



UNIVERSITY
of HAWAII®
MĀNOA

Political Science 305 Global Politics / Comparative Course Syllabus

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Meeting Times: M-F 10:30a to 11:45a
Location: TBA
Office Hours: TBA

Course Description:

Our main objective is to develop an interdisciplinary, synthetic understanding of key ethical issues raised by different globalization processes as seen through the perspectives of international business, philosophy, and political science. This course is designed to introduce, explain, compare and analyze different dimensions of globalization and its links to international politics and human rights. The course focuses on three major themes, ethical implications of globalization, technological and the environmental issues in addition to social movements and human rights in the context of globalization.

Several new trends, such as ethnonationalism, pro-environment movements, and social movements such as feminism, anti-war resistance, and the influence of social media will be scrutinized. New developments in technology and how people interact will also be evaluated as it relates to global politics, the environment, and redistribution of labor. More specifically, the rise of transnational companies on the world stage will be examined. Using theoretical, philosophical, and experiential knowledge, this course attempt to demonstrate how crucial is the interaction among actors, agency, and structure in world politics and how norms and institutions (multilateral organizations such as the UN, IMF, and WTO as well as Non-governmental organizations such as Amnesty International) influence the course of international relations and morality.

Learning Outcomes:

Students will develop critical thinking necessary to understand the dynamics at play within the different interactions between nations what this means for the future of global politics.

Teaching Philosophy:

I believe that the classroom is where exchange of ideas takes place and everyone contributes to teaching and learning. My goal is that lessons, theories and methods covered in this course will have

real-life applications.

Extra credit:

A one-paragraph analysis in response to in-class films or guest speakers. 2 points maximum for each one. You are able to submit up to 3 responses before the semester ends.

UH Manoa Focus Designations

Contemporary Ethical Issues (E):

In accordance with the requirements set forth at UH Manoa, “This course has a Contemporary Ethical Issues (E) Focus designation. Contemporary ethical issues are fully integrated into the main course material and will constitute at least 30% of the content. At least 8 hours of class time will be spent discussing ethical issues. Through the use of lectures, discussions and assignments, students will develop basic competency in recognizing and analyzing ethical issues; responsibly deliberating on ethical issues; and making ethically determined judgments”

A major focus of the different ethical decision-making frameworks that students will learn is to examine ethical questions in the context of power distribution. Through being able to evaluate “who stands to gain the most?” from different policies, institutions and organizations students will be able to better understand the global, environmental, and human rights implications. What benefits one group may be at the cost of another such as people's lives being put at risk mining rare materials from the Congo to be used in many mass produced technological devices including cellphones. Other possible forms of globalization outside of the neo-liberal paradigm will be examined such as “alter-globalization” to evaluate what the future holds. Critical thinking will be an important part of the classroom discussions, activities and assignments where students will contrast the differences between the conveniences and costs brought on by the rise of globalization and a more interconnected world. Increased efficiency is not without its drawbacks this relationship that will be analyzed in depth throughout the course. The three main themes from this course will be the base from which important ethical questions are analyzed regarding modern developments and patterns in global politics. Additional details are provided below:

Ethical Implications of Globalization

Is globalization helping improve nations at the expense of others? Proponents would argue that because of globalization countries are more able to "pull up by the bootstraps" due to easier facilitation and widespread distribution of trade. Critics by contrast would argue that power is being delegated to select nations, groups and individuals while leaving everyone else marginalized.

Technological and Environmental issues

As environmental issues such as global warming are increasing at an uneven rate, are some nations more at risk to be affected by the consequences more than others? Those who disagree with this raising issue often claim that humans are not the only cause. Proponents often refer to record breaking heat that took place worldwide during the 1990s.

Social Movements and Human Rights in the Context of Globalization

Do massive global population shifts benefit certain groups more than others? It can be said that people have always been moving around but it does not promise equal access to opportunity. Advocates would argue that people are able to be employed and get paid much more than other comparable work they could find within their countries of origin. However this often can lead to situations where

workers become more like slaves or victims of forced labor such as in cases where passports are withheld.

Oral Communication (O or OC):

(Each area that will cover the O designations will be denoted as O1, O2, etc.)

