

# Introduction to Global Challenges

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## We're delighted you're thinking about studying at Brunel University London.

Our lecturers have put together the following information to help you prepare for your course. This will give you a snapshot of the materials and reading list you'll be using. You'll get a full breakdown of information before you enrol.

On our website you can also [find out more about your modules](#) and [chat to a current student](#).

If you have any more questions, [please get in touch](#).

We look forward to welcoming you to Brunel.

### Sample lecture/coursework questions

1. How have perspectives on 'creativity' changed since ancient times?
2. How do qualitative and creative approaches help researchers address global challenges (which kind of challenges)?
3. What does it mean to 'decolonise' literature review sources? Give examples and explain why this is important?
4. What factors must be considered when thinking about the ethics of a research project?
5. With reference to the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals, define a specific global challenge. Outline the benefits of adopting a transdisciplinary approach to addressing this global challenge.
6. What is the difference between a disciplinary team, a multidisciplinary team, an interdisciplinary team, and transdisciplinary team? Describe how each of these might approach the same global challenge
7. What strategies might be used to create a zero-carbon future? Consider the differing perspectives of at least two innovators
8. Discuss the role of wealth and income inequality in the persistence of poverty. Make reference to at least two of the following Piketty, Raworth, Dorling and/or Giridharadas.



## Reading list

- Elizabeth Gilbert, '[Your elusive creative genius](#)', Ted Talk (2009)
- Giridharadas, Anand (2020) *Winners Take All: The Elite Charade of Changing the World*
- Helen Kara, *Creative Research Methods in the Social Sciences: A practical guide*, (Policy Press, Bristol, 2015).
- Klein, Naomi (2019) *On Fire: The (Burning) Case for a Green New Deal*
- Patricia Leavy (ed), *The Oxford Handbook of Qualitative Research*, (OUP: Oxford, 2014)
- Raworth, Kate (2018) *Doughnut Economics: Seven Ways to Think Like a 21st-Century Economist*
- Silverman, D. A very short, fairly interesting and reasonably cheap book about doing qualitative research, (Sage: London, 2013).
- Yunus, Muhammad (2017) *A World of Three Zeros: The New Economics of Zero Poverty, Zero Unemployment, and Zero Net Carbon Emissions*

## Indicative content

Study Themes	Reading
Introduction – What you can expect and what we expect of you	McCormick, J (2018) <i>Introduction to Global Studies</i> , Macmillan International, London – Chapter - Introduction
Globalisation and Global Challenges	McCormick, J (2018) <i>Introduction to Global Studies</i> , Macmillan International, London – Chapter 1  Chirico, J. (2019) <i>Global Problems, Global Solutions</i> , Sage Publications, chapter tbc
The UN system	Chernotsky, H., Hobbs, H (2018) <i>Crossing borders: international studies for the 21st century</i> , Sage, Los Angeles Chapter 10 – Managing the World  Trent, J., Schnurr, L (2018) <i>A United Nations Renaissance: What the UN is and what it could be</i> , Barbara Budrich Publishers, Opladen/Berlin/Toronto – Selected sections from Chapter 1
Ideas of Development	Trent, J., Schnurr, L (2018) <i>A United Nations Renaissance: What the UN is and what it could be</i> , Barbara Budrich Publishers, Opladen/Berlin/Toronto- Chapters 2 and 3
Millenium Development Goals (MDGs) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Chernotsky, H., Hobbs, H (2018) <i>Crossing borders: international studies for the 21st century</i> , Sage, Los Angeles - Chapter 11 Challenges to Cooperation
Sub-Saharan Africa: great challenges, enormous potential	De la Brière, B et al (2017), <i>From mines and wells to well-built minds turning Sub-Saharan Africa's natural resource wealth into human capital</i> , World Bank Publications – Chapter - Overview  <a href="#">Stealing Africa (2012) Film</a>
Zambia – National Plans	Introduction – <a href="#">National Development Plan</a>
Zambia – SDGs	<a href="#">Project work – development reports</a>
Zambia – UNHCR	<a href="#">Project work UNHCR</a>
Zambia – Mayukwayukwa	<a href="#">Project work</a>