

INTL. 199- Globalization and the Global Economy

(The Professor reserves the right to modify this syllabus during the term.)

Instructor: Dr. Angela Joya

Office Hours: MW, 10:00-11:00 and by appointment (347 PLC)

Lectures: MW-12:00-1:20 (101 Jaqua)

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Description

The aim of this course, INTL 199 *Globalization and the Global Economy* is to provide the tools that will enable students to understand and explain developments in the global economy. The course begins with an introduction of the contested concept of globalization and the complex ways in which globalization has shaped the global economy. Students will also become familiar with the evolution of the global economy through a study of historical developments up until the Second World War. In part two, we examine the emergence and consolidation of the global economy since WWII. In this section, we identify the structures, institutions and actors that were instrumental in the shaping of a global economy and assess the implications of these developments for North-South relations. In part three we explore the ways in which wealth and power are produced and reproduced in the contemporary global economy. We identify the beneficiaries and losers of the contemporary global economy and the ways in which the distribution of wealth and resources affects social, political, economic and environmental relations. The course ends with a study of challenges and crises faced in the current capitalist global economy and what these mean for global governance, the role of the state, and for democracy and social justice.

Some of the questions that will be raised and discussed in this course include the following: What is globalization and how does it affect global economic relations? How has the creation and distribution of wealth changed with the changes in the global economy? What role has the American state played in the expansion of the global economy? How has the global economy shaped North-South relations? What lies at the root of opposition to the current global economic arrangements around the world, such as in recent uprisings in Spain, Portugal, Greece, and in the Middle East and North Africa? Is the current capitalist global economy compatible with social justice and equality? If not, why is it important to consider the issue of justice in global economic relations? What are the risks posed to our planet by the current global economic arrangements and how does this affect sustainability issues?

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Develop a deeper historical understanding of the how the global economy has evolved
- Learn relevant concepts that can help explain developments in the global economy and identify the role of structures and actors that have shaped the current global economy
- Apply historical and analytical knowledge to specific areas of the global economy and comment on the nature of international trade, economic crises, financial liberalization, neoliberalism, global division of labour, international economic development, gender and globalization, security and the environment.
- Critically assess the arguments of proponents and critics of globalization and draw on relevant readings to support their arguments.

Assessment

- Participation (20%)
- Attendance (10%)
- Mid-term Exam (20%)
- Short Assignment (15%)
- Final Exam (35 %)

*See details of assignment below.

The GEs for the course: Aneela Adnan (aneelaa@uoregon.edu); Kaitlyn Ilias (kelias6@uoregon.edu)

Required Texts

1. David Ballam, *Perspectives on International Political Economy*, 2013 (6th edition) to be purchased from the Duck Store or any other source.

Beside these required texts, lectures are supplemented with other materials relevant to each week's topic. These will be available in pdf form on Canvas or links will be provided under each week.

*I will leave a copy of the Course Text in the Reserve section of the library. Please use it gently and do not damage it during photocopying. It is for the use of everyone in the class.

Course Outline

Part I: Globalization and the Global Economy: Concepts & Theories

Globalization does not easily lend itself to a definition. There are competing definitions and it is not easy to say what is the 'right' definition. How we select to work with a definition depends on what we focus on; in the case of this class, we will adopt a definition of globalization that focuses on the global economy its changes over the last

forty years (1970s). The lectures in Part I starts with a discussion of competing definitions of globalization, introduces the global economy and the competing theoretical traditions that interpret the changes in the contemporary global economy.

Introduction (April 2): Introduction

Larry Elliott, 'Brexit is a rejection of Globalization', *The Guardian*, June 26, 2016: https://www.theguardian.com/business/2016/jun/26/brexit-is-the-rejection-of-globalisation?CMP=share_btn_fb#

Lecture 1 (April 4): Globalization and the Global Economy?

- Balaam, *Introduction to International Political Economy*, Ch. 1: What is International Political Economy?

Recommended:

- Greg Grandin, 'How Slavery Made the Modern World', *The Nation*, Feb. 24, 2014, online at: <http://www.thenation.com/article/178509/how-slavery-made-modern-world>

Lectures 2, 3 (April 9 /11): Laissez-Faire & Mercantilism

- Balaam, *Introduction to International Political Economy*, Chs. 2 (April 9) & 3 (April 11).

Recommended:

- Matthew Watson, ch. 2, 'The Historical Roots of Theoretical Traditions in GPE', (in John Ravenhill, *Global Political Economy*, Fourth Edition, Oxford University Press, 2014).
- Neoliberalism: <http://www.alternet.org/environment/neoliberalism-destroying-almost-everybodys-lives-how-many-people-even-know-what-it>

Lecture 4 (April 16): Alternative Perspectives on IPE

- Balaam, *Introduction to International Political Economy*, Chs. 4, 5.

