

Week #1 Text: pages 1-46.

Study Questions/Exercises:

1. "Globalization" of the world economy involves aspects of ownership and control and aspects of "flow" or "movement." Can you think of examples of each notion?
2. *Foreign Direct Investment*; can you define it in your own words? Are you aware of any examples from your own experiences? (Same for *Import Substitution* or *Multinational Corporations*?)
3. "Globalization of Tertiary Sector"; see pages 80-81 for clarification of "tertiary sector".
4. Drawing upon your own life-space and experience can you describe a *spatial core* and *spatial periphery*?
5. Take the 4 questions on page 33 and contemplate them at different scales, different from the "global."

Commentary on the first weeks readings:

The first part of Chapter 1 (1-25 approx.) emphasizes the *Global* too much for my personal liking. By that I don't mean the global is not important, for clearly it is. My sense is that it is not personal enough and that it caters to the gee-whiz, front-page kind of popular issues. It's the authors trying to get your attention. This evaluation persists for pretty much the whole chapter; the authors seem more concerned with placing the course in the context of the news. My personal view is that *Economic Geography* can get your attention because it is of relevance to you and your life. This can actually be a good first exposure to the notion of scale; the text is introducing issues with which economic geography is concerned at the *macro* scale; in class I use many scales and try to bring in the more micro-level concerns.

The *core/periphery model* introduced on page 25 is the first geographic model in the book. It is expressly *geographic* because it is driven by where things are; how influence is exerted over *space*. You'll see more of it later. But, the book does a quick jump to introduce *development* and *disparity*. Then on page 33 the authors introduce 4 questions that are **not** inherently "global," but that **do** help introduce the underlying processes of *Economic Geography*.

The last section, "The Geographic Perspective" (page 41+) is pretty critical for our use; you should pay particular attention to understanding the terms and concepts in this section. If you have trouble figuring it out ask questions!!