WHAT DOES GLOBAL CHALLENGES STUDY?

Globally competent citizens must be able to examine global challenges from a variety of perspectives. To provide students with an appropriate “big picture” framework, the Global Challenges curriculum took inspiration from the work of one of Washington’s leading bipartisan think tanks, the Center for Strategic and International Studies. CSIS’ Seven Revolutions Project (http://csis.org/program/seven-revolutions) identifies seven important trends that have the potential to transform the way we live and interact with others. By exploring global challenges through the lens of these disparate but related areas of change, students come to better understand both the promise and peril of the challenges we face in the 21st century.

1. Population
   - What effects will population growth/decline, aging, migration and urbanization have on our future world?

2. Resource management and climate change
   - What changes will we see in food, water and energy consumption/production?

3. Technological innovation and diffusion
   - What changes are we going to see in computation, robotics, biotechnology and nanotechnology?

4. The development and dissemination of information and knowledge
   - How does the vast amount of data change how we learn and govern in the future?

5. Economics
   - How is our economic landscape changing?

6. The nature and mode of security
   - How do we cope with a post-9/11 world? Is there a new paradigm?

7. The challenge of governance
   - What is the role of leaders, corporations and NGO’s in this new environment?
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WHAT IS THE GLOBAL CHALLENGES COURSE?
Global Challenges is an exciting national blended learning course made possible by the collaborative efforts of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities’ American Democracy Project, The New York Times Knowledge Network and teaching faculty from 10 AASCU institutions.

WHY TEACH GLOBAL CHALLENGES AT YOUR UNIVERSITY?
There are many reasons to add a Global Challenges course to your campus curriculum or as a unit in an existing course you teach:

For Your University
- Energize your campus’ commitment to global citizenship and internationalization
- Add a great asset to your first-year experience, capstone or honors programs

For Your Faculty
- Experience the stimulating collaborative environment of working with colleagues across campuses and disciplines toward common interdisciplinary learning objectives
- Teach an exciting curriculum that is informed by the research of one of the world’s leading bipartisan public policy think tanks and supported by one of the world’s premier newspapers
- Experiment with cutting-edge models for blended learning environments

For Your Students
- Encourage your students to think more deeply and critically about international and public policy issues
- Challenge students to consider the promise and peril these seven global challenges present for their personal and professional lives

COST
Instead of a required text, students have access to the course multimedia resources on Epsilen for the rate of $50 for the duration of the school year. Once a faculty member registers to teach the course, he or she will have access to the student and faculty toolkits, other course materials and the web collaborative.

COURSE LAUNCH
The course is available to any two- or four-year college or university beginning Fall 2012.

THE GLOBAL CHALLENGES COURSE PARTNERS
Global Challenges Blended Learning Course is a partnership between the American Association of State Colleges and Universities’ American Democracy Project (AASCU/ADP), the participating AASCU Institutions’ Global Engagement Scholars and The New York Times Knowledge Network. Fort Hays State University (Kans.) is providing logistical and administrative support for this project.

Sample syllabus
• Learning objectives
• Lesson modules
• Quizzes/exams
• Assignments
• Assessment tools
• Faculty/teaching toolkit

Fact sheets
• Student guide
• Current and archived New York Times resources
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HOW DOES GLOBAL CHALLENGES WORK?
This course uses a variety of teaching methods to deliver and facilitate the classroom materials and activities.

The Global Challenges course is delivered through the Epsilen eLearning Environment, a powerful resource for sharing course content and networking. Epsilen is a comprehensive environment that offers course administration and professional and social networking. It is a web-based application that allows students to access course materials, The New York Times Digital Content Repository and much more.

As a faculty member, you can use the system to upload your own syllabi, use discussion forums, wikis and blog features, assign students into work groups, access stunning content and much more.

FACULTY SUPPORT
As the Global Challenges course instructor, you will have access to a ready-made course shell in the Epsilen course management system complete with:

- Sample syllabus
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You will have the freedom to then customize the course shell and alter materials to best suit your particular course’s objectives and needs.

In addition, you will receive full access to a web collaborative designed especially for instructors. The additional features will help you prepare for this exciting course. They include:
- Webinars
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WEBSITE
www.aascu.org/GlobalChallenges/

CONTACT US
Shala Mills, Global Challenges National Course Coordinator
EMAIL GlobalChallenges@fhsu.edu
FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY