

Course title/Course Neptun ID: Global and regional competitiveness, VFFTG448N	Credit value: 8
Professor in charge (name, position, academic degree): Dr. Kitti Kollár-Némedi, associate professor, PhD	
Professor(s) involved in teaching, if any (name, position, academic degree): Dr. Kitti Kollár-Némedi, associate professor, PhD Dr. habil. Zoltán Egri, associate professor, PhD	
Course category: <u>compulsory/elective</u>	
Course type: lecture/seminar/practical course/consultation, and total number of course sessions in the given semester: 24/0/0/0 course sessions	
Methods, (specific) tools, and characteristics applied to convey knowledge: e.g.: case reports, case study analyses, project work, other... Case presentations, case study analyses, project work, presentation practice, teamwork	
Method of assessing knowledge (exam / practical course grade / other): exam (colloquium)	
Grading method(s) applied for assessing knowledge: Graded (five-grade scale)	
The course's placement in the curriculum (in which semester the course is taken): 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th semester	
Compulsory studies prior to the course (if any):-	
Course description: a brief yet informative description of the course's objectives and the material to be covered	
The course titled “Global and Regional Competitiveness” is a foundational course in a multidisciplinary field of study that introduces general, thematic, geographic, and economic approaches to the analysis of the international order and system as they relate to a specific region and/or country. Consequently, it conducts spatial analyses based on several criteria: on the one hand, the relationship between the region in question and the international order; on the other hand, the social and economic conditions within that region. Following a geographical definition, “Global and Regional Competitiveness” focuses primarily on Europe, the United States, Eastern and Central Europe, East and South Asia, Africa, and the various domestic regions, examining the characteristics that best define their roles both internationally and within Hungary. In addition to all of this, the course focuses on the duality of globalization and localization as it manifests in the world, with particular emphasis on innovation potential, infrastructure development, and human capital.	
Course topics/semester syllabus: 1. Differences and Variations in the Concept of Europe (geographical Europe, Europe of Nations, Christian Europe, the Europe of the European Union) 2. Spatial characteristics of Eastern and Central Europe 3. Characteristics of the United States and the post-Soviet region	

4. Overview of the spatial-economic relationships in sub-Saharan Africa
5. Geographical Delimitation and Spatial Characteristics of Northeast and Southeast Asia
6. The Challenges of a Globalized World and the Driving Forces of Regionalism Worldwide and in Hungary
7. Determinants of Territorial Competitiveness in Light of Local and Global Trends

A list of the 2-5 most relevant compulsory literature (notes, textbooks) with bibliographic information (author, title, publication details, page numbers, ISBN):

1. Csath, M. (2019): Regional Competitiveness Studies: Changes and New Directions in Competitiveness Measurement, Ludovika University Press, ISBN: 9789634390015
2. The 2025 Annual Single Market and Competitiveness Report https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/publications/2025-annual-single-market-and-competitiveness-report_en

A list of the 2-5 most relevant recommended literature (notes, textbooks) with bibliographic information (author, title, publication details, page numbers, ISBN):

1. Bajmócy, Z.; Lengyel, I.; Málovics, Gy. (eds.) (2012): Regional Innovation Capacity, Competitiveness, and Sustainability ISBN: 978-963-315-071-9 ISSN: 1588-8533 JATEPress, Szeged, 2012
2. Vida, Gy.; Szakálné, Kanó, I.; Lengyel, I. (2025): Spatial Characteristics of Economic Restructuring in Central and Eastern Europe, 2000–2021 [Spatial characteristics of economic restructuring in Central and Eastern Europe, 2000–2021] REGIONAL STATISTICS 65 : 2 pp. 216–242, 27 p. (2025)

Professional competencies, elements of competence, and skills to which the course typically and substantially contributes (knowledge, ability, attitude, autonomy, and responsibility):

Knowledge:

- Students have a research-level understanding of the fields and interdisciplinary areas of regional science, its accepted and contested interrelationships, its conceptual framework, and basic regional terminology.
- Students are familiar with the basic concepts, objectives, and tools of regional competitiveness.
- Students understand the global-local interrelationships of territorial competitiveness.
- Students understand the differences in regional approaches across continents, variations in their meanings, and the major spatial-economic interrelationships.

Ability:

- Is capable of planning and implementing global and local projects, conducting independent research, and developing new techniques and approaches.
- Is able to conduct a complex analysis of continents in terms of factors determining competitiveness.
- Is able to identify indicators that determine regional competitive advantages.

- Is able to solve problems independently, analyze case studies, and prepare project assignments and presentations.

Attitude

- The student strives for a strategic global-local perspective, creative thinking, and collaboration when interpreting competitiveness.
- The student is receptive to the integrated management of social, economic, and environmental considerations.
- The student is able to apply theoretical knowledge in practice.
- With creative independence, they develop and initiate new fields of knowledge and new practical solutions.

Autonomy and Responsibility

- Is able to independently prepare analyses related to regional competitiveness and formulate development recommendations.
- Is able to prepare and justify professionally sound decisions, as well as formulate strategic development priorities.
- Is able to engage in professional dialogue on an equal footing with stakeholders in regional and rural development, the business ecosystem, and the academic community.