

POL 403
Fall 2013

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Office: Glatfelter 306
Hours: Wed. and Thurs., 1:00-3:00
pm and by appointment

IR Capstone Globalization

“It has been said that arguing against globalization is like arguing against the laws of gravity.”
Kofi Annan

“Globalization is not something we can hold off or turn off.... It is the economic equivalent of a force of nature - like wind or water.”

Bill Clinton

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

400-level courses in the Political Science major are divided into subfields and focus on “one or more of the core set of themes students examine throughout the major. Students will explore these themes in depth by reading some of the major works associated with them, engaging in the process of peer-reviewing the research others have done on questions related to these themes, and, finally, producing their own original research.”

Course content

This course fulfills Gettysburg College’s capstone requirement. Within the context of the political science major, this is a course in the subfield of international relations. The focus of this course is on globalization. Globalization is a term that has been used to describe the increased movement of goods, money, people, ideas and knowledge across national borders. The process of globalization has led to increased political, economic, and cultural interconnectedness among the world’s populations. At the global level, globalization has been identified as the source of a number of challenges to the role of governments in international relations and the global economy.

In this course we will investigate a number of debates concerning globalization, focusing on the positive and negative effects said to stem from this process. Our study of globalization will take us from a historical examination of the nature of globalization over time to various manifestations of the process of globalization and its impacts at the societal, national, and global levels.

Is globalization an inexorable process as the statements by Annan and Clinton above seem to suggest? Does globalization have different types of effects on different actors in the international system? Does globalization generate and/or dissolve) power structures? What effect does globalization have in determining hierarchies, inequalities and opportunities? Can globalization be managed in such a manner as to dampen its ill effects and strengthen the positive effects? These are among the central questions we will attempt to answer in this seminar during the course of the semester.

Course Goals

1. Become familiar with different definitions and means of conceptualizing and measuring globalization.

2. Be able to identify and distinguish among different historical episodes or manifestations of globalization.
3. Be able to distinguish among different types of explanations for the causes and impacts of globalization.
4. Learn how to critically read and dissect peer-reviewed literature on the political economy of globalization.
5. Learn how to find and use data relevant to globalization.
6. Learn how to frame research questions and conduct research relevant to an analysis of the causes and impacts of globalization.
7. Learn how to convey information and research regarding globalization in an effective manner, both in writing and orally.
8. Begin to use what you've learned in this and other classes as a means of understanding your responsibilities as a global citizen.

The course goals identified above and the assignments used in this class are designed to help students meet the Political Science department's requirements regarding effective communication conventions in the discipline. The department holds as important the ability of students to:

- Become conversant in the fundamental issues and concepts of the discipline;
- obtain and organize the means for addressing these fundamental issues and become familiar with various methods used in the field;
- understand and critically evaluate the work of political scientists;
- analyze and interpret information relevant to answering the fundamental questions of the discipline; and
- communicate results of their analyses both orally and in writing.

Readings

There are three required books for this course; these may be purchased at the College bookstore. Additional course readings can be accessed online through the College library using the "Journal Locator" function on the library's homepage or via the links provided in the syllabus. All other readings will be posted to Moodle.

Jagdish Bhagwati. 2007. *In Defense of Globalization (With a New Afterword)*.

Pietra Rivoli. 2009. *The Travels of a T-Shirt in the Global Economy*, second edition.

Dani Rodrik. 2011. *The Globalization Paradox: Democracy and the Future of the World Economy*.

Grading

This course will be run as a seminar. This means that student participation is essential. Accordingly, a major part of your grade in this class will be based on your readiness to participate in an informed and prepared manner in class.

Capstone research paper (4-page prospectus, due Sept. 28, is worth 5%; final project is worth 20%):	25%
Class preparation (7 weekly short papers and quizzes, x 5% each):	35%
Midterm exam:	15%
Research presentation:	10%
Final exam :	15%

The following grading scale will be used in this course:

A+	(97-100)	B+	(87-89)	C+	(77-79)	D+	(67-69)
A	(93-96)	B	(83-86)	C	(73-76)	D	(63-66)
A-	(90-92)	B-	(80-82)	C-	(70-72)	D-	(60-62)
						F	(0-59)

- A: Outstanding and original work; well-argued, well-organized, without significant error or omission.
- B: Very good work; reasonably argued, clearly organized, with only slight error or omission; flashes of brilliance; clearly well above the average.
- C: Solid work; clear evidence of engagement and comprehension, but with some organizational, factual or interpretive errors or omissions.
- D: Passing, but only marginally acceptable work with clear deficiencies of fact, organization, interpretation, or length; incomplete work; ***immediate conference with me is strongly suggested!***
- F: Unacceptable work submitted with such significant deficiencies that no credit can be awarded; ***immediate conference with me is required!***

