GEOG 582 Fall 2017 – Global Trade and Local Development
MWF 10:10-11:00, 103 Morrill Hall

Instructor: Tu Lan, PhD
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Office Hours: MWF 9-10 or by appointment

Course Description
Examines the location, distribution, and spatial organization of economic activities across the planet. Economic geography will be approached with an emphasis on historical development, recent theoretical traditions, and current trends and patterns in economic geography research. Particular attention will be directed toward the political economy and uneven development. Beyond history and theory, students will be challenged to comprehend their place, and that of others, in the current global economy at scales from local to global.

In Curriculum
The course fulfills the following university requirement: DISCOVERY Social Science.

Course Goals
- Recall and exemplify the basic concepts and theories in economic geography;
- Identify key moments in the history of global economy;
- Analyze the interactions between global trades and local development through global production networks.

Required Texts:

Textbooks are available at UNH bookstore and Durham Book Exchange.

Course Format
The course is based on both lectures and in-class discussions. In general, I will lecture half of the class and leave the rest of the time to discussions. Moving into the semester, we will gradually give more weight to discussions.

My Courses
UNH is pleased to offer a new teaching and learning experience for selected courses. You are enrolled in a course that will be using myCourses (Canvas) this semester. GEOG 686 will be available in myCourses. Other courses you are taking might be available in Blackboard or myCourses. We thank you for your patience in using multiple systems as we transition fully from Blackboard to myCourses during this academic year. To access myCourses please navigate to: mycourses.unh.edu and login using your enterprise credentials (same user ID/password as Blackboard). After opening your course click on the ‘Modules’ menu item and you will see a Module called Welcome to MyCourses that has a number of
videos and text documents to help navigate the system as well as details on how you can get technical support and assistance with using myCourses 24/7.

**Requirements**
The semester is divided into three parts: (1) the basics in economic geography, (2) approaches to study economic geography, and (3) important actors in global trades and local development. We will use the textile and apparel market as our primary case. Being one of the oldest industries, the textile market has changed and is still changing the landscapes and people’s lives in nearly all countries.

- **Reading**: All students will be expected to read 30 to 50 pages every week. Lectures and class discussions are based on these readings.

- **Questions**: Individual students are required to turn in at least one question every week when there is a reading assigned. Questions should be directly related to either the reading of that week or the content presented in the previous class. These should be real questions – that is, the things that are not clear to you. Every missing question will be penalized with one point.

- **Bi-weekly Quizzes**: Every other week, we will do a quiz summarizing the two weeks’ reading and lectures. It will take no longer than 15 minutes with no more than five questions, each requiring an answer of less than three sentences. The primary purpose of these quizzes is to monitor the learning progress more than to just take points from you. It will also give you a sense of the questions you expect in exams. More importantly, quiz questions will already appear at the beginning of the classes that week. That will also help you take notes more purportedly. Each quiz is amount to 10 points. There will be 5 quizzes in total, with the lowest grade being dropped.

- **News Reports**: Each student will do one news report. The news must be closely related to the weekly topic. When assigned, the student will have to present the news and provoke discussions in the class.

- **“Behind the Label” Project**: Students will be asked to choose an item of clothing and do a research based on that label. This project includes four steps, each resulting a research report, 4 pages long including references, 1 inch margin on all sides, font size 12, double spaced. First, you will trace the paths this particular item has travelled and identify the places, companies, institutions, and hopefully also logistics it has gone through. Second, using online trade data, you will study the spatial pattern of that commodity and its position in international trades. Third, you will do a research on the social and political impacts of the international trade of that particular item. Examples can be working conditions in the manufacturing country or trade conflicts between two countries. Finally, you will present your results with graphs in the end of the semester. Detailed instructions will be posted on MyCourses and discussed in class.

- **Exams**: There will be two non-cumulative exams. 80% of the exam questions will have already appeared in classes and quizzes. Therefore, you would expect a grade of 80 for each exam if you come to the classes and take the quizzes. The rest of the questions require reading textbooks and critical thinking based on class content.
### Component Points Total points

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Total points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Questions</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>News Reports</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Behind the Label” Project (4)</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>120</td>
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<td>Quizzes (5, drop the lowest)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exams (2)</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>200</td>
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<td><strong>Total points</strong></td>
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- **Grade Scheme:** There will be no round-ups. All lines are hard and non-negotiable.

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>100 – 94</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>&lt;90 – 87</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>&lt;84 – 80</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>&lt;80 – 77</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>&lt;74 – 70</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>&lt;70 – 67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>&lt;64 – 61</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt;61 – 0</td>
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- **Class Notes:** After each lecture (not before), I will upload the slides onto MyCourses. I do so because I do not want you to write down every word I say in class. Even though these notes are important for the quizzes and exams, try to be a smart notes taker. In fact, the questions I post before each class should become your guideline for taking notes. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to borrow notes from your peers.

