



Global Connect's High School Symposium annually draws more than 350 students. Above, student designed three-dimensional globes represent the light and dark of globalization with depictions of pros and cons for different nations, a lesson students covered during the year in Global Connect.

- Global Connect was officially launched in 2001 as once a week presentations in local high schools on global issues relevant in the twenty first century
- Nine years later, the once a week outreach is still going strong at Estancia and Newport Harbor High Schools as well as TeWinkle Middle School
- Global Connect has since expanded its curriculum to offer a yearlong, university-led core course at Laguna Hills and El Toro High Schools, taught in both English and Spanish

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GLOBAL CONNECT

Global Connect is a university led curriculum program through which UCI Social Sciences faculty, undergraduate and graduate students bring their knowledge of international issues into middle and high school classrooms in order to better prepare students to become informed global citizens. UCI faculty and students develop global issue-focused lesson plans on topics such as UN millennium development goals, mass media and technology, and the purpose of NGOs – areas of study in which UCI experts are known internationally, but subjects which are not part of the current California state education standards.

investigate

Lessons are team-taught by UCI students and faculty alongside high school educators in Newport Mesa and Saddleback School Districts. The curriculum is updated annually to account for the continually changing global landscape – a challenge that traditional textbook publishing schedules are unable to keep up with.

innovate

In nine years of existence, Global Connect has reached more than 7,500 OC middle and high school students. It has also had a significant impact on the more than 350 UCI undergrad and graduate interns who have helped develop and teach program materials; six have received Fulbright scholarships and more than two-thirds have gone on to graduate school or careers in teaching, and several are currently participating in the Teach for America program. At the national level, Global Connect was used by California Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez as a program model for the U.S. and World Education Act.

impact