

# Global Studies Reflection Journal 19/20

## Instructions

1. Write all your reflections (events, trimester, etc) in this doc.
2. Be sure to title and date all reflections.
3. Place the most current reflection at the top of this file.
4. Do not print. All reflections will be assessed in this doc.
5. Event reflections may have specific prompts that will be given to you. Reflections on any event can include: new learning, connections to experiences, prep assignments or other classes, important takeaways, questions you have or the skills we are working on:

**The goal of the Global Studies Program is to develop active, engaged global citizens.** You will work to understand how your actions and experiences intersect with the world-at-large, and you will use this knowledge to effect positive change by developing the following skills...

- Thinking critically and creatively, including adopting a multiperspective approach that recognizes the different dimensions and angles of an issue
- Apply systems thinking to analyze the interdependence of contemporary and historical economic, social and environmental issues
- Demonstrating civic and community engagement
- Going deeper through dialogue with those who have different opinions and backgrounds

**Global Studies Themes:** the arts, the environment, globalization, global public health, human rights, non-violence and war, religion, sustainability and technology/communication.

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**PUT THE MOST RECENT REFLECTIONS AT THE TOP**

**MISSING SEVERAL REFLECTIONS:**  
**Travel and Empathy Workshop**  
**Chinese Film Appreciation**  
**Manhatta play and Art exhibit**

*The Spirit Catches You And You Fall Down Reflection 9/05/19*

*Catches You and You Fall Down* by Anne Fiedeman, deals a lot with the cultural Collision between the U.S. citizens and the Lee family. One of the biggest examples of a cultural collision happens early in the book when Lia Lee is born. In the Hospital where she is born the doctors cannot communicate with Lias Mother and are unable to give her the medications that she needs. Also when the family tries, they are unable to plant Lias Placenta, which is a very important ritual in Hmong Cultural, however to the Americans, they cannot bury the plant, and think nothing of it.

The biggest cultural collision in the book also has to do with the difference between Hmong Doctors and American Doctors. There is a lot of conflict in the book when it was revealed that Lia has epilepsy, and the Hmong view it as a spiritual thing, while the Hmong understand how big of a problem it is. The few times where Lias' parents understood the Doctors, they still did not want to listen to what they had to say, and what they should do to help Lia. Even when the parents did give Lia her medication it was

still in a regulated amount. Overall there is much cultural conflict in this book about religion. While in Lias country doctors were very religious and based much of their decisions and actions on faith, America was at a stage where they were no longer using religion to understand science or medical problems.

#### **Rosh Shannah in the Park 9/29/19:**

I attended the Rosh Shannah ceremonies in Elizabeth park where we sat through a Jewish Ceremony and got an experience of what another religion is like. I enjoyed this experience because it was informative and something I was not used to. I thought the park was a nice setting for this event to happen in. It was relaxing and it was much less formal than I thought it was going to be a much more formal event, instead it was nice and a relaxing evening.

This was the first Jewish Ceremony I had attended so seeing one in first person was a good new experience for me. I had only been to christian, and catholic services before so this new experience was very eye opening. This was a good pick for my religious event in my opinion and I walked away learning more about the Jewih Culture.

#### **Freshly squeezed reflection 10/02:**

The title of the Freshly Squeezed Event, was the normalization of hate. I thought that the freshly squeezed event was very informative. I thought the free speech aspect of it was the most interesting. I think that the pros and cons of banning certain commentators from social media is an important topic and also if companies are to ban people for their speech I think setting up an objective definition of hate speech is very important, due to the fact that everyone has their own definition and it is hard to seriously determine what does and does not constitute hate speech. I asked a question about this towards Richard Wilson and his response was that it was hard, and compared it to Germany who had hate speech laws and had them since 1945 so they had over 70 years to perfect them.

A point I did not think they focused on was the idea that when people on the Alt Right are banned from social media, it just gains them more sympathy from their fanbase and also sympathy from other people who might be free speech advocates. One of the points the panel brought up was that white supremecist love attention and I think when you ban one of them from a common social media place, it gets them more attention and gives the alt right more animosity towards these outlets. It also might drive these people to be more radicalized, and possibly turn to 4chan or 8chan where Mass Shooters have seem to be born. This is a point I wish they had focused more on. However something they focused on that was related to this was other ways that mass shooters are born, and one of them was whether or not it was a good idea to report on violence are not because it could breed copycats. I personally agree with this and think that if perpetrators of Shootings or Hate Crimes were not mentioned by name in the media, Shootings and Hate Crimes would go way down, because as the panel said, these people love attention. Overall this was a very informative event that I enjoyed greatly.

#### **Lyman Orchards 10/13/19**

I went to the Lyman Orchards Fall Festival for the cultural exchange with the chinese students. I had been to Lyman Orchards before, however the last time I went was around 8 years ago, so I did not remember much about this place. It was an enjoyable experience and also a good highlight of American Culture. Having not been to one of these in a while it made the experience even more enjoyable. America

has a somewhat unique culture so having this event for a cultural exchange would be informative for someone that was not from the country.

