

**TIMETABLE ARRANGEMENT:** Annual; 1st Semester

**CREDITS:** 6

**COURSE TEACHER(S):** Dr. James H LENZER JR

**ASSESSMENT:**

EXAMINATION 50 %	COURSEWORK 50 %
• 2 hours	• 1 individual term essay

**OBJECTIVES:**

This course explains the processes of globalisation and the implications of using information and communication technologies (ICT) in understanding forces of spatial convergence and divergence. It provides students with a better understanding of the forces of globalisation and ICT, and their impact on contemporary geography. After taking this course, students are expected to be able to understand local issues as the results of forces operating at different spatial scales and be able to analyse and respond to changes brought about by globalisation and ICT.

**COURSE SYNOPSIS:**

A geographical perspective is adopted to explain and analyse the processes of globalisation. Special emphasis is placed on the modern transnational corporations (TNCs) in different sectors of the economy and different regions of the world. Then, the impact of ICT on various dimensions of the society, including government, commerce, work, and personal and social networking, are systematically examined. The stages of e-development are proposed. Finally, the question of whether places in the contemporary world are moving towards convergence and divergence is addressed.

**LECTURE TOPICS:**

- Globalisation
- The e-society and geography
- Modern transnational corporations
- Selected theories
- Case studies

**RECOMMENDED READING LIST:**

- Dicken, P. (2015). Global Shift: Mapping the Changing Contours of the World Economy, 7th edition. Los Angeles: Sage Publications. Online resources for students available at <https://study.sagepub.com/dicken7e>.
- Loo, B. P.Y. (2012). The E-society. New York: Nova Science. (Chapter Seven is open access and can be downloaded at [https://www.novapublishers.com/catalog/product\\_info.php?products\\_id=22244](https://www.novapublishers.com/catalog/product_info.php?products_id=22244)).
- Ritzer, G. (2014). Globalisation: A Basic Text, 2nd edition. United Kingdom: Wiley-Blackwell.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs) After completing this course, students would be able to:		Alignment with Programme Learning Outcomes (PLOs)*						Course Assessment Methods
		1	2	3	4	5	6	
1	understand contemporary spatial patterns and processes of globalisation	✓	✓					Exam
2	understand theories that have shaped and are shaping contemporary globalisation	✓	✓					Essay & exam
3	critically understand origins, operations and significance of modern transnational corporations		✓			✓		Essay & exam
4	understand characteristics of flexible production					✓	✓	Exam
5	identify processes of e-government, e-commerce, e-working and e-networking	✓	✓					Essay & exam
6	analyse stages of e-development		✓					Essay & exam
7	discuss impacts on spatial convergence and divergence				✓			Exam
8	apply theories to analyse real-life situations			✓			✓	Essay & exam
9	develop skills of writing essays with standpoints					✓	✓	Essay & exam

### **\*Geography Major Programme Learning Outcomes (PLOs)**

In order to meet the demands and challenges in this dynamic and ever-changing world, the Department has designed a series of well-structured and contemporary courses to cater to the different interests of students. Its courses are designed to align with the University's educational aims which hope to nurture future generations not only with a critical and intellectual mindset, but also with a passion to contribute to society in general.

After completing the programme, Geography Major students should be able to:

**PLO1** critically analyse the geographical aspects of the relationship between people and the natural environment;

**PLO2** demonstrate and develop an understanding of how these relationships have changed with space and over time;

**PLO3** identify, collect and utilize primary and secondary data to investigate and analyse the issues and problems facing people, places and society;

**PLO4** integrate, evaluate and communicate information from a variety of geographical and other sources;

**PLO5** participate in promoting social, economic and environmental sustainability at the local, regional and global scales; and

**PLO6** effectively apply a range of transferable skills in academic, professional and social settings.