- **Classroom Behavior:** To insure a climate of learning for all, disruptive or inappropriate behavior (repeated outbursts, disrespect for the ideas of others, etc.) may result in exclusion (removal) from this class. As a reminder, cell phone/PDA, etc. use, including text messaging, is not permitted in this class by Faculty Senate rule unless by instructor permission. Laptops and tablets are allowed to be used only for the purpose of taking notes and doing data labs. Using laptops and tablets for any other reasons will be seen as a violation of the class policy. Each time of violating the electronic devices policy will result in 1% from your final grade.

- **Make-ups and Late Work:** There will be no make-up for tests unless you meet the following condition. If you expect to miss more than one test AND you participate in an approved intercollegiate team, please notify me before the class and you may be allowed to take a make-up. You must also have your notice signed off by your coach or a representative of your team. Any other travel needs do not qualify for make-ups. Any kind of emergency including medical ones must be reported to the college. The college will inform all your professors so that you do not need to deal with each of us individually.

    Every 24 hours past due will be penalized by 10% of the grade of that assignment. Should you have a college/university approved activity delaying your submission, please let me know at least 24 hours before the deadline.

- **University Academic Honesty Statement:** The University does not tolerate any kind of academic dishonesty. When you are working on a writing assignment, do not cut and paste from other
sources. Be sure to quote and cite any words that are not your own and be sure to attribute ideas to their original source even when paraphrasing. You may fail the class by not following the rules. If you are not sure about what constitutes academic misconduct, ask the instructor or see the university’s Students Rights, Rules and Responsibilities handbook, available at [http://www.unh.edu/student/rights/](http://www.unh.edu/student/rights/)

- **Emotional and Mental Health Distress**: Your academic success in this course is very important to me. If during the semester, you find emotional or mental health issues are affecting that success, please contact the University’s Counseling Center (3rd floor Smith Hall: 603-862-2090/TTY:7-1-1) which provides counseling appointments and other mental health services. You may find more information about UNH Counseling Center at [http://www.unh.edu/counseling-center/homepage](http://www.unh.edu/counseling-center/homepage)

- **Special accommodations**: The University is committed to providing students with documented disabilities equal access to all university programs and facilities. If you think you have a disability requiring accommodations, you must register with Disability Services for Students (DSS). If you have questions about the process, please contact DSS at (603) 862-2607 or disability.office@unh.edu. If you are registered with DSS, and eligible for accommodations that you would like to utilize in this course, please forward that information to me in a timely manner so that we can meet privately in my office to review those accommodations. For more information, please visit [http://www.unh.edu/disabilityservices](http://www.unh.edu/disabilityservices).

### Syllabus Changes

The professor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus, including project due dates and test dates, when unforeseen circumstances such as snow storms occur. These changes will be announced as early as possible so that students can adjust their schedules.

### Course Schedule

#### Part I: Basics in Economic Geography

Week 1, Aug 28/30, Sep1: Course Overview and Globalization
- Sokol Chapter 1.

Week 2, Sep 4/6/8: Origins of Economics and Economic Geography
- **Sep 4: Labor Day, no class**
- Sokol Chapter 2.

Week 3, Sep 11/13/15: Market Economy and the History of Capitalism
- **Sep 11: Quiz 1**

**Part II: Approaches to Study Global Economy**

Week 4, Sep 18/20/22: Key Approaches and Global Commodity Chains
- Sokol Chapter 3.

Week 5, Sep 25/27/29: Neoclassical
- **Sep 25: Quiz 2**
- **Sep 25: Project Step 1 starts.**
- Sokol Chapter 4

Week 6, Oct 2/4/6: Marxist
- Sokol Chapter 5

Week 7, Oct 9/11/13: Alternative
- **Oct 9: Quiz 3**
- Sokol Chapter 6

Week 8, Oct 16/18/20: Find trade data and measure the development
- **Oct 16: Midterm.**
- **Oct 18: Step 1 due; Step 2 starts.**

**Part III: Actors in Global Economy: a Case Study of Global Textile and Apparel Market**

Week 9: Oct 23/25/27: Agriculture and Technology
- Rivoli Part 1.

Week 10: Oct 30, Nov 1/3: Manufacturing and Labor
- **Nov 3: Step 2 due; Step 3 starts.**
- Rivoli Part 2.

Week 11: Nov 6/8/10: Trade Policy and the Government
- **Nov 6: Quiz 4**
- Rivoli Part 3.
Week 12: Nov 13/15/17: After Market and Culture
  • Rivoli Part 4.

Week 13, Nov 20/22/24
  • Nov 20: Quiz 5
  • Nov 20: Movie Day
  • Nov 22/24: Thanksgiving, no class.

Week 14, Nov 27/29, Dec 1: Social Implications
  • Nov 27: Step 3 due; Step 4 starts.
  • Rivoli Part 5;
  • Sokol Chapter 7;

Week 15, Dec 4/6/8: Presentations and Review Session

Dec 15, 10:30 AM – 12:30 AM: Final Exam