

Pol 161: The Politics of Globalization

Fall 2015

Hilles 108

MW 1:00-2:30

Professor Craig Borowiak

Office Hours: MW 2:30-4pm (or by appointment)

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Course Description

The concept of “globalization” burst into academic, policy, and social debates in the 1990s, but the many forces that created it have deeper historical roots. What does globalization mean? What is historical about it and what is new? What are its economic, cultural, environmental, and informational dimensions? How are the dynamics of globalization (and its discontents) transforming migration flows, networks, regimes, and identities? What happens to state sovereignty in a globalizing world? Can we distinguish “government” from “governance,” and if so, when? Is globalization “good” for democracy? Considering all this, how does globalization affect how you understand politics and our place in the world? This course will critically examine these and other questions in order to better understand the experience and significance of a world that is becoming globalized in a number of fascinating ways.

Course Aims

- Introduce students to the discipline of political science
- Introduce students to globalization and how it has challenged many assumptions within the discipline
- Familiarize students with some core concepts, problems, and analytic frameworks for conducting future research in the discipline
- Guide students in conducting primary independent and collaborative social science research
- Some key concepts:
 - Sovereignty, Fordism, post-Fordism, Commodity Chains, Globalization, Global Governance, Comparative Advantage, WTO, Bretton Woods, Neoliberalism, Global Cities, Deterritorialization, Transnational Civil Society, Cosmopolitanism, Time-Space Compression, Climate Justice

Course Dynamics

Readings

The type and length of readings for this course will vary considerably from class to class. Some readings will be very detailed and factual. Others will be more conceptual. Some will be academic. Others will be journalistic. In all cases, you are expected to come to class having read the readings and prepared to discuss them. While the details of any given reading assignment are important, you are especially encouraged to be attentive to and critical of the general themes and ideas that frame the arguments made in the texts. That is, pay attention to details but don't get lost in them.

Class Environment

I aim to create a collegial yet rigorous environment that examines course material through a mix of lecture, all-class and small-group conversation, and student-led discussion. To help achieve these goals, *please refrain from the following: side talking during lecture or discussion, texting during class, disrupting class if arriving late or leaving early, recording the proceedings of the course without express consent of the instructor, or turning in unstapled work.* If something is urgent, quietly step outside of class to take care of your business.

Access and Disability Accommodations

Haverford College is committed to supporting the learning process for all students. Please contact me as soon as possible if you are having difficulties in the course. There are also many resources on campus available to you as a student, including the Office of Academic Resources (<https://www.haverford.edu/oar/>) and the Office of Access and Disability Services (<https://www.haverford.edu/access-and-disability-services/>). If you think you may need accommodations because of a disability, you should contact Access and Disability Services at hc-ads@haverford.edu. If you have already been approved to receive academic accommodations and would like to request accommodations in this course because of a disability, please meet with me privately at the beginning of the semester (ideally within the first two weeks) with your verification letter.

Grade Appeals

If you feel that the grade you received on a particular assignment is not warranted due to an error in grading, please feel free to discuss this situation with me. Please know, however, that I retain the discretion to determine the worthiness of the appeal. Additionally, you must adhere to the following grade dispute policy:

- Contact me after 24 hours but within 7 days of receiving your grade
- Write out the substance of your disagreement
- Arrange a face-to-face meeting

Plagiarism

Cheating and plagiarism are offenses against academic integrity. Plagiarism is copying someone else's work and presenting it as your own without attributing it to its real source. There will be no exceptions for cases of cheating or plagiarism, and disciplinary action will be taken. If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, please speak with me. It is assumed that you are familiar with Haverford's policies regarding plagiarism.

E-mail policy

I will respond to all e-mail, but expect that it may sometimes take between 24-48 hours.

Assignments

1. Participation

The participation aspect of your grade will reflect the quality of your contribution to in-class discussion. This includes both vocal participation and your assistance in creating an atmosphere that encourages all voices to be heard. The class is large, which will constrain discussion in some ways, but know that participation is vital to the experience of this course. For some of you, this will mean speaking up more than you otherwise would. For others of you, it will mean holding back more than you otherwise would. Participation can take multiple forms—it can involve careful listening and thoughtful reflection as well as careful speaking and attentive interaction with other students. But bear in mind that it isn't participation if you are keeping your thoughts entirely to yourself and merely soaking in what others have to say.

2. Questions/Comments Forums

To facilitate both good discussion and good lectures, I have created a *Questions/Comments Forum* on Moodle for you to pose questions and/or make comments about course readings, lectures, classroom discussion, or other matters relevant for the course. This is a venue for you to pose questions to me and to stimulate discussion with classmates. It is designed to help us teach and learn together.