Assignments

1. Capstone research paper: Each student will write his or her own research paper. The research paper must focus on a theme that can be tested using the data set you will be given access to for this class. You might, for example, be interested in the impact that some form of globalization - i.e., political, economic, or social - has on democratization or on the incidence of strikes or riots. You must formulate a central research question focusing on globalization. You must also develop a hypothesis that can be tested by the data set we will work with in this class. Globalization can figure either as the dependent variable or independent variable in your hypothesis. Following up on my example above, I might hypothesize that the more rapidly countries become economically globalized, the higher is the likelihood that their populations will engage in acts of civil strife such as strikes and riots.

Your paper should resemble a social science journal article on globalization. It should be approximately 25 double-spaced pages in length (including the title page, tables, and the references) and contain the following elements in a well written, clearly organized, properly documented, and logically argued discussion:

- Context for the project: Why is this important and how does it relate to globalization? (Put another way, why is this important and why should we care?)
- Central question: Clearly state the question that you will attempt to answer.
- Review of the relevant literature: Where is your project situated within the academic literature on the subject? Be sure to include a discussion of key ideas within this literature that have influenced or otherwise shaped your approach to the research.
- Discussion of methodology: Describe the methods employed (data collection and analysis; case choice and analysis), provide a justification for why these methods are the appropriate ones, and comment on their limitations.
- Analysis of data and discussion of your results.
- Concluding thoughts: Sum up your main points and make suggestions for related areas of research and/or future directions for this particular project.

The capstone research paper is due at the beginning of class on Monday, November 24.

A four-page prospectus in which you make your first effort to identify the question you will focus on for your research project, discuss why it is important and how it relates to globalization, make a preliminary effort to identify a hypothesis and the data you will use to test it, and identify at least eight works related to the topic is due on **September 29**.

Please see the document "Research Prospectus" (by Philip G. Roeder), posted to our course Moodle site, for an explanation of the materials that should be included in a prospectus. (We'll go over this document in class as well.)

2. Research presentation: Presentations of student research projects will take place on **Mon., Dec. 8**. Each student will have 15 minutes for her/his presentation. Details regarding the presentation format will be provided in class and via Moodle.

3. Class preparation: A combination of nine "mini-papers" and quizzes will be used during the course of the semester to ensure that you're preparing for class each week. The mini-papers and quizzes will be turned in/given for those weeks for which readings have been assigned; there will be neither a mini-paper nor a quiz for the weeks in which we go into the computer lab and the weeks during which we have exams. For those weeks in which I've noted a mini-paper is due, I will post a question regarding the readings to Moodle (these will be posted no later than the Thursday prior to the class meeting at which the mini-paper is due). Each of you must type the answers to these questions and hand it in to me at the end of the class meeting. ***Mini-paper assignments will not be accepted if you have not been to class.*** They also will not be accepted late even if you were in class. For those weeks in which I've noted that there is a quiz, the quiz will be given in class. Each student is expected to complete 7 of the 9 possible mini-paper/quiz assignments; you may each skip two mini-papers and/or quizzes (I don't care what combination of these you skip). Each mini-paper and quiz is worth 5% of the total course grade. Note that missing more than the two allotted quizzes or mini-papers eats into your final grade very quickly.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

HONOR CODE:

Consistent with the Gettysburg College Honor Code, “students must submit work that is the fruit of their own study and labor, acknowledge assistance, words, and ideas they use in their work, and be honest will all members of the community involved in supporting their education” (Honor Code Summary, p. 1). Please be sure to read the Honor Code in its entirety; it is your responsibility to be familiar with and abide by both the rule and spirit of this code.

CLASS ATTENDANCE:

I understand that missing class is unavoidable *once in a great while*, but you cannot participate if you are not in class. Students who miss more than **one** class during the semester will lose three points from their final class grade for each additional class missed.

POLICY REGARDING LATE ASSIGNMENTS:

I will accept assignments turned in late, but only for a one-week period following the date they were due. During the one-week period, assignments will be penalized by one-half letter grade per day for each day they are late. After the one-week period, missing assignments will receive a grade of “0.” Note that this policy does not apply to the weekly quizzes/class participation.

SCHEDULE

Part I: INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF GLOBALIZATION

Week 1: Monday, September 1. *Overview and organizational issues.*

Division of class responsibilities; overview of syllabus, readings and assignments.

What is globalization? Why study globalization?

Note: You have a lot of reading to do for weeks 4 and 5; I’d suggest you start doing some of it during Weeks 2 and 3 when the reading load is relatively light.