Recommended:

- Theodore H. Cohn, ch. 2: 'Managing the Global Economy since World War II: The Institutional Framework,' in Theodore H. Cohn. *Global Political Economy: Theory and Practice*, (Addison Wesley Longman, 2012, 6th edition).

Part II: The Structure of the Global Economy

This section explains the historic emergence of the global economy, introduces the institutions of the global economy and the factors that shaped the global economy.

Lecture 5 & 6(April 18/23): International Trade & Production

- Balaam, *Introduction to International Political Economy*, Ch. 6.

Recommended:

- Jim Stanford, *Economics for Everyone*, pp. 33-39
- George Packer, 'Where have all the workers gone?', *The New Yorker*, February 25, 2014, online at:
http://www.newyorker.com/online/blogs/comment/2014/02/where-have-all-the-workers-gone.html?utm_source=tny&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=dailyemail&utm_bid=nl_Daily+%28124%29
- Simon Head, 'Worse than Walmart: Amazon's sick brutality and secret history of ruthlessly intimidating workers', *Salon*, Feb. 23, 2014, online at:
http://www.salon.com/2014/02/23/worse_than_wal_mart_amazons_sick_brutality_and_secret_history_of_ruthlessly_intimidating_workers/
- Rebecca Falconer, 'Qatar's Foreign domestic workers subjected to slave-like conditions', *The Guardian*, Feb. 26, 2014, online at:
<http://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2014/feb/26/qatar-foreign-workers-slave-conditions> (See also: Rebecca Falconer, 'Broken Promises: Qatar's migrant workers caught in the kafala system', *The Guardian*, Feb. 26, 2014, online at: <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/feb/26/broken-promises-qatar-migrant-workers>)

Lectures 7 (April 25): International Debt and Financial Crises

- Balaam, *Introduction to International Political Economy*, Ch. 7 (pp. 161-169); Ch. 8.

Lecture 8 (May 2): Knowledge and Technology

- Balaam, *Introduction to International Political Economy*, Ch. 10
- <http://arstechnica.co.uk/science/2016/06/what-is-open-access-free-sharing-of-all-human-knowledge/>

Part III: States and Markets

Lecture 9 (May 7): International Development

- Balaam, *Introduction to International Political Economy*, Ch. 11.

Recommended:

Video: 'Up in Smoke' (Malawi). Available at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oOiWeJxYxvE>

- Ecuador has the best social and development policies, says the UN, <http://www.telesurtv.net/english/news/Ecuador-Has-the-Best-Social-and-Development-Policies-Says-UN-20160325-0022.html>

Lectures 10 (May 9): Crisis in the European Union

- Balaam, *Introduction to International Political Economy*, Ch. 12.
- <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/2016/07/28/imf-admits-disastrous-love-affair-with-euro-apologises-for-the-i/>

Recommended:

- The European Union Explained: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O37yJBFRrfg> (5 mins)
- The European Debt Crisis: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C8xAXJx9WJ8> (12 mins)

Mid-Term Exam (May 14th, 2018, 12:00-1:20 pm; 101 Jaqua)

Lecture 11 (May 16): The BRICS

- Balaam, *Introduction to International Political Economy*, Ch. 13.

Recommended:

Ian Bremmer, *The Mixed Fortunes of the BRICS Countries in Five Facts*, *Time*, September 1, 2017: (<http://time.com/4923837/brics-summit-xiamen-mixed-fortunes/>)

Lecture 12 (May 21): Transnational Corporations: The Governance of Foreign Investment

- Balaam, *Introduction to International Political Economy*, Ch. 17.
- http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/yves-engler/canada-african-mining_b_10382436.html

Recommended:

- Guatemalan Women's Claim put Focus on Canadian Mining Companies:http://www.nytimes.com/2016/04/03/world/americas/guatemalan-womens-claims-put-focus-on-canadian-firms-conduct-abroad.html?hp&action=click&pgtype=Homepage&clickSource=story-heading&module=photo-spot-region®ion=top-news&WT.nav=top-news&_r=0

Lecture 13 (May 23): International Migration

- Balaam, *Introduction to International Political Economy*, Ch. 16.