This forum has both a *Full Class* component and a *Small Group* component. Posts to the Full Class component will be visible to the entire class. I will also make posts there. For the Small Group component, you will be assigned to a group with approximately 5 other students (the actual number will depend on course enrollment). You will then be able to choose whether you'd like to post a comment or question to the entire class or just to your small group. I will consult these before each class period and will do my best to respond to particular concerns in class. I expect each student to contribute substantively to both Forums during the semester. *These will be evaluated as part of your participation grade.*

3. World News

At the beginning of the semester you will be asked to pick a country whose news you will follow over the course of the semester. **Three times during the semester** you will turn in a **2-page summary** of the news headlines (related to globalization broadly construed) as represented in the country's own news sources. I will periodically take time in class to allow you to share what is going on in your country.

There are numerous portals with links to foreign news websites. Here are a few:

<http://www.ipl.org/div/news/>

<http://www.worldpress.org/gateway.htm>

<http://www.abyznewslinks.com/allco.htm>

4. Take-Home Midterm Exam

You will be given a *take-home, closed-book, anonymous, open-notes, 24-hour* midterm exam before fall break. This will be comprised of a short-answer section and two longer interpretive essay sections.

5. Mapping Global Production and Global Waste

Beginning shortly before fall break and ending near the conclusion of the semester, you will work in teams to study, map, and publicly present on the global flows of production and waste associated with a commodity or service. Details of this assignment will be provided later in the semester.

6. Final Exam

The final exam will be a 3-hour, self-scheduled, closed-book, open-notes exam run through the registrar's office.

Evaluation (approximate)

Participation and World News	25%
Midterm Exam	25%
Mapping Global Production and Waste Project	25%
Final Exam	25%

All major assignments must be completed to pass the course

Readings

All articles will be available on Moodle, unless otherwise indicated. The following required book is available at the bookstore.

- Matthew Sparke, *Introducing Globalization: Ties, Tensions, and Uneven Integration* (New York: Wiley-Blackwell, 2013)

SCHEDULE (subject to change)

- Aug 31 M Course Introduction
- Sept 2 W **Conceptualizing Globalization**
Sparke, "Preface," "Introduction," "Discourse" (pp. xi – 41; pp. 42-53 are optional)
Anthony McGrew, "Globalization and Global Politics"
- Sept 7 M *Small Group meetings with Professor during class time*

read ahead for Wednesday's class

POLITICAL GLOBALIZATION: SOVEREIGNTY & NATION-STATES

- Sept 9 W **A Divided World**
Stuart Elden, "Why is the world divided territorially?" (220-244)
"Theories of World Politics" in *The Globalization of World Politics* (3-8)
Tim Dunne and Brian Schmidt, "Realism" (85-99)
Keohane and Nye, "Realism and Complex Interdependence"
- Sept 14 M **A Foundational Political Theory Text**
Immanuel Kant, "Essay on Perpetual Peace"
- Sept 16 W **What's New About Globalization?**
Robert Keohane and Joseph Nye, "Globalization: What's New? What's Not?"
Jan Scholte, "What is 'Global' about Globalization"
Immanuel Wallerstein, "the Modern World System as a Capitalist World-Economy"
- Sept 21 M **Globalization and Sovereignty: Competing perspectives**
Susan Strange, "The Declining Authority of States"
Stephen Krasner, "Globalization and Sovereignty"

****First world news assignment due****

GLOBAL PRODUCTION

- Sept 23 W **Global Commodities**
Sparke, "Commodities" (57-98) Do *Individual* student exercise #1. Read #2. (p.96)
Visit and play Hecksher-Olin game:
<http://www.nobelprize.org/educational/economic-sciences/trade/game/ruler.html>

- Sept 28 M **Labor**
Sparke, "Labor" (99-138)
- Modeling Social Science: An article testing the race to the bottom thesis**
Mosley, Layna and Saika Uno (2007) "Racing to the Bottom or Climbing to the Top? Economic Globalization and Collective Labor Rights," *Comparative Political Studies* 40: 923-948
- Sept 30 W **Mapping the "Lifespan" of Commodities**
Pietra Rivoli, *Travels of a T-Shirt* (selections)
Pun Ngai and Jenny Chan, "The Spatial Politics of Labor in China: Life, Labor, and a New Generation of Migrant Workers," *South Atlantic Quarterly*, Winter 2013: 179-190
Leslie Chang, "[Do Chinese Factory Workers Dream of Ipad?](#)"
(see also Ted Talk:
http://www.ted.com/talks/leslie_t_chang_the_voices_of_china_s_workers/transcript?language=en)
- Watch all segments of NPR Planet Money's t-shirt project and listen to related NPR radio segments (posted on Moodle)
Visit "the iPhone Economy at:
<http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2012/01/20/business/the-iphone-economy.html>
Newspaper articles on Apple (Moodle):
"Apple, America and a Squeezed Middle Class"
"Apple's iPad and the Human Costs for Workers in China"
- For some additional contemporary examples of attempts to trace commodity chains and thereby get behind the so-called 'fetish' of the commodity, see [PhoneStory](#), [Behind the Label](#), and [The Secrets of Superbrands](#). See also [Sourcemap](#), where you can browse crowdsourced maps of value chains.
- Oct 5 M **Waste in the Global Economy**
Jennifer Clapp, "The Distancing of Waste: Overconsumption in a Global Economy," 155-176
E-Waste: The Digital Dump

