

# The Global Experience

GST 110-K

Fall, 2000

**Course Description:**

This first-year seminar examines public responsibility in a global context. It explores some of the implications created by cultural and natural diversity and the possibilities for human communication and cooperation within this diversity. The course emphasizes student and faculty creativity through active and collaborative learning. The seminar is writing intensive. Limited to first-year students. Offered fall and spring.

**Instructor:** Jeff Clark**Office:** Duke 201-A**Phone:** x6248**E-Mail:** [clarkj@elon.edu](mailto:clarkj@elon.edu)**Web:** <http://frodo.elon.edu>**Office Hours:**

- Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 10:00–11:00 AM
- Tuesday and Thursday, 10:30–11:30 AM

**Required Materials:**

1. *Understanding the Global Experience* edited by Tom Arcaro and Duane McClearn.
2. *The Dragon's Village* by Yuan-Tsung Chen.
3. *Night* by Elie Wiesel.
4. *Zenzele* by J. Nozipo Maraire.
5. *Watersheds 2* by Lisa H. Newton and Catherine K. Dillingham.
6. *New York Times*, daily.

### **Goals of the General Studies Program**

1. Leadership Habits:
  - Learning to take responsibility for one's own life and to extend fairness and care to all communities, peoples, and places.
2. Abilities that are Fundamental:
  - Reading, writing, listening, and speaking.
  - Accessing and interpreting information.
  - Evaluating, supporting claims, presenting.
3. Unity in Diversity:
  - Respecting and valuing diversity, both among communities and among ideas.
  - Prizing what unites us as humans and unites us with our environment.
4. Numerical Ability:
  - Working with numbers and quantitative evidence.
5. Critical/Constructive, Connected/Creative Thinking and Acting:
  - Knowing how to be a constructive skeptic.
  - Being creative while working with other people and ideas.
6. Holistic Living:
  - Being aware that there are connections between, mind, spirit, and body.
  - Recognizing that theories can be applied.

### **GST 110 Course Objectives**

Over the course of the semester, we will work to understand

1. the importance of individual responsibility.
2. the relationship of humans to the natural world.
3. globalization and reculturalization as powerful global forces.
4. the impact of imperialism and colonialism.
5. the nature of culture.
6. the plights of disempowered groups.

**Course Content:**

1. This is a discussion class. Each day you should be prepared to discuss the reading assigned for that day; you will be graded on your class participation.
2. This is a writing-intensive class; you will be writing short assignments each week of the semester. Often I will ask you to revise your work, on the assumption that you are using a word processor and can do so easily.
3. We will examine different cultures with the texts *The Dragon's Village* and *Zenzele*. Our discussions will focus on conflicts between cultures and what values are shared in different cultures.
4. Lest we fall into the trap of believing that every set of cultural values is acceptable, we will spend some time discussing the Holocaust with *Night*.
5. Our focus on culture will continue into the present with discussions of current events from *The New York Times*.
6. Our focus on the global nature of values will come from examining case studies of environmental problems in *Watersheds 2*.

**Feedback and Evaluation:**

1. Writing assignments (in and out of class) will be worth 40% of your grade.
2. Attendance, preparation, *and* class participation will be worth 30% of your grade.
3. On November 5–7 at 7:00 PM, you will be participating in a conference on Environmental issues. Working in groups, you will each represent the economic and ecological interests of a specific country, Your presentations, both oral and written, will be worth 10% of your grade.  
It is imperative that if you have a conflict with these dates that you let me know immediately.
4. There will be a midterm exam worth 10% of your grade, and a cumulative final exam worth 10% of your final grade.
5. I grade on a ten-point scale:

93–100	A
90–92	A-
87–89	B+
83–86	B
80–82	B-
77–79	C+
73–76	C
70–72	C-
67–69	D+
63–66	D
60–62	D-
0–59	F

**Schedule**

Week of	Reading
August 28:	Introduction
September 4:	Library Workshop, Tiemann, Haskell in Arcaro, et al
September 11:	Newton #1, Maraïre (pages 1–91)
September 18:	Basirico in Arcaro, et al
	Culture lecture (Basirico or Bolin) on Wednesday, September 20
September 25:	Lubling in Arcaro et al, Maraïre (pages 92–194) Ethics lecture (Lubling) on Wednesday, September 27
October 2:	Zenzele lecture (Maraïre), Monday, October 2 Newton #3
October 9:	Newton #4, Midterm Exam Wednesday, October 11
October 16:	Newton #5, 6
October 23:	Newton #7, 8
October 30:	Newton #9, 10
November 6:	Environmental Conference, November 5–7, 7:00 PM
November 13:	Chen #1–12
November 20:	Chen #13–24
November 27:	Wiesel
December 4:	Weston and Arcaro in Arcaro, et al
December 11:	Final Exam, Monday, December 11, 3:00–6:00 PM

Note: all lectures will be Whitley auditorium. No food or drink is permitted in Whitley.