[POLS362] GLOBALIZATION: HUMAN RIGHTS AND DIVERSITY
ONLINE Asynchronous
SPRING 2024
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Zoom Hours: MWF, 09:00-10:00AM, or by appointment. (Linked here)

COURSE INTENT*

This course serves as a non-partisan, social scientific introduction to the political scientific relationships intertwining globalization, human rights, and diversity. Our goal is to understand the impacts of globalization – positive and negative – on people, states (aka countries), and cultures. We will examine these impacts across social issues, including human rights, economics, governance, environmental protection and more!

Learning Outcomes:

1. Expand on information & knowledge from previous International Relations courses.
    a. EX: Globalization, human rights, and diversity.
2. Engage with rigorous Political Science theories describing our understanding globalization and its impacts upon various social issues.
3. Develop writing skills through assignments (e.g., responses, projects) and professional communication skills through the online environment.
4. Use various medias + scholarly work to encourage critical thinking.
5. Engage in class discussions.

Module Objectives & Questions:

1. **Module 1: Introduction to Globalization**

    a. What part of globalization has influenced your view of modern culture the most?

2. **Module 2: Global Institutions**

    a. What issue-area has been most positively been affected by globalization? Negatively?

3. **Module 3: The Future of Global Culture**

    a. What is global culture? How do you envision it's future?

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*Please note that the syllabus the information may be updated to reflect changes in the course at any time.

COURSE MATERIALS & STRUCTURE

There is **<u>one required text</u>**, which we will use nearly every week of class:

> *The Globalization Reader, Sixth Edition, 2020 – Edited by Frank J. Lechner and John Boli.* ISBN-13: 978-1119409946

All other assigned readings will be located on Canvas (under Modules) or can be found online using academic search engines, (e.g., Google Scholar). I've elected to have a mix of a daily reading (usually an academic paper or book chapter), a corresponding lecture of about 15-20 minutes, and/or a documentary, a podcast, or a guest speaker to encourage critical thinking about our material. I may include recommended (unrequired!) news articles or short videos and suggest other readings as well.

Canvas and this syllabus (available on Canvas) will be your best friends! As an asynchronous class, you will need reliable access to an electronic tool (e.g., computer/laptop, tablet, etc.) and a stable internet connection to meet the requirements to complete this class. If you do NOT have access to a trusty electronic tool, contact HuskerTech (linked here) about how to obtain one for the course. (Keep in mind this may be trickier if you are traveling.) If Husker Tech cannot help or your internet is unstable, contact me so we can figure out a solution!

A course material that is **<u>not recommended is ChatGPT</u>**. Instructors to know if you have used it and **<u>any assignments determined to have used it will not receive any points.</u>** See the *Academic Honesty* and/or the AI policy at the end of the syllabus.

***Online Code of Conduct*:** All class materials will be recorded and available on Canvas. Any work and/or communication that you are privy to as a member of this course should be treated as the intellectual property of the speaker/creator and <u>is not to be shared outside the context of this course</u>. **<u>Students may not make or distribute screen captures, audio/video recordings of, or livestream, any class-related activity, including lectures and presentations, without express prior written consent from me or an approved accommodation from Services for Students with Disabilities</u>**. Due to the sensitive and controversial nature of some of the topics that will be discussed over the duration of the semester, all classes are closed to the Press/Media.

If you have (or think you may have) a disability such that you need to record or tape class-related activities, you should contact Services for Students with Disabilities. If you have an accommodation to record class-related activities, those recordings may not be shared with any other student, whether in this course or not, or with any other person or on any other platform. Failure to follow this policy on recording or distributing class-related activities may subject you to discipline under the Student Code of Conduct (linked here).

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING

1) Discussion Board Posts: (10 weeks x 20 points each = 200 points)

Ten required Discussion Posts (10 points) and two Replies (10 points) are **due for 11:59PM on Friday evenings**, except for Reflection weeks. For each post, contribute at least two paragraphs (ten thoughtful sentences) in the discussion board. Reply to two classmates' posts just as thoughtfully with at least one paragraph in the next business week – regardless of the next Post or Reflection due. Keep track of these! I suggest replying during the week they are assigned!

