This class investigates how seemingly disparate people and places are interconnected through a process often called globalization. Globalization is sometimes understood as the worldwide integration of national economies or experiences of “cultural diffusion,” but it is much more. In this introductory Human Geography this course we will learn to think like Geographers to understand some of the ways globalization works, who it works for, and different perspectives on globalization.

The course will offer theoretical tools, methods, and examples by which we can examine origins and impacts of globalization. In doing so it will cover some of the things that make globalization possible (foundational global understandings, materials, policies, laws, economic structures), the everyday impact globalization has on social difference, as well as alternative ways of envisioning and enacting global relationships.

By the end of this class students will be able to:

- Articulate how a Geographer might approach questions of global relationships
- Explain foundational processes of globalization
- Understand globalization as a contested process
- Apply evidence from case studies to understand how globalization impacts people and places differently across the globe.
- Identify and use basic principles and vocabulary from human geography to construct an argument

Drawing on insights from cultural, political, and feminist geography, this course will help students contextualize recent social events and moments in an ever changing global world. In doing so we will explore case studies that cover topics such social movements, art and architecture, and daily life in North Carolina.