The big event of the festival was the corn maze. The corn maze was an American invention, so having one at this event helped to further represent American culture. This helped along with the store with a lot of American food, like apple pie and cider donuts which are not common in other parts of the world.

### **How Stories Go Viral & Drive Major Economic Events 10/16/19**

This event highlights News stories' impact on the economy. Considering how much money is in America's economy this event was very interesting because it highlights how much the News can actually impact the economy. I thought the historical events they brought up also helped to clarify what they meant by this. This connects to the theme in Global studies of Globalization. Globalization talks about impacts businesses might have on a global scale, and due to the fact that if a business can impact a narrative it could be great for making them money which affects the economy greatly. Overall this was a great event to go to which was very informative, and related to the theme of Global Studies

### **Dorje Dolma 11/4/19**

The speech and story told by Dorje Dolma was a very moving and interesting story. I was very interested in how her story showed how different the other side of the world is from America. Something I found specifically interesting is the responsibility that was put on her at a young age. Since she was basically a child she had the responsibility of taking care of her brother and helping the family. She did not have any of the commodities that most people have in America, which shows how hard parts of her life were when she was living in the mountains.

This connects to Global Studies because it is another example of different cultures. In many other countries she would have had a much different life, however due to her birthplace she had to work very hard to keep her family healthy and in good health.

### **NYC Trip 12/12/19**

The Holocaust museum was a fascinating exhibit. The exhibit did a good job of representing what happened in the Holocaust as it showed it through different levels. I did not like the tour as I did not think I learned much, however I did learn a lot reading some of the captions under some of the art. One of the exhibits I really thought was interesting that was not stopped was a model of a synagogue which was burned down by Polish people who were forced to do so by the German government. I thought this was interesting because it showed German soldiers forcing people to do work for them.

The Exhibit however was very well put together, and while there were some parts that were hard to walk through it was still a good experience to have.

### **9/11 exhibit 12/12/19**

The piece of art I chose was the tree that was the last living tree from 9/11. I chose this piece of art because I think it helps to represent the resilience of Americans after this event happened. There is also a lot of significance in the fact that it has smooth branches and a gnarled stump, this shows the past of the tree and how it changes in the future which relates to America struggling at 9/11 and continuing afterwards.

Overall this is a tree that helps to embody America's spirit throughout 9/11

### **Mannahatta play 2/13/20**

The play at Yale was very good. I did not know what it was about going in so I was surprised by it. I thought all the performances were also good. It was related to globalization, human rights, and non violence and war. I thought the way they went to the present and past was very interesting. The conflict in the past and present were very different, however they still had somewhat of the same theme. The story of

The main character and how she differed from her family because of her success, while her family was struggling with poverty.

Overall it was a great play that was very interesting and connected to Global Studies in a lot of ways.

### **3/2/20 Propaganda and War**

I especially liked this event specifically for how relevant this was today. This focused on propaganda and normal news stories throughout history. It talked about the strength news stories have had in our history, especially when there was war, and propaganda helped to bring patriotism and strength to the American people. It also talked about how every country uses it in one way or another, and information can be manipulated to make people believe in certain ideas, and to act in certain ways, while making decisions

The most interesting part is how it is used today. The speaker related this to Coronavirus and how News has affected people's action. Also he talked about what stories the News reports on and deems noteworthy. He mentioned that there was a huge development in the Middle East conflict, and News outlets barely reported on it, due to the fact that they were instead focusing to cover the election. This is especially important today, when there is so much distrust in a lot of the News organizations due to politics.

### **Skype with Muhamad 3/5/2020**

I thought this event was interesting, I liked seeing the difference in life in Jordan. Jordan seems like a very interesting place to travel to, especially after listening to this skype. He talked about how Jordan is with Immigration. This would especially be interesting for the people who had already traveled to Jordan as they had known Muhamad and had experienced Jordan first hand.

### **The Scheme Viewing 4/1/20**

During Quarantine I watched the Movie "The Scheme" which was a documentary about Christian Dawkins, and his story of the player paying scandals he was involved in. I did my junior project on the NCAA and the controversy surrounding them around whether players deserve to be paid or not, because of that the idea of this film was very interesting to me. The documentary was different than I thought it was because I thought it was going to go deeper into the investigations of the Schools that had been caught paying players. While I did not learn anything new about these scandals from the film, I was incredibly surprised about the FBI case surrounding this, and how horribly the FBI conducted their investigation. It also shows the inconsistency in how the NCAA handles their cases, while there are known wiretaps of coaches admitting to paying players, there are instances where the NCAA did not do anything, however when there are cases where much less is known the NCAA has handed out unfair punishment in my opinion. I was very surprised at all the details behind the FBI investigation and how the main agent "Jeff De'Angelo" took money from the FBI and was not even present at the hearing. Overall this was a good film to watch especially considering my junior project.

