

SOC 4410: SOCIOLOGY OF GLOBALIZATION

CRN 21731 Fall 2013

MWF 10:30-11:20AM

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Office hours: M/W 11:30 AM - 12:15 PM;
T/H 9-10 AM or by appointment

Course Description

This course examines globalization—a set of financial, political and cultural processes that have been shaping the world throughout history, but that have intensified rapidly in the post-industrial/post-modern era. Globalization has brought about unprecedented interdependence and integration—but also discord and conflict—among states, peoples, and organizations. It is therefore one of the most important phenomena to understand in our contemporary lives. In this course, we examine the history and origins of globalization, its various interconnected processes, and the key players in global markets, politics, and cultures. We will also study the ways in which globalization has transformed the U.S. economy and society and how it is influencing the lives of Americans. Our discussion topics include the impact of globalization on the U.S. labor market, influence of American culture globally, and the global production and consumption of food. At the end of the semester, students will be able to recognize the signs of globalization locally and understand the interconnectedness of nation-states, peoples, and cultures globally.

Required Readings

- (1) Steger, Manfred B. 2013. *Globalization: A Very Short Introduction, 3rd ed.* Oxford University Press.
- (2) Eitzen, Stanley and Maxine Baca Zinn. 2012. *Globalization: The Transformation of Social Worlds, 3rd edition.* Wadsworth.
- (3) Timmerman, Kelsey. 2013. *Where am I Eating? An Adventure through the Global Food Economy.* John Wiley & Sons.
- (4) *The New York Times*, complimentary issues available in the Social Science Building North and East entrances (and various other locations on campus)
- (5) Articles on Canvas or given out in class

Class Objectives

During this course, students will:

- identify the origins and theories of globalization as well as the concepts used in the study of globalization
- apply social theories to analyze the effects of globalization for local places, cultures, and identities
- consider and assess in writing the existing research on economic, political, and cultural globalization
- apply theories and concepts of globalization on current international news and events

Note on Special Needs

Any student requiring accommodations or services due to a disability must contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD). SSD can also arrange to provide course materials (including this syllabus) in alternative formats if necessary.

Course Format

The course consists of assigned readings from the text and the reader, classroom discussions, lectures, films, and written and oral assignments (both in and out of class). This course will be conducted in a *seminar style* where everyone is expected to contribute to class discussion. Therefore, you must complete *all* assigned readings and written assignments *before* class to be able to discuss the material. My role in this class is to facilitate and evaluate the discussion. Remember that a class is a learning community and that we do not all have to agree to learn from each other. The key is to listen and contribute to the discussion respectfully. For the exams, you are expected to be familiar with the substantive contents of all class materials and discussions.

Course Evaluation

Globalization issue paper and presentation 40% (paper 30%/presentation 10%)

The main product for this course is a globalization issue paper on a topic of student's choice. The paper should be about 10 pages (double spaced, including a works cited page) and on a specific question, issue, or topic that relates to globalization, its history, impact on the U.S and/or other countries, culture, etc. All paper topics will be approved by the professor before students may begin the research/writing process. Since this is an issue paper, the sources to use include scientific journals, but also newspapers, and popular media, depending on the paper topic. Students will present their papers in class during the last week of classes. The issue paper will be due at the end of the semester. Late papers will accrue penalties; typically 5% of final grade for each full day missed after the deadline. More detailed instructions and intermediate draft deadlines will be provided in class.

Midterm (30%)

Since the issue paper replaces a final exam, there will be only one, take-home midterm exam. Students will be given a week to answer questions, using the course materials covered.

Current events reflection paper (20%)

Students will write reflection papers that link course materials to current events. Although, this assignment uses mainly *The New York Times*, *occasionally* students will compare media coverage of a particular issue across different media outlets. Complimentary issues of *The New York Times* are available on campus Monday through Friday and an online copy is also accessible to students without charge. See the class schedule for assignment due dates.

Class discussions and participation (10%)

Participation in class discussion is very important. I encourage and reward analytical and critical comments that use the class readings. Class attendance will also be taken. Students will select two readings (articles or book chapters) to serve as discussion leaders in class. Students must attend 80% of classes to pass the course with a C grade or better. Any additional class assignments (to be announced) will be graded as part of your class participation.

