SPECIALIZATION TRACK IN ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY

Economic Geography focuses on the ways in which economic activity is stretched over the space of the earth’s surface. Economists too rarely take the spatial dimension seriously, a perspective that implies that all economic activity takes place on the head of a pin. Geographers, by contrast, are interested in the manner in which social relations and activities occur unevenly over space, the ways in which local places and the global economy are intertwined, and the difference that location makes to how economic activity is organized. No social process occurs in exactly the same way in different places. Thus, where and when economic activity occurs has a profound influence on how it occurs. Space, then, can no longer be relegated to the sidelines. As globalization has made small differences among places increasingly, space has become more, not less, important.

Globalization – the growing integration of economies and societies around the world – continues to transform the world economy at an ever-increasing rate. This new world economy links distant peoples and places so that what happens in one place shapes what happens in another through networks of interdependence. While most people recognize the widespread changes brought about by globalization, many disagree on whether the benefits outweigh the costs. Economic Geography provides an excellent vehicle toward understanding today’s increasingly interdependent world.

Core class
GEOG 3440 / 5440 – Global Economic Geography

Elective classes in Geography
GEOG 3400 / 5400 – Population Geography
GEOG 3420 – Political Geography
GEOG 3480 – Urban Geography
GEOG 3620 – Geography of North America (fulfills the Diversity requirement)

Related classes in other departments (Some of these qualify for allied credit hours)
BUS 2900 – Introduction to International Business
ECON 3370 – Markets & Government: The Economics of Cooperation
ECON 3500 – International Economics
FCS 3470 – International Consumer Policy
FIN 4550 – International Finance
MGT 4900 – International Management
SOC 3435 – Sociology of Economic Development
SOC 3436 – Global Social Structure and Change