This course has an Oral Communication (O or OC) focus designation. Specific learning outcomes that will be emphasized in this course are that students be able to not only learn, but also articulate their understanding by defending and critiquing different positions on course materials. They will have to dissect, present, and organize evidence to prove the strengths and weaknesses that exist within different arguments present in global politics. **Students will have three main assignments / activities, group presentations, classroom debates, film and classroom discussions which account for 40% of the overall grade (Fulfills O1 Designation Requirement).** Those exercises will address the learning outcomes by having students be able to adapt and articulate themselves in accordance to different criteria. Group presentations will emphasize on the development of research skills in being able to interpret different sources and synthesize the information a cohesive manner. In the debates they must maintain their positions and be able to form appropriate rebuttals to the introduction of new information. The film and classroom discussions will help strengthen students' abilities of processing new information within short periods of time to evaluate the evidence being presented and whether or not the different director's achieved their objectives through their respective productions. **Students will be given explicit training regarding oral communications concerns in the main activities throughout this course. These assignments / activities will help create an environment where students not only absorb course material but are able to apply it both in the classroom and beyond. (Fulfills O2 Designation Requirement) Feedback will be provided for all students regarding the aforementioned oral communications activities (Fulfills the O3 Designation Requirement)I will work with students both on an individual and group level (Fulfills the O4 Designation Requirement).** It is expected that dynamics between students and the course will be both engaging and informative to develop necessary skills on par with the standards of a 300 level course **(Fulfills the O5 Designation Requirement).**

Assignments / Activities Covering Both the E and O designations:

There are four main classroom assignments / classroom activities which will help improve the abilities of students to both apply critical thinking, debate, and create organized presentations while evaluating the different ethical dilemmas discussed throughout the course. An important aspect of global politics is being able to articulate these complex problems in the most concise matter with sufficient evidence and logical conclusions.

Film and Classroom Discussions- Films with different perspectives will be shown throughout the course at least once per week as they relate to the course. **Students will learn to dissect the information as it relates to oral communications presented in films to find tone, bias, and intentions behind the propagation of such productions (Fulfills O2 Designation Requirement).** Examples will include discussion two films about globalization from oppositional standpoints, one that is critical of the present state of globalization and one that is not. Two that will cover this topic will be, *John Pilger - The New Rulers Of The World*, and *Globalization is Good: A Documentary by Johan Norberg*. Films are subject to change. **A weekly post on Laulima is expected:** around 300 words about points of interest brought up in the readings, films or class discussions. Potential topics could include the intersection of Wallerstein's Global Systems theory and the proposed TransPacific Partnership.

Group presentations- will help them gain a more in depth understanding of global politics through

discussing certain topics more in depth. Such discussions could include, global warming, technology, war among others. **Students will choose the topic which they would like to present and then will be distributed forms for instructor and peer evaluations of each group's performance (Fulfills O2 Designation Requirement)**. Factors such as content, communication and visual aids will be important in determining the overall performance of each presentation.

Classroom Debates- Around one hour of class per week will be dedicated towards the class being able to choose a topic whether about current events or course material. Students will take on different vantage points and be able to sustain their arguments based on that position as new information becomes a part of the discourse. **This will help aid in developing critical thinking and argumentative abilities (Fulfills the O2 Designation Requirement)**. An example topic would include "Who is to be held responsible for the Bangladesh Factory Collapse of 2013?" they must devise a definitive statement about who and provide evidence as to why. Another area of discussion may be the recent ban on fracking in the State of New York and its possible implications such as whether or not other states will take similar action.

Guest Speakers- Guest speakers will join the classroom discussion to help guide the discourse by sharing their first hand experiences as they relate to global politics. This will further enhance the learning experience by providing a level of interaction between the students and individuals involved with global politics. Two out of three possible candidates will be selected which include a professor from San Francisco State, a director from Google, and the Sheriff of San Francisco that will be visiting Hawaii during that time

Grading Rubric:

Classroom Participation:

Film and Classroom Discussions:	10% (10 points)
Group Presentation:	20% (20 points)
Classroom Debates:	10% (10 points)

(Fulfills the O1 Designation Requirement with the participation and oral communications activities being 40% of the total grade)

Assignments and Take-home Exams:

Take-home Midterm (Multiple Choice and Short Answer Questions):	20% (20 points)
Essay:	15% (15 points)
Take-home Final Exam:	25% (25 points)

Required Textbooks:

(Note the course will not be based directly on course readings I expect that students read the material prior to each lecture).