Grading scale for course performance

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|----|-----------|----|----------|----|----------|
| A | = 100-93% | A- | = 92-90% | | |
| B+ | = 89-87% | B | = 86-83% | B- | = 82-80% |
| C+ | = 79-77% | C | = 76-73% | C- | = 72-70% |
| D+ | = 69-67% | D | = 66-63% | D- | = 62-60% |
| E | < 59% | | | | |

CLASS POLICY

1. Attendance

I take attendance in each class meeting and you must have attended at least 80% of class time at the end of the semester to receive a grade C or better. This is non-negotiable.

2. Professionalism and soft skills

Taking this course comes with a set of expectations for both the students and the professor:

- **Timeliness** – Class will start and end on time. Students are expected to come to class and to submit all assignments on time. Late assignments either will not be accepted or receive a lower grade. If you come in late or absolutely must leave before the class is over, please do so discreetly and from the back of the room.
- **Technology** – Students can may laptops for note-taking. However, if a student misuses this privilege (facebook, chats, movies, etc.), he/she will be asked to put the computer away and continue taking notes by hand. Cell phones (incl. texting) and earphones do not belong in class, and a student will be asked to take ear phones off/put cell phone away or leave the classroom. Students may record lectures, but must notify the professor every time they do so.

3. Late exams and assignments

All exams and assignments are to be taken or handed in on the due date. Late submissions accrue penalties, typically a reduction of 5% per day past due.

4. Extra credit

There is no extra credit in this class.

5. WSU Student Code

Students should be familiar with the WSU Student Code and abide by it. The Code may be reviewed on line at http://www.weber.edu/ppm/Policies/6-22_StudentCode.html – pay specific attention to Section IV.D.2b on “plagiarism, which is the unacknowledged (uncited) use of any other person’s or group’s ideas or work.” This includes purchased or borrowed papers, copying from any source, including the internet. Any type of cheating is a serious offense and will result in, at minimum, failing the assignment and reporting the student’s name to the WSU Dean of Students. All necessary steps will be taken to enforce the Student Code to guarantee fairness to all.

WSU subscribes to TurnItIn.com, an electronic service that verifies the originality of student work. Enrollment in this course may require you to submit some or all of your assignments to it this semester, and documents submitted to TurnItIn.com are retained, anonymously, in their databases. Continued enrollment in this course constitutes an understanding of and agreement with this policy.

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

Note: (S) = Steger, *Globalization: A Very Short Introduction*

(E&Z) Eitzen & Zinn, *Globalization: Transformation of Social Worlds*

(T) = Timmerman: *Where am I Eating?*

(NYT) = *The New York Times*

| Date | Topics and Reading |
|---|---|
| M 8/26 | Introductions and syllabus, signing up for readings, <i>The New York Times</i> throughout the semester |
| W 8/28 | What is Globalization? Read (S) Ch. 1 and (E&Z) Ch. 1 |
| F 8/30 | How did globalization develop historically? Read (S) Ch. 2 and Wallerstein (handout) |
| M 9/2 | Labor Day Holiday |
| W 9/4 | Why is globalization such a debated phenomenon? Read (E&Z) Ch. 2 (<i>introduction and all four articles</i>) |
| F 9/6 | Debating globalization (cont.), <i>Current events reflection paper due</i> No reading |
| M 9/9 | How are economies around the world connected? Read (S) Ch. 3 |
| W 9/11 | Impact of economic globalization on local economies Read (E&Z) Ch. 4 (<i>Intro and 10-11</i>) |
| F 9/13 | Economic globalization (cont.) Read (E&Z) Ch. 4 (<i>12-14</i>) and Rudrappa (Canvas #1) |
| M 9/16 | The movement of people across borders Read (E&Z) Ch. 3 (<i>Intro and 5-6</i>) |
| W 9/18 | The pushes and pulls of global migration Read (E&Z) Ch. 3 (<i>7-9</i>) |
| Note! H 9/19 10:30am | "Social Media's Impact on Governments" A talk by Brian Stelter, NY Times, Wildcat Theater |
| F 9/20 | Global migration (cont.), <i>Current events reflection paper due</i> , no reading |
| M 9/23 | Power and politics in the global system Read (S) Ch. 4 and (E&Z) Ch. 5 (<i>Intro and 15</i>) |
| W 9/25 | Political globalization cont. Read (E&Z) Ch. 5 (<i>16-18</i>) |
| F 9/27 | Reflections on democracy and capitalism No reading |
| M 9/30 | Globalization and culture Read (S) Ch. 5 and (E&Z) Ch.6 (<i>Intro and 19</i>) |
| W 10/2 | "Hybridization" and "glocalization" Read Ritzer (Canvas #2) and Pieterse (Canvas #3) |

