Course Description
This course in Global Politics and International Relations focuses on tensions of inequality around the globe. The course is divided into three main themes: 1) Globalization: This theme will offer an introduction to the concept of globalization and how it is conceptualized and critiqued. We will look at how globalization relates to inequalities between countries in the “1st world/west/global north” and countries in the “3rd world/east/global south”. 2) Civil Uprisings: In this theme we will read about different governments, ideologies and regimes, and how they have been and are being resisted by the public. 3) Oil Politics: For this part of the course, we will read Timothy Mitchell’s book Carbon Democracy, in which he argues that no nation escapes the political consequences of our collective dependence on oil. This theme focuses on how tensions of inequality play out in different states and societies who either produce or heavily rely on oil.

A major objective of this course is to expand critical thinking skills - to go beyond surface level analyses of politics in order to uncover multiple and often opposing truths.

Required Reading
You are expected to acquire four books for this course (A total cost of $82 on Amazon for new books. Can be significantly cheaper if you buy used books or Kindle versions). All other materials will be posted on the course website.

Office Hours
As this is an online course I will not be holding in-person office hours, but I will still be making myself available regularly. Feel free to email me directly at gitte@hawaii.edu. I will be happy to answer your questions by email, or if needed we can set up a time to Skype.

Assignments
All assignments should be typed, single-spaced, 12 point font, with proper grammar, spelling, and sentence structure. For assignments turned in electronically please make sure that your files are word documents (the file ending should be .doc or .docx).

Grading
Your final grade will be based on your grades for three analytical essays, your participation in class forums, and your final paper. The three essays will be worth 15% each, the forum participation 20%, and your final paper will count for 35% of your grade.

Three analytical essays - 45%
Forum participation - 20%
Final paper - 35%

Analytical Essays
You will complete three analytical essays during the summer. These essays should be about 1200 - 1500 words in length and will respond to a broad question pertaining to issues and texts we have worked with in class. I will post the question at least two weeks prior to each deadline. The essays are designed to help you practice applying the material presented in readings and forums in order to describe and analyze this material in response to a specific question. You will be able to answer the questions based on class materials; you are not expected to conduct outside research, however you are welcome to include outside aspects if something relevant comes to mind for you. When I post the first question, I will also post a more specific description of what is required for each essay. All essays should be submitted online to gitte@hawaii.edu. The essays are due Friday at noon of week 3, 5 and 7.

Forum Participation
In order to keep you committed on reading all the assigned material, you will be expected to post a reaction each week relating to the material of that week. Additionally, you will be expected to post a reaction to a fellow student’s post from the previous week. The deadline for forum posts will be every Friday at noon.

Final project
Your final project is a paper about a topic related to the course that you wish to explore further. The length of the paper is about 5000 words. For this paper you are expected to include knowledge you have gained from the readings and assignments of the course as well as additional outside research on your topic of choice. The task here is to write a coherent presentation, exploration and critical discussion of a topic. You will be graded on your ability to critically analyze rather than summarize your findings. The final project is due on the last day of class – Thursday, August 14th - and is to be submitted to gitte@hawaii.edu. I will supply a more detailed description of what is expected from the final paper at least 4 weeks before it is due. If you prefer, your final project can be a
website, ethnography, questionnaire, prezi, audio/video presentation or another media, as long as the workload of the project is comparable to writing a 5000 word paper. Email me if you are interested in this option.

Course Schedule

Weekly readings amount to a maximum of 150 pages. The amount of reading per week is adjusted to how difficult/theoretical the readings are.

Week 1, June 10th – 13th: Introduction and Syllabus

Theme I: Globalization and Its Critics

Week 2, June 16th – June 20th: Globalization

Week 3, June 23rd – June 27th: Neoliberalism
- First analytical essay due.

Week 4, June 30th – July 4th: Politics of development

Theme II: Civil Uprisings

Week 5, July 7th – July 11th: Non-violent civil resistance
- Second analytical essay due.
Week 6, July 14th – July 18th: The Arab Spring
- Melani Cammett and Ishac Diwan, “Toward a Political Economy of the Arab Uprisings” from the ezine Jadaliyya.

Week 7, July 21st – July 25th: Anarchism/Neomarxism
- Third analytical essay due.

Theme III: Oil politics

Week 8, July 28th – August 1st
- Carbon Democracy, part 1.
- Examine the three maps and the website “Who has the oil” from John M. Olin Institute for Strategic Studies at Harvard University.
  https://blogs.law.harvard.edu/mesh/2007/12/who_has_oil/

Week 9, August 4th – August 8th
- Carbon Democracy, part 2.

Week 10, August 11th – August 14th
- Final project due.

General Policies
Plagiarism
If you present someone else’s words or ideas as your own, you are plagiarizing them. Plagiarism is a form of theft and academic dishonesty. Some examples include doing any of the following without proper citation: cutting and pasting text from a website, paraphrasing another person’s ideas, directly copying words from any source (book, journal, script), etc. Doing any of the above is cheating and will result in serious consequences. Any work that is deemed to include plagiarized material will be failed. I understand that generally people resort to plagiarism when they are under pressure for various reasons: work, family, relationships, or simply not understanding the material. Please talk to me if you are having trouble with the work. We will work something out together that will be much better than cheating and failing. If you have any questions about the plagiarism policy of the school please see the UHM Student Conduct Code: www.hawaii.edu/ail/students/plagiarism.html. For all UHM policies on academic integrity please see this page: http://www.manoa.hawaii.edu/students/conduct/impermissible_behavior.html.

Services to students with disabilities
If you have any kind of disability and you are concerned about access to the course or completing the required work, I encourage you to contact KOKUA. The KOKUA program is located on the ground floor of the Student Services Center, online (http://www.hawaii.edu/kokua/), and can also be reached by phone at 956-7511.
Self-motivation
You must be self-motivated to do well in this class. This course requires about 10 hours of study time per week. You will need to schedule time to complete the readings and assignments as indicated in this syllabus.

Late work
If you have concerns about your performance in the course, please email me as soon as possible. We have a lot to cover and it may be easy to fall behind. It is to your responsibility and advantage to stay on top of your assignments. Given the short amount of time we have to cover a large amount of material, if you fall behind it will be hard for you to catch up. You must have a note from your doctor for me to accept late work.

Non-Discrimination: A two-way commitment
I uphold the University of Hawaii's nondiscrimination policy in my classes. UHM does not tolerate discrimination in employment, educational programs, and activities on the basis of race, national origin, ancestry, color, creed, religion, sex, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, political affiliation, arrest and court record, or associational preference. My “classroom”, whether online or not, is always a UH-designated Safe Zone. Any discriminatory acts or language (on Chat, Messages or Forums) on the basis of sexual orientation will not be tolerated.