

# Globalization and Change

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# Introduction



1. Please imagine the room is a map of India with the lecturer's desk being the Southern tip. Please go to the place on the imaginary map that your home town would be in.
2. Did you start studying right after finishing school or did you first do something else like an internship or a job? Please raise your hand if you did not start studying right after leaving school.
3. The four corners of the room stand for different job directions you might want to take after finishing your bachelor. Corner 1 stands for continuing with a Master program. Corner 2 stands for working in the related industry. Corner 3 stands for working in a government related position and Corner 4 stands for „Other plans“. Where would you put yourself?
4. Please imagine there is a line measuring knowledge about sociology and globalization as indicated by me. Where would you put yourself along that line?

## Objectives

- To develop a deep, literature-led understanding of the causes, processes and effects of globalization
- To understand the common traits and differences of various perspectives on globalization within the social sciences, starting from sociology
- To express own views and thoughts on globalization based on literature reading, common knowledge and empirical research
- To get practise in reading scientific writings within the social sciences, summarize their main message and placing them within a theoretical system of globalization analysis
- To get practise in a team-based preparation and presentation of an empirical phenonema of globalization
- To get practise in writing a theory based essay discussing a specific aspect of globalization

# Tentative course agenda



Week	Topic	Assignment
15/01/2018	Introduction / History of Globalization	Hopkins, A. (2002): Introduction: Globalization – an Agenda for Historians. In: Globalization in World History. London: Pimlico.
22/01/2018	History of Globalization	Reading Assignment
29/01/2018	Globalization: Definitions and Concepts	Reading Assignment
05/02/2018	Globalization: Definitions and Concepts	Reading Assignment
12/02/2018	Economy of Globalization	Reading Assignment
19/02/2018	Globalization and Culture	Reading Assignment
26/02/2018	Politics of Globalization	Reading Assignment

# Tentative course agenda



Week	Topic	Assignment
05/03/2018	Globalization and Urbanisation / Essay writing	Reading Assignment
12/03/2018	Globalization and Gender	Definition of essay question
19/03/2018	Globalization and Environment	Writing of essay
26/03/2018	Globalization and Migration	Due date essay: April 6th 2018
02/04/2018	Globalization and War	Reading Assignment
09/04/2018	Anti-Globalization Movements	Reading Assignment
16/04/2018	The Future of Globalization	Reading Assignment
23/04/2018	The Future of Globalization / Presentation preparation	Preparation of presentation
30/04/2018	Presentations	Preparation of presentation
07/05/2018	Presentations / Quiz	Preparation of presentation

## Terminology

A term is a mental instrument used to reproduce and confine phenomena of reality. Terms are descriptive symbols, attached to a concrete concept described by a bundle of characteristics. Terms have two functions:

1. Structure function: Terms determine where to put the focus.
2. Communication function: Terms enable the communication between individuals about the same concept.

In order to fulfill these functions, terms need to correspond with the following criteria:

1. They need to be applied as consistently and continuously as possible.
2. They need to be subject to a precise definition.
3. They need to involve empirical references.

A definition is a rule on the basis of which a descriptive symbol is related to a mental concept. A definition thus attaches a bundle of characteristics to a certain term. (R. Wittenberg 2008, p. 24, own translation)

**Take 10 minutes of time and try to formulate the definition of one of the two concepts at the basis of this course, globalization or sociology.**

## Literature



Wittenberg, R. (2008): Einführung in die empirische Sozialforschung I. Erlangen: Friedrich Alexander Universitaet.