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| F 10/4 | Global media and ideologies <i>Current events reflection paper due</i> Read Cowen (Canvas #4) |
| M 10/7 | Ideologies of globalization Read (S) Ch. 7 |
| W 10/9 | Global consumption Read (E&Z) Ch. 6 (20-21) |
| F 10/11 | Will global consumerism unite the world? MIDTERM EXAM GIVEN OUT No reading |
| M 10/14 | Ecological dimensions of globalization Read (S) Ch. 6 and Scaeffler (Canvas #5) |
| W 10/16 | Global food: Introduction to Timmerman's reporting, MIDTERM DUE IN CLASS No reading |
| F 10/18 | Fall Break |
| M 10/21 | Where does my morning coffee come from? Read (T) Part I (Chs. 1-4) |
| W 10/23 | Chocolate for everyone? ISSUE PAPER TOPIC AND SHORT OUTLINE DUE Read (T) Part II (Chs. 5-7) |
| F 10/25 | Going bananas Read (T) Part III (Chs. 8-10) |
| M 10/28 | The red lobster Read (T) Part IV (Chs. 11-13) |
| W 10/30 | Apples to juice Read (T) Part V (Chs. 14-16) |
| F 11/1 | Eating in the USA: Timmerman wrap up, TIMMERMAN DIARY DUE Read (T) Part VI (Chs. 17-20) |
| M 11/4 | Globalization and our social arrangements and gender relationships Read (E&Z) Ch. 7 (Intro and 22-24) |
| W 11/6 | Changing femininities and masculinities Read (E&Z) Ch. 7 (25-26) |
| F 11/8 | Creating global social problems Read (E&Z) Ch. 8 (Intro and choose two chapters from 27-30) |
| M 11/11 | The traveling disease: Soderberg: <i>Contageon</i> No reading |
| W 11/13 | Global disease (cont.) No reading |

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| F 11/15 | Global disease wrap up, <i>Current events reflection paper due</i> Read (E&Z) Ch. 8 (<i>31 only</i>) |
| M 11/18 | Resisting globalization: Ideas and movements Read (E&Z) Ch. 9 (<i>Intro and 33-34</i>) |
| W 11/20 | Taking action, making choices Read (E&Z) Ch. 9 (<i>35-37</i>) |
| F 11/22 | Thanksgiving Holiday |
| M 11/25 | Rethinking globalization Read (E&Z) Ch. 10 (<i>Intro and 38-40</i>) |
| W 11/27 | The future of globalization Read (S) Ch. 8 and TBA (Canvas) |
| F 11/29 | Global issues paper presentations begin, <i>Current events reflection paper due</i> No reading |
| M 12/2 | Global issues paper presentations, No reading |
| W 12/4 | Global issues paper presentations, No reading |
| F 12/6 | Global issues paper presentations, Semester recap No reading |
| W 12/11 | Global issues papers due in the Soc & Anthro office by 10:30 AM |

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| <p>Late Submission Coupon</p> <p>This coupon allows you to turn in a late assignment <u>once</u> during this semester without accruing a late penalty, no questions asked. Just write in the submission that you would like to use your Late Submission Coupon or make a copy of this coupon and attach it to your submission. The coupon is <i>valid for a written assignment only (excludes exam and final paper)</i>.</p> |
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