Global Studies 101: People and Politics

Instructor: Dr. Sooho Song
e-mail: sooho@uwm.edu
Office: Curtain Hall 879  Tel: 414) 229-4285
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 11:00-12:00 AM

Course Description
Despite the vast volume of studies on globalization, there is no consensus on what globalization is. As a result, there are many definitions offered in the literature. Globalization includes many aspects involving multiple disciplines. Typically, globalization refers to a multi-dimensional process where sovereignty, markets, trade, firms, production, immigration, environment, culture, and technology are intergraded. Globalization crosses boundaries of government and business, media and social movements, general and academic interests. Accordingly, the major disputes of globalization over the collective human condition integrate the questions of capitalism, inequality, power, development, ecology, gender, identity, and population. Yet are these processes new? How have these processes contributed to the changes of the world? How does it affect human rights and cultural identities? What are the benefits and drawbacks of globalization? In this course, we will explore these questions. We will also study various definitions and dimensions of globalization as well as the debates on globalization.

Learning Goals and Assessment
To develop skills for thinking critically about current debates surrounding the concept of globalization
To introduce students to institutions, ideologies, and economic, cultural, and social processes associated with globalization
To introduce students to different disciplinary approaches to the study of globalization
To familiarize students with case studies that reveal how global political, economic, cultural, and social dynamics play out in specific contexts
To provide students with insight into historical questions associated with globalization

Required Texts
Other assigned readings will be available in the content section of the course site on D2L.

Requirements
Three Exams (20% each)

Grade for this course will be based on three exams (20% each), and response to the discussion questions (4% each, 40% total). Exam schedules are in the syllabus. Exams will be taken through the D2L site. You can take an exam at any time during the week it is available, but you will only have one opportunity to take it. Once you begin the exam, you MUST finish it. You cannot start an exam, then enter again at a later time to finish it. Also, exams will be timed, so you will have a set amount of time to take the exam once you begin. You should make
sure that you have set aside the whole time allotted to take the exam just in case you need it. You should also make sure that you have a secure connection before you begin. You should study and prepare for these exams in the same way you would any closed-book exam and be prepared to complete the exam on your own.

Exams involve multiple choice and short answers. The exams are administered on the D2L system through the course website. After logging onto the course website, click the —Quizzes— tab. You will then be taken to a page with the links for the relevant quiz. The number of questions and the time allotted for the quiz varies. The best way to prepare for quizzes is to study and familiarize yourself with the keywords identified in the assignment for each week (see the website under —Content!). See below for more information on keywords. When taking an online quiz, you must choose the one response that BEST answers the question. In choosing the —correct— answers to questions, you are demonstrating your understanding of, but not necessarily your agreement with, an author’s or the professor’s analysis. Unless noted otherwise, you will have one (1) hour to complete each of the quizzes, but you are permitted to make only one (1) attempt to complete each of them. I must be firm in adhering to this rule. Please make sure that you have saved all your responses (including those you may have altered) before submitting the quizzes.

No make-up exam will be given unless students have a university approved excuse.

**Response to Discussion Questions (40%)**

Each week I will post a discussion question along with my lecture notes. You are required to post your response to the question and comment on another student’s response. Your response to the discussion question must be at least 200 words although your comment on another student’s response has no length requirement. Students are required to post discussion and comment by 11:59 PM on Sunday of the week. As long as you meet these requirements, you will get full credit (4 points). When you fail to meet the requirement of minimum length and deadline, you will be penalized. There are 10 discussion questions to respond this semester.

There will be total 11 on-line discussions. 10 questions are required to answer(40 points). The last discussion is an extra discussion which is optional, but you will get 3 extra points if you answer for it.

Keep in mind that all responses and posting on the Discussion Questions forum must follow the rules of behavior we would observe in the classroom. Your response to the discussion questions should address the question itself and demonstrate that you understand the topic under discussion. When you respond to someone else’s post, do so with respect. Personal attacks or excessive opinion-spouting will not be tolerated. You should engage each other’s ideas and respond in a thoughtful, constructive, informed manner.

**Academic Misconduct**

The University has a responsibility to promote academic honesty and integrity and to develop procedures to deal effectively with instances of academic dishonesty. Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for the respect of other’s academic endeavors.
Course Rules
You are expected to do the assigned reading each week, so that you can participate in the class discussion in a productive and qualitative way.

Course Schedule
What is Globalization?

Week 1 (1/26-2/1) Introduction

Week 2 (2/2-8) Globalization in the Twenty-first Century
On-line Discussion 1

Week 3 (2/9-15) Globalization: Global village
Readings: Byrne and Hensby, Chapter 1
On-line Discussion 2

Week 4 (2/16-22) Globalization and Governance
On-line Discussion 3

Week 5 (2/23-3/1) Globalization and Neo-Liberalism
Readings: Byrne and Hensby, Chapter 2
On-line Discussion 4

Week 6 (3/2-8) Exam I

Week 7 (3/9-15) Globalization and Economy
Readings: Byrne and Hensby, Chapter 3
On-line Discussion 5

Week 8 (3/16-22) Spring Break
Week 9 (3/23-29) Globalization and Production/Consumption
Readings: Byrne and Hensby, Chapter 5

On-line Discussion 6

Week 10 (3/30-4/5) Ethnic Identity and Global Language

On-line Discussion 7

Week 11 (4/6-12) Globalization as Homogenization vs. Diversification
Readings: Byrne and Hensby, Chapter 6

On-line Discussion 8

Week 12 (4/13-19) Exam II

Week 13 (4/20-26) Globalization and Migration
Readings: Byrne and Hensby, Chapter 7

On-line Discussion 9

Week 14 (4/27-5/3) Technology and Media in Globalization

On-line Discussion 10

Week 15 (5/4-7) Globalization and Environment
Reading: Ritzer, George (2011)” Global Environmental Flow,” In Globalization: Basic Text, Wiley and Blackwell

Extra on-line discussion

Week 17 (5/8-13) Exam III