Recommended:

- 'Last Train Home', Documentary on Chinese Migrant workers: <http://www.last-train.com/> (Film available at the Knight Library)
- Afghan Refugees and America's Responsibility: http://www.democracynow.org/2016/4/13/americas_afghan_refugee_crisis_15_years

MAY 28: Memorial Day (NO CLASS)

Lecture 14 (May 30): Food and Hunger

- Balaam, *Introduction to International Political Economy*, Ch. 18.

Recommended:

- Graham Vanbergen, 'Global Hunger Games: There's no shortage of food, only people too poor to pay for it thanks to food speculation', *Sott*, March 22, 2016: <http://www.sott.net/article/315058-Global-hunger-games-Theres-no-shortage-of-food-only-people-too-poor-to-pay-for-it-thanks-to-food-speculation>
- Food Shortages in Malawi and Zimbabwe:<http://www.theguardian.com/global-development/audio/2016/mar/30/drought-new-normal-el-nino-worsens-food-shortages-malawi-zimbabwe-africa-podcast>

Lecture 15(June 4): The Environment and the Global Economy

- Balaam, *Introduction to International Political Economy*, Ch. 20.

Recommended:

- Crude Solution: BP's Corexit on 60 Minutes:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e1cXrkw9n-E> (on power points)
- <http://www.triplepundit.com/2016/08/startling-map-shows-true-extend-americas-landfill-problem/>
- UN Report on relationship between Industry and the Environment:
<http://www.exposingtruth.com/new-un-report-finds-almost-no-industry-profitable-if-environmental-costs-were-included/>
- Andrew Ross, 'Why is Ecuador Selling Its economic and Environmental Future to China', Dec. 18, 2014: <http://www.thenation.com/article/193249/why-ecuador-selling-its-economic-and-environmental-future-china>
- http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2015/03/30/us-climate-agreement_n_6972434.html
- Half of World Heritage sites threatened by development:
<http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2016/apr/06/half-of-world-heritage-sites-threatened-by-development-says-wwf>
- Climate Change as Violence:
<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/apr/07/climate-change-violence-occupy-earth>

Review Class 16 (June 6)

- Joseph Stiglitz: Where is the World Going to?
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BrtmvXg8aW4> (first 5 minutes)

Class Organization

You will meet three times a week: twice in lecture and once in smaller discussion groups. You are expected to have done all the required readings before coming to the lectures. To make the best use of your discussion groups, you are expected to read all the assigned readings and come prepared to discuss the reading materials.

1. **Class Participation:** A significant portion of your final grade is allocated to class participation and attendance in lectures and sections. This is to encourage you to develop your public speaking skills but also to encourage you to share your assessment of the assigned readings with fellow students and engage in an exchange of ideas. Your GE will have specific tasks assigned for your group but beyond these feel free to share current events related to weekly topics in your discussion groups. The space should also be used to clarify questions and issues from weekly readings. To keep track of your grades, please ensure to bring a one page, typed reflection piece on the weekly readings to your discussion section.

Your GE will collect these and use them as basis for 10% your discussion section participation grade. The remaining 10% will be assessed on the basis of your oral participation in the discussion section.

2. **Short Assignment (Due by 5pm, April 30th)**, to be uploaded on Canvas, folder Assignment.

Write a review of ONE of the following 5 documentaries by critically examining the issues that the documentaries cover, clearly demonstrating how the global economy shapes the social landscapes of inequality and people's lives in the world. In your Discussion Section, discuss the main arguments of the documentary you watched, summarize the main arguments of the documentary and compare your notes with others. Finally, as a group you will discuss the main arguments and relate these to the relevant topics of the course. After this discussion section, you should be prepared to write a 750-word review of the documentary you watched by summing up the main arguments and demonstrating the relevance of the documentary to specific theme(s) of our course. Also submit your reviews on Canvas in the Assignment folder for plagiarism verification by 5pm, April 30th.

Choose one of the following documentaries to write a review of:

- *International Trade, Multi-National Corporations and The New Rulers of the World* by John Pilger (2001: 50 mins): <http://johnpilger.com/videos/the-new-rulers-of-the-world>
- Video: *The Take* by Avi Lewis (2004) <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LEzXIn5kbuw&list=PL5AFAD883AF178802>
- Movie: *Capitalism—a love story*, by Michael Moore (2009, 2hr 7mins), available on you tube: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UNl_G0m_ABU
- (US Migration) Juan Gonzalez, *Harvest of Empire*, http://www.snagfilms.com/films/title/harvest_of_empire (2012, 1:30 mins)
- *The Internet's Own Boy: the Story of Aaron Swartz*, youtube (Docutopia): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wJc8iGbQno0>

