

POSC 4931 Topics in Political Science: Globalization and the Nation State
Spring, 2009-2010 (Senior Experience seminar in political science, POSC4996)

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Introduction. This course focuses on the economic, political and social impacts of globalization on nation states across the globe. As such, it will encompass and build upon material from political science courses in international, comparative, and (to a lesser extent) American politics. We will focus most centrally on the nation-state impacts of economic globalization, or the increasing volume, speed, and intensity of international flows of goods, services, capital and labor around the globe. We will also recognize and assess the impacts of political globalization (i.e., the creation of supranational institutions for regional or global governance) and socio-cultural globalization (e.g., the international proliferation of western cultural norms and tastes).

The course is structured around three thematic units that address central questions in the academic and popular debate about the consequences of globalization. First, we will examine *the case for globalization*. In this section, we will examine the classic arguments about the benefits of economic globalization and attendant processes, namely, that internationalization of markets promotes economic well-being, liberal democracy, and peace. We will consider the main critiques of these pro-globalist theories and the rebuttals by the globalists.

Second, we will examine the central question of *whether or not globalization significantly limits the autonomy of national governments* to pursue their preferred policies. We will pay particular attention to the question of whether or not globalization constrains democratically elected governments from pursuing their chosen policies. Some emphasis will be given to the potential constraints of globalization in the core public policy areas of environment and consumer protection, economic management and social protection.

Third, we will examine in some depth the core question of *whether the economic and political impacts of globalization in the developing world are generally positive or negative*. Globalists argue that economic internationalization brings development to the “third world” and reinforces democracy and human rights. Vocal critics of globalization argue that increases in exposure to international markets potentially harms developing nations and potentially intensifies domestic political conflicts.

To address these central questions, we will read five books (complete book list and reading schedule below) that represent distinct academic perspectives. Some authors such as economist Gary Burtless and collaborators are strikingly pro-globalization. Others, such as political scientist Layna Mosley, are more agnostic and seek to offer a sophisticated and balanced analysis of the domestic impacts of globalization. Still other authors, most notably Nobel Prize winner Joseph Stiglitz, are moderately skeptical: they see the potential benefits of globalization but caution against simplistic policy and political approaches that ignore potential problems with globalization. Finally, still other scholars such as Yale Law Professor Amy Chua see potentially disastrous consequences of globalization for ethnically diverse developing nations and regions.

Readings/Books. Nearly all of the course's reading assignments will come from five books. These are available for purchase at the Book Marq. A small set of core readings will be available electronically through the library's electronic journals. For instance go to MARQCAT on the Raynor Memorial Libraries Website, input name of journal, find year and issue, and print yourself a copy of the article. A few readings will be available as electronic files (PDF files) - on D2L; several short readings will also come by way of class handout.

One book is on reserve for the course at Raynor Memorial Libraries (ARES class reserves - our password is globalization). The book, available as hard copy at the reserve desk, is by Frederick Weaver, and provides an excellent accessible background on some basic economic theories.

Our book list:

Gary Burtless et al, *Globaphobia: Confronting Fears about Open Trade*. (Washington, DC: Brookings Institution, 1998). **ISBN-13:** 978-0815711896

Amy Chua, *World on Fire: How Exporting Free Market Democracy Breeds Ethnic Hatred and Global Instability*. (New York: Anchor Books-Random House, 2003). **ISBN-13:** 978-0385721868

Layna Mosley, *Global Capital and National Governments*. (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2003). **ISBN-13:** 978-0521521628

Joseph Stiglitz, *Making Globalization Work*. (New York: W.W. Norton and Company 2007). **ISBN-13:** 978-0393330281

David Vogel, *Trading Up: Consumer and Environmental Regulation in a Global Economy*. (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Pres, 1995). **ISBN-13:** 978-0674900844

(On reserve at the library: Frederick Weaver, *Economic Literacy: Basic Economics with an Attitude 2nd Ed.* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2007).

Grading. Grades will be based on three exams -- two hourly exams and a final (a third hourly exam) -- and a research paper. Each of the exams will consist of essay questions covering required readings and class materials. The research paper will involve an analysis of a specific question of your choice about globalization and the nation state. A well-developed *paper prospectus* describing the research question, time frame, and countries for the paper, and including a preliminary bibliography, is *due on March 11* (and this is lieu of a midterm exam; handout on paper prospectus and final paper forthcoming). The *paper is due May 6*. The computation of the final grade is as follows:

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Hourly Exam I:	20 %	Hourly Exam II:	20 %
Paper Prospectus:	10 %	Final Paper	30 %
Final Exam:	20 %		

Class Attendance. It is required, subject of course to excused absences (e.g., sickness, family and special work commitments); students are expected to actively participate in seminar discussions and critiques of the readings.