These all will be graded on content relevance and writing skill. These discussions may be generally insightful thoughts about the topic itself, critiques about the methodological approach, or policy implications or applying the research in the real world. Remember if you make any critiques, you must also suggest [possible] solutions!

Finally, some course topics and discussion boards may be emotionally charged and challenging. I expect all discussions to be respectful in any debates/disagreements. *There will be no tolerance for discriminatory comments; I will report them to the University necessary*. Though I do not expect this to be a problem, if your post is deemed inappropriate, off-topic, or disrespectful to any person/group, it will also be removed from the thread and receive a zero.

2) Reflections: (3 x 20 points each = 60 points)

Three short papers (750 words maximum, 12 font Times New Roman) will answer the Module Question, referencing the readings and other assigned course materials. You are not expected to consult outside materials, but you should demonstrate that you have completed and understand the coursework. This is short as I do not believe that length determines quality work. Thus, these reflections must be well-written with a thesis statement, making an argument for the week's question; clear organization of the body; and a summarizing conclusion. Neither footnotes nor references count toward the word limit. Please submit a Word doc (preferred) or PDF on Canvas.

3) Country Proposal (10 points)

Submit two paragraphs (about 10 *purposeful* sentences) on Canvas proposing your intended topic for the cultural showcase and research write-up before we depart for Spring Break (8 March)!

4) Cultural Showcase (60 points)

Each student will choose a country (excluding the US) to externally research, regarding an aspect of that state's cultural identity. These projects are meant to be creative! We will 'virtually showcase' them to each other and will have the opportunity to engage with the presentations. I'll provide more detail later in the term.

5) Research Brief (total worth 70 points)

This class's final is a research write-up, totaling 1,500 words about the cultural showcase. Conduct in-depth research on an issue related to globalization, human rights, or diversity, in a country of your choice. It can be one we talked about in class or not! You are expected to read and cite sources external to those assigned. Please format with Times New Roman 12-point font, 1-inch margins, and 1.15 spacing. Neither footnotes nor references count toward the word limit. Please submit on Canvas as a Word doc (preferred) or PDF.

THERE IS NO FINAL EXAM.

Grading Breakdown:	Points	% Scale
Syllabus Quiz:	10	5
Discussion Posts:	100	10
Discussion Replies	100	10
Reflections (3):	45 (15 per reflection)	25
Country Proposal:	10	5
Cultural Showcase:	60	22.5
Research Brief:	70	22.5
Total:	*395*	*100%*

Final Grading Scale:

A+	97.00%	B+	87.00%	C+	77.00%	D+	67.00%	F	<60.00%
A	94.00%	B	84.00%	C	74.00%	D	64.00%		
A-	90.00%	B-	80.00%	C-	70.00%	D-	60.00%		

If you are concerned about your grade, deadlines, or anything else, talk to me sooner rather than later!!

We can make a plan to get you through this class!

<u>**ADDITIONAL COURSE POLICIES**</u>:

Participation: Participation in this class is through the responses to your classmates' posts.

Late Submissions/Penalties: Deadlines should be respected, and officially late work will receive full letter-grade deductions for each day late, unless you have previously spoken to me. I really don't want anyone to fall behind!

Other Circumstances: In any cases of my absence, illness, or severe weather (perhaps other unforeseen circumstances), but I tend to follow UNL policy. What can I say… → [sarcastic meme].

We will talk more on any of these (and I'm sure sarcasm) as the term progresses, but here are more from the University for your reading:

Schedule: Our current schedule is not set in stone and may be subject to change. I want to curate the best learning experience for you!

Illness: If you are ill, please communicate with me (I don't require details) so we can create a plan for you to catch up. Again, I don't want you to fall behind! It can happen quickly.