Week 2: Mon., Sept. 8: *Defining globalization; theoretical approaches to the study of globalization; globo-embracers, globo-skeptics, and globo-critics.*

Mini-paper

- Bhagwati, chapters 1, 2, and 3.
- Dunne, Tim, and Brian C. Schmidt. 2006. “Realism.” In *The Globalization of World Politics*, John Baylis and Steve Smith, eds. Oxford: Oxford University Press. (Reading posted to Moodle.)
- Dunne, Tim. 2006. “Liberalism.” In Baylis and Smith, eds. (Reading posted to Moodle.)
- Lamy, Steven M. 2006. “Contemporary Mainstream Approaches: Neo-realism and Neo-liberalism.” In Bayliss and Smith, eds. (Reading posted to Moodle.)

Week 3: Mon., Sept. 15: *Measuring globalization and researching globalization.*

Session in computer lab to examine and begin to work with datasets on globalization (meet in lab).

- Read -- and bring to lab -- Philip G. Roeder's "Research Prospectus" (posted to course Moodle site).

Week 4: Mon., Sept. 22: *Globalization in historical perspective. To what extent does globalization today differ from globalizations of the past?*

Quiz

- Polanyi, Karl. 1944. "The Hundred Years' Peace" and "Conservative Twenties, Revolutionary Thirties." In Polanyi, *The Great Transformation: The Political and Economic Origins of Our Time*. (Reading posted to Moodle.)
- Bordo, M., B. Eichengreen, and D. Irwin. 1999. "Is Globalization Today Really Different than Globalization 100 Years Ago? Access at <http://www.econ.berkeley.edu/~eichengr/research/brooking.pdf>
- Rodrik, chapters. 1 and 2 of *The Globalization Paradox*.

Part II. PROCESSES OF GLOBALIZATION

Week 5: Mon., September 29: *Trade and Politics in the Global Economy*

Mini-paper

- Bhagwati, chapters 6, 10 and 12
- Rodrik, chapters. 3 and 4 of *The Globalization Paradox*.
- Rivoli, *The Travels of a T-Shirt in the Global Economy* (read entire book).
- Video: *No Sweat*

Week 6: Mon., October 6: *Global Capital Flows*

Quiz

- Rodrik, chapters 5 and 6 of *The Globalization Paradox*
- Reinhart and Rogoff, chapters 4-6 and 17 of *This Time is Different: Eight Centuries of Financial Folly*. (Reading posted to Moodle.)

Week 7: Mon., October 13: READING DAY - NO CLASS

Week 8: Mon., October 20: MIDTERM EXAM

Part III. CENTRAL ISSUES IN GLOBALIZATION

Week 9: Mon., Oct. 27: *Globalization and Development*

Mini-paper

- Bhagwati, chapters 5 and 9
- Rodrik, chapters 7 and 8 of *The Globalization Paradox*

Week 10: Mon., Nov. 3: Class session in computer lab to work on hypothesis tests for research paper hypotheses.

Week 11: Mon., November 10: *Globalization and Democracy*

Quiz

- Barry Eichengreen and David Leblang. 2008. "Democracy and Globalization." *Economics and Politics* 20, 3: 289-334. (Access through library's Journal Locator.)
- Rodrik, chapter 9 of *The Globalization Paradox*.
- Bhagwati, chapter 8

Week 12: Mon., November 17: *Globalization and Conflict*

Quiz

- Brian M. Pollins. 2008. "Globalization and Armed Conflict Among Nations." *Conflict Management and Peace Science* 25: 191-205. (Access via course Moodle site.)
- Erik Gartzke and Quan Li. "Economic Globalization and Peace: How Economic Integration Can Reduce the Incidence of International Conflict." Access at http://people.tamu.edu/~quanli/research_papers/glob_chapter.pdf

Week 14: Mon., November 24: *Globalization and Gender*

Mini-paper

- Bhagwati, chapter 7
- "Globalization's impact on gender equality: What's happened and what's needed." Chapter 6 in *World Development Report 2012: Gender Equality and Development*. Access at <http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTWDR2012/Resources/7778105-1299699968583/7786210-1315936222006/chapter-6.pdf>
- Sarah Sunn Bush. 2011. "International Politics and the Spread of Quotas for Women in Legislatures." *International Organization* 65: 103-37. (Access using library journal locator.)
- If time permits, we will watch the movie "Made in Thailand" in class.

Part IV. GOVERNING GLOBALIZATION

Week 15: Mon., December 1: *Can Globalization Be Governed?*

Mini-paper

- Bhagwati, chapters 15-19
- Rodrik, chapters 10, 11, and 12 of *The Globalization Paradox*.

Week 16: Mon, December 8: *Student research project presentations.*