Schedule of Readings

Part I: The Case for Globalization

January 19: Course Introduction

- syllabus distribution, course overview, preliminaries

January 21: What is Globalization?

- Robert Keohane and Joseph Nye, "Globalization: What's New? What's Not? (And So What?)," *Foreign Policy* (Issue 118, Spring 2000), pp. 104-119. (Electronic journal, MARQCAT)

January 26: The Case for Globalization: Overview

- Chs. 1 & 2 in Burtless, et al, *Globaphobia*

Jan. 28 & Feb 2 : The Case for Globalization: Critics and Rebuttals on Jobs, Wages and Inequality

- Chs. 3, 4 and 7 of Burtless, et al, *Globaphobia*

(Recommended: while Burtless et al's discussion is very accessible, one might benefit from a review of Chs. 5 and 6 in Weaver, *Economic Literacy*.)

February 4: The Case for Globalization: Democracy

- Jagdish Bhagwati, "Democracy at Bay?" (Ch. 8 of Bhagwati's *In Defense of Globalization*, Oxford University Press, 2004). - electronic book chapter (D2L)

(Recommended: for an excellent overview of the social science research on whether globalization causes democracy, and whether democracy fosters international integration, see: Helen Milner and Bumba Mukherjee, "Democracy and Economic Globalization," *Annual Review of Political Science* Vol. 12 (2009): 163-81..

Part II: Globalization, Regionalization, and National Autonomy: Diminished Democracy and Sovereignty?

February 9 & 11: Is Environmental and Consumer Protection Possible in a Global Economy?
(Part I: Theory and the Case of Regionalization in Europe)

- Chs. 1-3 in Vogel, *Trading Up*

February 16: Is Environmental and Consumer Protection Possible in a Global Economy?
(Part II: The Case of Pressures from Global Trade and GATT/WTO)

- Chs. 4-5 in Vogel, *Trading Up*

February 18 & 23: Is Environmental and Consumer Protection Possible in a Global Economy?
(Part III: North American and NAFTA)

- Chs. 6-8 in Vodel, *Trading Up*

February 25: **First Hourly Exam**

March 2 & 4: Global Capital Markets and Control over National Public Policies, Part I

- Chs. 1-2 in Mosley, *Global Capital...*

March 9: Global Capital Markets and Control over National Public Policies, Part II

- Pp. 50-69, & 101 in Ch. 3 and 102-145 in Ch. 4 of Mosley, *Global Capital...*

March 11: Research Paper Prospectus due/ class presentations

March 16 & 18 - Spring break days.

March 23: Global Capital Markets and Control over National Public Policies, Part III

- Pp. 157-177 in Ch. 5; Pp. 199-215 in Ch. 6; and Pp. 249-276 in Ch. 7 of Mosely, *Global Capital...*

Part III: The Economic and Political Impacts of Globalization (Developing Nation Perspectives)

March 25 & 30: The Prospect of Development, I

- Chs. 1-3 in Stiglitz, *Making Globalization Work*

- recommended: Dani Rodrik, "Trading in Illusions." *Foreign Policy* (No. 123 March-April, 2001), pp. 54-62. (Electronic journal, MARQCAT)

April 1: Easter holiday day

April 6: The Prospect of Development, II

- Chs. 5-6 in Stiglitz, *Making Globalization Work* (recommended: Ch. 4 in Stiglitz)

April 8 - **Second Hourly Exam**

April 13: The Prospect of Development, III

- Chs. 7-8 in Stiglitz, *Making Globalization Work*

April 15: Reading and Research Day

April 20: The Prospect of Development, IV

- Chs. 10 in Stiglitz, *Making Globalization Work*

April 22 & 27: Globalization and Political Conflict in the Developing World, Part I

- Part I (Chs. 1-4) in Chua, *World on Fire*

April 29: Globalization and Political Conflict in the Developing World, Part II

- Part II (Chs. 5-7) in Chua, *World on Fire*

May 4 & 6: Globalization and Political Conflict in the Developing World, Part III

- Part III (Chs. 9-12) in Chua, *World on Fire*

May 6: **Final Papers Due**

May 13 (Thursday (9-10 pm) **Final Exam** /Third Hourly Exam