Baylis, J., Smith, S., & Owens, P. (Eds.). (2013). *The globalization of world politics: An introduction to international relations*. Oxford University Press.

Chicago

Singer, P. (2004). *One world: The ethics of globalization*. Yale University Press.

Additional Readings:

Will be provided on Laulima.

- Hudson, A. (2001). *NGOs' transnational advocacy networks: from 'legitimacy' to 'political responsibility'?*. *Global networks*, 1(4), 331-352.
- Faaij, A., Jager, D., & Kok, M. (Eds.). (2013). *Global warming and social innovation: the challenge of a climate neutral society*. Routledge.
- Khagram, S., Riker, J. V., & Sikkink, K. (2002). *Restructuring world politics: transnational social movements, networks, and norms*. U of Minnesota Press.
- Roberts, S. (2003). *Supply chain specific? Understanding the patchy success of ethical sourcing initiatives*. *Journal of Business Ethics*, 44(2-3), 159-170.
- Wallerstein, I. (1976). *Semi-peripheral countries and the contemporary world crisis*. *Theory and Society*, 3(4), 461-483.

Weekly Schedule and Readings:

I. Ethical Implications of Globalization

Week 1: Introduction and Historical Overview of Global Politics

Course Overview and Introduction
Introductory Remarks
Review of Class Syllabus
Introduction to Readings

Film:

John Pilger - The New Rulers Of The World

Readings:

Wallerstein, I., *Semi-peripheral countries and the contemporary world crisis*, pp. 1-16.
Read, Baylis, *The globalization of world politics: An introduction to international relations*, chapters 1-6, pp. 1 -141

Week 2: Theories and the Global Economy

Film:

Globalization is Good: A Documentary by Johan Norberg.

Readings:

Read, Baylis, *The globalization of world politics: An introduction to international relations*, chapters 7-11, pp. 141-253
Read, Singer, *One world: The ethics of globalization*, chapter 3, pp. 51-106
Read, Hudson, *NGOs' transnational advocacy networks: from 'legitimacy' to 'political responsibility'?*, pp. 331-352

II. Technological and the Environmental Issues

Week 3: Review of Structures and Processes

****Take Home Midterm Due****

Holiday:

June 11, Kamehameha Day

Film:

TBA

Guest Speaker:

TBA

Readings:

Read, Baylis, *The globalization of world politics: An introduction to international relations*, chapters 12-17, pp. 253-387
Read, Roberts, *Supply chain specific? Understanding the patchy success of ethical sourcing initiatives*, pp. 159-170

Week 4: International and Contemporary Politics

Film:

TBA

Readings:

Read, Baylis, *The globalization of world politics: An introduction to international relations*, chapters 18-22, pp. 387-494

Read, Faaij, Jager, and Kok, *Global warming and social innovation: the challenge of a climate neutral society*, chapter 8, pp. 143-160

Read, Singer, *One world: The ethics of globalization*, chapter 2, pp. 14-51

III. Social Movements and Human Rights in the Context of Globalization

Week 5: The Rise of International Movements and Internet Communication Technologies (ICTs)

Film:

TBA

Readings:

Read, Khagram, Riker and Sikkink, *Restructuring world politics: transnational social movements, networks, and norms*, chapter 1, pp. 3-23

Read, Baylis, *The globalization of world politics: An introduction to international relations*, chapters 23-28, pp. 494-617

Week 6: The Future of Globalization

****Take Home Final Due****

Holiday:

July 4, Independence Day

Film:

TBA

Guest Speaker:

TBA

Readings:

Read, Baylis, *The globalization of world politics: An introduction to international relations*, chapters 29-30, pp. 617-649

Read, Singer, *One world: The ethics of globalization*, chapters 4-6, pp. 106-203