Accessibility & Accommodations: Please contact me regarding any accommodations you may need to help you get through this class to curate your learning experience (for example, any mental health, chronic, or temporary medical conditions) to your needs. I am here to support you in any way that you need! To establish reasonable accommodations in your unique situations, **you must be registered with Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD)** in 117 Louise Pound Hall and can be contacted at 402-472-3787 and by email (ssd@unl.edu). (Linked here.)

Academic Dishonesty and Misconduct: I have a zero-tolerance academic dishonesty policy. It has no place in a learning environment because it defeats the purpose of going to university. Honest work is essential to the existence and integrity of an academic institution and work ethics. The responsibility for maintaining that integrity is shared by all members of our community.

Students who commit acts of academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary action, including but not limited to receiving a zero on the assignment or fail the course, and are granted due process and the right to appeal any decision. Please refer to the Student Handbook, the University's Student Code of Conduct, and the Office of Undergraduate Studies' documents on academic integrity and

for the University's policies on plagiarism, cheating and other forms of academic dishonesty. If you have any questions on citations and sourcing in your assignments, I am happy to answer them! If you have any additional questions (e.g., how to properly cite work, how to use your own words to discuss an author's work) PLEASE talk with me rather than risk the penalty associated with failing to maintain academic honesty.

Artificial Intelligence (AI): Recent breakthroughs in AI are both amazing and exciting as they revolutionize our lives! Academia across the world, along with many other fields, are still working on how to go about dealing with the use of AI. **At present, the University considers the use of AI to complete coursework as a violation of the University's Student Code of Conduct.** However, it is also important that students know how this technology functions. As such, we will try to have at least one assignment/activity where students actively use AI to complete it. This said, <u>unsanctioned use</u> of AI, such as paraphrasing software or ChatGPT, to complete assignments is prohibited. Its use will be considered a violation of the academic integrity policy and disciplinary action will be taken.

Stressed or Overwhelmed??: UNL offers a variety of options for students to aid them in dealing with stress and adversity. **Counseling and Psychological & Services (CAPS)** is a multidisciplinary team of psychologists and counselors that works collaboratively with Nebraska students to help them explore their feelings and thoughts and learn helpful ways to improve their mental, psychological, and emotional well-being when issues arise. CAPS can be reached by calling 402-472-7450 or their website https://caps.unl.edu. **Big Red Resistance & Well-Being (BRRWB)** provides one-on-one well-being coaching to any student who wants to enhance their well-being. Trained well-being coaches help students create and be grateful for positive experiences, practice resilience and self-compassion, and find support as they need it. BRRWB can be reached by calling 402- 472-8770 or going on their website https://resilience.unl.edu/big-red-resilience-well-being.

Diversity and Inclusiveness: UNL values diversity in the broadest sense – gender, age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, economic status, physical and intellectual ability, religion, education and geography. We believe that acknowledging, building understanding, and incorporating diversity throughout the curriculum will best prepare you for a career in a global society. The inclusive learning environment we aim to support is one where diverse perspectives are recognized and respected. Therefore, conversations within this course must be civil and respectful of unique ideas, experiences, and beliefs that may be different from your own. To challenge ideas or beliefs in a manner that is considerate of the individual expressing them is encouraged, but disrespect or hostility toward any person is not acceptable behavior. According to our Student Code of Conduct, abusive, harassing, intimidating, or coercive speech/discourse is prohibited. Disciplinary action may be taken in these circumstances.

Title IX Policy: Discrimination on the basis of sex is prohibited by federal law. All members of the university community are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that maintains an

environment free from sexual misconduct. Sexual misconduct, which includes domestic violence, dating violence, sexual harassment, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, and stalking, is unacceptable behavior under University of Nebraska policy and against the law.

All other UNL course policies: All other policies can be found on the [UNL Registrars webpage](). If you cannot find something, you may use this [search engine](), or I try can help you find them!