### **Quarantine reflection 4/27/20**

Corona relates a lot to fear, right now along with the news and going outside. The views on corona are varying and it causes people, and myself to act certain ways when among certain people. People I am living with, and seeing have varying views on the CoronaVirus, and it affects how I act a lot of the time. While everyone I interact with takes the virus seriously, it is to a varying extent. While sometimes I live somewhat normally, with the exception of not leaving my house, I also sometimes have to disinfect a lot of food packages and let them sit for 2 days. Changing opinions are very important during quarantine as you see it a lot in the news. I read that back in March over 90% of Americans supported a lockdown. However as time has progressed that has clearly changed. Many people have lost jobs and a record amount of people are filing for unemployment. I think this is very interesting in how it is portrayed in the News. Most of the News I have seen on TV is in full support of a lockdown as it helps to flatline Corona, however I personally think it is important to take into account that a lot of the people in the News supporting the

Quarantine do not have to worry about losing their jobs, and are not losing any money. Perspective is very important in quarantine because despite one's views on the Coronavirus, it is undeniable that quarantine only brings positive change. While personally I think the Virus is a serious threat, it is not a coincidence that people protesting are people who have lost their jobs and are struggling with money. Overall it is a very sad, and interesting time. I believe that eventually America is going to reopen, despite what is medically best. I think whether it is better for our Health or not, I think eventually America will just re-open no matter what due to changing opinions.

### **Taste of ramadan 5/17/20**

I attended the Taste of Ramadan zoom webinar which focused on fasting traditions through different faiths. Going into this event I believed it was going to be specifically focusing on the Muslim religion in Ramadan. While Ramadan was the main part of the event they had multiple religions there to explain how fasting works in their religion. I did not expect this so it was a good surprise that I got to learn how different cultures all do this same thing in different ways. Each religion also had different sets of rules during fasting. Some religions have certain foods you are not supposed to eat during certain times, and other times where you are supposed to eat nothing. Some religions also put restrictions on actions other than eating, like swearing.

I knew the religions that were presenting their fasting traditions, however I was not aware the traditions existed which made it a really cool event to watch.

### **Senior presentation reflections 5/20/20**

I attended the presentations, on business, advertising, and privacy. I chose to attend this one because going into Global studies this year, business was the main thing I was interested in, due to the fact it is the career I want to pursue in college. The structure of the seminar was different than I was expecting. I expected it to be like last year's Global Studies evening, where everyone had a presentation, and instead this year the seniors presented what they're topic was. The subject of privacy, and security with advertising is a very relevant topic today. Especially as technology advances and how companies might invade one's privacy. I also thought the sweatshop aspect of the presentation was interesting. This is because while sweatshops abuse workers and pay them low wages, it is also one of the only ways that some people are able to buy these clothes. This is an interesting dilemma that I appreciate being brought up.

### **Thinking critically and creatively, including adopting a multiperspective approach that recognizes the different dimensions and angles of an issue (Quarantine)**

This was an event that when I reflected on it I had to take in different perspectives. A lot of people's opinions on quarantine had to do with how it affected their job, and if they were still able to make money. Since I do not have to work, it was eye opening to look on the negative aspects of Quarantine

### **-Apply systems thinking to analyze the interdependence of contemporary and historical economic, social and environmental issues**

#### **How Stories Go Viral & Drive Major Economic Events 10/16/19**

This was an event that talked about Narrative Economics. This talked about how historically certain narratives have driven the economies in certain directions. The event talked about how misconceptions can change the economy, and also make or break economy.

- Demonstrating civic and community engagement

#### **Rosh Shannah in the Park 9/29/19:**

During this event me and several other students went to a Jewish ceremony for Rosh Hashanah. It was the first Jewish event I had ever gone to, and it helped me to be involved in the Jewish community. It was a relaxing event, and I enjoyed taking in the information I got there about the Jewish religion.

-Going deeper through dialogue with those who have different opinions and backgrounds



**Freshly squeezed reflection 10/02:**

This was an event where the main focus was on free-speech, specifically online, and when people should or should not be banned. I disagreed with points the speakers made, because I thought it helps to Give people on the Alt-Right more attention. Also in the class discussion the next day I found myself disagreeing with some students in the room over free speech. While some people believed in the benefit of banning hate speech, I disagreed due to the fact I believe in complete free speech as long as it does not put lives at risk.

-Constructing multicultural competence and cultivating empathy throughout your learning

**Dorje Dolma 11/4/19**

During this presentation we learned about Dorje Dulmas life. This helped to gain multi cultural understanding because it showed the struggles of someone who grew up without the commodities that people have in countries around the world. It also show the different roles people take in relation to their home. The children for example, had the responsibility of helping taking care of the house and parents. Overall this experience helped to make me more culturally aware of things going on around the world.

EXAMPLE: Apply systems thinking to analyze the interdependence of contemporary and historical economic, social and environmental issues: Global Security Forum 9/28. When I heard the military officers talk about one of their main concerns was climate change, it helped me see the connection....