3. Mid –Term Exam (May 14th, in the Lecture Hall): The mid-term consists of 3 definitions* and 10 multiple-choice questions (each definition to be no longer than two pages, single-sided, exam booklet). Remember to bring exam booklets (purchased from the Duck store) and come prepared with pens. The professor will not be carrying pens or exam booklets. *Please be courteous to others and arrive on time so that the exam can begin on time.*

4. Final Exam (June 15th, 10:15 am in the Lecture)

The final exam consists of 6 definitions (no longer than two pages, single-sided in the green exam booklet)* and two short essay questions (each answer to be 4-5 pages, single sided, exam booklet). The exam will cover all the required readings as well as the lectures and any additional materials used in lectures. The exam will be during university examination period and you will be notified of the exact date. Remember to bring exam booklets, purchased from the Duck store and come prepared with pens. *Please be courteous to others and arrive on time so that the exam can begin on time.*

*There might also be a set of multiple-choice questions in lieu of definitions or you might get a combination of both.

The Key Requirement: The most important requirement for this course, as with any course that deals with social or political ideas, values or institutions, is that we all approach readings, lectures, and each other's contributions with a patient, open mind, as well as willingness to see from new perspectives, explore the unfamiliar, and honestly challenge our ingrained assumptions about how the world works.

Some Basic Ground Rules:

- Come to *every* class (lecture and discussion section) prepared to pose questions, discuss the readings, offer comments, and generally engage in informed conversation about topics covered in the readings and lecture.
- Do not leave half way through the lecture or come late as this is disrespectful for everyone else in the lecture. If you **MUST** leave before the end of the lecture, please let the professor know before the lecture starts or by email.
- Complete all the reading for a topic by the 1st date listed for that topic.
- Be present and attentive in lectures and sections. Don't do anything that might distract others in class. Exercise common sense. If this is a problem, you will be asked to leave and will lose attendance and participation credit.
- No laptops or phone use in class, except with prior approval from the professor. If you need the laptop for note taking, request and receive approval first. You'll be required to sit in the first few rows of the classroom. If you surf the net for non-class content, you will be asked to shut down your laptops.
- Plagiarism results in an automatic grade of F, and is reported to the university, which can result in other sanctions. If you are not sure what plagiarism is, consult the course web page resources on citations.
- Absences not excused in *advance* count against your grade. Late papers will not be accepted. No make ups of any kind on the final exam. Please drop the class now if your plans prevent you from attending the scheduled final.

Electronic and Office Hours:

Expect to receive course information via your University of Oregon email account. The course Canvas is the main source for course related information, including required readings, announcements and updated syllabi (if applicable).

Do take full advantage of office hours (detailed at the top of the syllabus), or make appointments outside of office hours to pose questions, discuss readings or explore related topics with both the professor and the GEs. These hours are set aside for you: feel free to drop by to chat or raise any and all questions, concerns or comments that you may have. If you encounter a line at office hours, please make sure the professor or GEs knows you are waiting and we will do our best to accommodate everyone as quickly as possible.

Email Policy: I will reply to email within 24 hours of receiving your email. Please do not expect an immediate reply, as I may be busy with other teaching or research responsibilities. If you send an email on Friday after 5 pm and during the weekend, I will send you a reply once I return to office on Monday morning.

Disability Services:

The University of Oregon is working to create inclusive learning environments. Please notify me if there are any aspects of the instruction or design of this course that result in disability related barriers to your participation. You are also encouraged to contact the Accessible Education Center (formerly Disability Services) in 164 Oregon Hall at 346-1155 or uoaec@uoregon.edu or visit their website: http://ds.uoregon.edu/DS_home.html

Useful Websites:

- The World Bank (<http://www.worldbank.org/>)
- International Monetary Fund (<http://www.imf.org/external/index.htm>)
- World Economic Forum (<http://www.weforum.org/>)
- The United Nations (<http://www.un.org/>)
- The World Trade Organization (<http://www.wto.org/>)
- North American Free Trade Agreement (<http://www.naftanow.org/>)
- The European Union (http://europa.eu/index_en.htm)
- Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (http://www.eeas.europa.eu/euromed/index_en.htm)
- International Labour Organization (ilo.org)

Newspapers and Online Media outlets:

You are expected to follow global events by reading a major approved newspaper or internet news source which you will have access to through the library: The Financial Times, The New York Times, The New Yorker, Reuters, BBC, CBC, Mexico News Daily, The Wall Street Journal, The Independent, The Economist, The Guardian, China Daily, The Real News Network, Aljazeera English, Argentina Independent, Democracy Now and other major newspapers.