Oct 7 W **Catch up**

***** Midterm Exam due at 4pm, Friday, October 9 *****

Oct 10-18: FALL BREAK

TRADE, FINANCE, GOVERNANCE

- Oct 19 M **International Law and Global Governance**
Christian Reus-Smit, "International Law" (278-293)
Paul Taylor and Devon Curtis, "The United Nations" (310-325)
Rorden Wilkinson, "Global Governance" in *Encyclopedia of Governance*
Timothy Sinclair, "Global Governance" in *Encyclopedia of International Relations and Global Politics*

Second world news assignment due

- Oct 21 W **International Trade Regimes – Part I**
Class Visit – Jeffrey Dunoff
Readings TBA
- Oct 26 M **International Trade Regimes – Part II**
Class Visit – Jeffrey Dunoff
Readings TBA
- Oct 28 W **Global Finance I – Money and Bretton Woods**
Sparke, “Money” (139-179) (*Note: This is a challenging reading*)
Ngaire Woods. “A Short Introduction to the IMF and the World Bank”
Visit Webpages:
Bretton Woods Project: <http://www.brettonwoodsproject.org/>
World Bank: <http://worldbank.org> (click on “about us” tab)
IMF: <http://www.imf.org/external/about.htm>
Bank Information Center: <http://www.bicusa.org>
Watch “Life and Debt” on your own (on reserve at Magill)
- Nov 2 M **Work-in-Progress Meetings on Mapping Assignment**
No full class meeting. Meet with professor in your mapping research groups

Watch film “Inside Job” on your own (on reserve at Magill)
- Nov 4 W **Global Finance II – Crisis and Contagion**
Branko Milanovic and Manu Bhaskaran, “Two Views on the Cause of the Global Crisis”
Joseph Stiglitz (2010), “The Financial Crisis of 2007-8 and its Macroeconomic Consequences” in
Time for a Visible Hand: Lessons from the 2008 World Financial Crisis (19-49)
http://www0.gsb.columbia.edu/faculty/jstiglitz/download/papers/2008_Financial_Crisis.pdf
Newspaper articles on sovereign debt crisis in Europe
- CITIES, CULTURES, CONFLICTS**
- Nov 9 M **Global Cities, Enclaves and Slums**
Sassen, “The Global City Model”
Sparke, “Space” (297-312, 323-333)
- Nov 11 W **Global Philadelphia**
Jerome Hodos, “Globalization, Regionalism and Urban Restructuring: The Case of Philadelphia.”
Urban Affairs Review, 37(3), 2002: 358-79
Ayumi Takenaka and Mary Johnson Osirim, *Global Philadelphia: Immigrant Communities Old and New* (1-22)
- Nov 16 M **Globalization of Culture**
Appadurai, “Disjuncture and Difference in the Global Cultural Economy”
James Watson, “McDonald’s in Hong Kong”
Timothy Taylor, “Strategic Inauthenticity”

Nov 18 W **Globalization and Conflict**
Tarak Barkawi, “Globalization and War”
Olivier Roy, *Al Qaeda and the New Terrorists*
Timothy Mitchell, “McJihad: Islam in the US Global Order” *Social Text*, Winter 2002
News articles:
 CNN: Who has been recruited into ISIS
 The Guardian: How a team of social media experts is able to keep track of jihadis
 AlArabiya: How ISIS conquered social media

Optional Background Reading: Samuel Huntington, “The Clash of Civilizations”

Nov 23 M *****CLASS PRESENTATIONS OF MAPPING PROJECTS*****

GLOBAL JUSTICE, GLOBAL DEMOCRACY

Nov 25 W **Global Ethics, Global Justice**
Peter Singer, *The Life you Can Save* (1-41)
Iris Marion Young, “Responsibility and Global Justice: A Social Connection Model”

Nov 30 M **Global Climate Justice**
Singer, *One World: “One Atmosphere”*
Routledge Handbook of the Climate Change Movement (Selections)

Final World News Assignment Due

Dec 2 W **Transnational Civil Society**
Lisa Jordan, “Global Civil Society”
David Graeber, “The New Anarchists”
“1999 WTO protests”
Jadaliyya: “Civil Society in Revolt: from the Arab Spring to Occupy”
Mary Kaldor, “Social Movements, NGOs, Social Networks”

Dec 7 M **Global Democracy**
David Held, “Democracy, the Nation-State, and the Global System”
Robert Dahl, “Can International Organizations be Democratic?”

Optional Additional Reading: “Realism vs. Cosmopolitanism. A debate between Barry Buzan and David Held, conducted by Anthony McGrew”

Dec 9 W **Last Class—Catch up, Wrap up**
Sparke, “Responses” (389-416)