

**SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY**

**SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO**



**COURSE OUTLINE**

**COURSE TITLE:** What in the World is Going On?  
**CODE NO. :** GAS 103 **SEMESTER:** Fall/Winter  
**PROGRAM:** GENERAL ARTS AND SCIENCE  
**AUTHOR:** General Arts and Science Department  
**DATE:** Jan. 2014 **PREVIOUS OUTLINE DATED:** Jan. 2013  
**APPROVED:** "Angelique Lemay" Aug. 2013  
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**DEAN** **DATE**  
**TOTAL CREDITS:** 3 Credits  
**PREREQUISITE(S):** None  
**HOURS/WEEK:** 2 hours

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*For additional information, please contact Angelique Lemay, Dean*  
*School of Community Services and Interdisciplinary Studies.*  
*(705) 759-2554, Ext. 2603*

**I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course will give students the opportunity to build a strong awareness of current global issues. Students will explore various media such a radio, TV, internet, newspaper, and magazines. Through discussions, debates, and presentations, students will focus on the main international headlines. Students will discover and develop a view and understanding of the impact of events related to music, entertainment, fashion, sports politics, economics, world issues, and human-interest stories.

**II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Identify current news issues and sources in a global context

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Identify major news stories
- Identify major trends
- Locate critical events on world map

2. Examine the role of media

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Explore a variety of news sources:  
Canadian, US, and international sources
- Compare and contrast different types of media:  
TV  
radio  
newspapers  
magazines  
specialized magazines

3. Recognize newsmakers

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Evaluate and report on  
political/religious leaders  
celebrities  
athletes  
famous/infamous people

## 4. Investigate turmoil within global societies

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Research existing conflict:  
War, civil war, revolts, revolutions, crime
- Trace and define movements of populations
- Analyze breakdown of traditional social structures:  
religion  
family  
male/female relations  
wealth and poverty gaps  
economic relations/recession

## 5. Examine Health Issues

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Investigate cost of health delivery
- Explore prevention, intervention and cures
- Research health access and availability
- Examine mental health causes and treatment

## 6. Explore Environmental Concerns

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Examine genetically modified food topics
- Investigate fossil fuel and alternative energy concerns
- Research mega projects, their target and effects
- Examine pollution: water, air, land, sea.
- Investigate endangered species

## 7. Investigate innovation in specialized areas

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Examine innovation from a specific area such as  
fashion  
technology  
automobiles  
sports  
architecture  
music

**III. TOPICS:**

1. World issues
2. Role of media
3. Movers and shakers
4. Turmoil within global societies
5. Health issues
6. Environmental concerns
7. Innovation

Note: The order of topics is not fixed. Some of the topics will run concurrently with others. Your professor will explain the course organization. Also, some of the above topics could change. Your professor will inform you of any changes.

**IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES/TEXTS/MATERIALS:**

- 2 blank world maps, provided by the professor
- Required readings/handouts, provided by the professor

**V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:**

Newsmaker research report & presentation	20%
In-class group presentations/debates/discussions	20%
Individual reflections/summaries + map(s)	25%
Assignments to be determined by the professor (quizzes, special project, research paper, video analysis, peer review, etc.)	35%
Total	100%

***The quiz questions assume the student has attended all lectures and presentations and completed all class assignments.***

The following semester grades will be assigned to students:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Grade Point Equivalent</u>
A+	90 – 100%	4.00
A	80 – 89%	
B	70 - 79%	3.00
C	60 - 69%	2.00
D	50 – 59%	1.00
F (Fail)	49% and below	0.00
CR (Credit)	Credit for diploma requirements has been awarded.	
S	Satisfactory achievement in field /clinical placement or non-graded subject area.	
U	Unsatisfactory achievement in field/clinical placement or non-graded subject area.	
X	A temporary grade limited to situations with extenuating circumstances giving a student additional time to complete the requirements for a course.	
NR	Grade not reported to Registrar's office.	
W	Student has withdrawn from the course without academic penalty.	

**VI. SPECIAL NOTES:**

**Note:** For such reasons as program certification or program articulation, certain courses require minimums of greater than 50% and/or have mandatory components to achieve a passing grade.

It is also important to note, that the minimum overall GPA required in order to graduate from a Sault College program remains 2.0.

**Attendance:**

Sault College is committed to student success. There is a direct correlation between academic performance and class attendance; therefore, for the benefit of all its constituents, all students are encouraged to attend all of their scheduled learning and evaluation sessions. This implies arriving on time and remaining for the duration of the scheduled session.

**Note: Some of the topics may contain violent or sensitive material.**

**VII. COURSE OUTLINE ADDENDUM:**

The provisions contained in the addendum are located on the student portal. Students are responsible for becoming familiar with this information. Go to <https://mysaultcollege.ca>