (F)

Demonstration of no understanding and critical evaluation of impacts of globalization on environmental problems and policies

Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus

Globalization; challenges; uneven development; poverty; care work; population; science, technology, and society; climate change; Anthropocene; global perspective; social sciences and humanities; interdisciplinary approach.

Reading List

Compulsory Readings

Title	
1	Nil

Additional Readings

Title	
1	Nil