Global Systems ~ ISCOR 300  
Fall 2013

Instructor: Professor M. Baer
Office: AH 4120
Office Hours: Tu, Th 9:00-10:45 and by apt.
Email: mbaer@mail.sdsu.edu

Class Day: Tues/Thurs
Time: 11:00-12:15
Location: AH 3177

I. Course Description

With the increasing interconnectedness of our world, problems that occur inside national borders such as poverty, inequality, human rights abuse, and politically motivated violence have taken on a global dimension. This course will examine how global systems of governance, both political and economic in nature, respond to problems that cross borders. For our purposes, the term “global systems” refers to the institutions, regimes and actors involved in governance at the international level. We will examine the motivations and actions of various actors involved in global systems of governance, including states, international organizations, nongovernmental organizations and civil society groups.

We will begin by exploring the debates surrounding globalization in both academia and popular discourse. Our study of this topic will address the empirical, normative, and ideological dimensions of the debate over who controls (and benefits from) globalization, and will include analysis of both non-violent and violent responses to globalization. Then we will look in detail at two concrete world problems that require action by global systems of governance: human rights abuse, and the problem of poverty and underdevelopment. How should the world respond to human rights violations such as genocide? What is the relationship between globalization and human rights? How can international organizations address poverty in the developing world? In this last section we will critically analyze several contemporary approaches to alleviating world poverty.

This course will introduce mainstream perspectives as well as critiques of the status quo, and students will be asked to evaluate various proposals for addressing global problems. The course teaches and requires critical thinking skills, effective written arguments, and active class participation.

II. Student Learning Objectives

- Demonstrate an understanding of the substantive information presented in readings and lecture
- Understand and evaluate various perspectives on globalization, human rights, and poverty alleviation
- Think critically about the material and form your own judgments based on how persuasive you find arguments made in readings and lecture
- Express your ideas clearly in writing and in class discussions
III. Readings
The following three texts are required and may be purchased at the campus bookstore:


Additional required readings include articles and books chapters, all of which will be available in PDF format on Blackboard. Where a PDF is not available there will be a link to the website where students can access the reading. I advise students to print hard copies of these readings and bring them to class on the assigned days.

IV. Grades and Assignments
Your semester grade will be determined as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes (5)</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essay and Discussion</td>
<td>15%</td>
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**Pop Quizzes**
There will be six unannounced quizzes throughout the semester. The quizzes will be primarily on the assigned readings for the day, but may also cover films shown in class and guest speakers. Quizzes will take place at the beginning of class. I will drop your lowest quiz score. There are no make-up quizzes, including for students who arrive late to class and miss the quiz. If you miss class or arrive late on the day of a pop quiz, you will receive a zero unless you have a documented legal, family, or health-related issue that explains your absence or lateness. Although I am sympathetic about traffic and parking problems, these are not acceptable excuses for missing a quiz.

**Exams**
There will be one in-class midterm exam and one final exam. Exams will be a combination of short answer and essay questions.

**Essay and Discussion**
An essay on the Sachs/Easterly debate will be due at the beginning of class on December 5th. In addition to a hard copy, an electronic copy must be submitted to turnitin.com (see below). A detailed prompt for the essay will be provided in class. We will also have an in-class discussion on the Sachs and Easterly books on December 5th in which all students are required to participate. Late essays will be docked 1/3 of a letter grade per day.
INFORMATION ON SUBMITTING PAPERS THROUGH BLACKBOARD

• Go to the blackboard page for this course
• Click on Assignments and follow the link to turnitin.com where you will upload your paper as an attachment.
• You will get a “digital receipt” from turnitin.com once you submit a paper. If you have technical problems submitting papers, call the student computing center help desk at 619-594-3189 or visit the center, second floor of library.

USE OF TURNITIN.COM FOR PAPER: Students are required to file their paper electronically on turnitin.com, a plagiarism detection software program. Turnitin.com analyzes students papers for possible plagiarism from over 1 billion web sites and from previously submitted student papers. The university has asked that I provide the following disclaimer about this software program:

“Students agree that by taking this course all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. You may submit your papers in such a way that no identifying information about you is included. Another option is that you may request, in writing, that your papers not be submitted to turnitin.com. However, if you choose this option you will be required to provide documentation to substantiate that the papers are your original work and do not include any plagiarized material.”

Attendance and Participation
Students are required to attend class and actively participate in discussions. While I do not take attendance, there will be periodic pop quizzes that are worth 20% of your grade. You are unlikely to do well in this course if you do not attend class consistently. In terms of participation, students are expected to come to class having completed all the required readings and ready to discuss and ask questions about them. We will have several in-class discussions/debates over the material.

PowerPoint presentations used in class will be posted to Blackboard following the class – however these are merely outlines of the lectures, they are not a substitute for attendance in class!

If you miss class, it is your responsibility to get lecture notes from a classmate.

V. Course Policies
Communication: Check your registered campus email regularly as well as announcements made to the Blackboard site for the course. You are responsible for the material I send you electronically. I will respond to your email inquiries within 24 hours.

In Class Rules:
No computers. Laptops and tablets are not allowed in class. Please see me if you have a legitimate medical need for a classroom computer.
No cell phones: Cell phones must be turned off and not used during class.

Proper classroom behavior: Students are expected to be respectful of other students and other opinions expressed in class. Please do not distract those around you (and the professor!) with side conversations during class.

Grade appeals: If you want to appeal an assigned grade, you must schedule an appointment to meet with me to discuss the grade dispute in person. Students must bring the original graded assignment and a brief typed summary of the reasons why they are requesting a second evaluation to the appointment. Note that appealing a grade does not guarantee a change in the original grade, and gives me license to adjust the questioned grade upward, downward or not at all.

Extra credit: There is no extra credit for this course.

Learning Accommodations. Please notify me immediately if you have a disability so that I can make the appropriate accommodations. Please see the University’s policies on students with disabilities, available at the following website: http://www.sa.sdsu.edu/sds/.

Academic dishonesty. Plagiarism or cheating will result in failure and will be reported to the University. Academic dishonesty includes plagiarism on written assignments and cheating on in-class exams or quizzes by bringing unauthorized materials to class. Plagiarism is the deliberate use of ideas, words, or statements of another person without appropriately citing the author. See the SDSU Academic Senate policy on plagiarism and cheating: http://its.sdsu.edu/docs/TURN_Plagiarism_AcadSen.pdf.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact me or the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities in Student Services West, Room 1604.

Make-up Exams: Exams cannot be made up unless the student has made arrangements with me prior to the exam based on a documented legal, family, or health-related issue.

VI. Reading Schedule

Section I: Theory and Concepts

August 27: Introduction

August 29: The International System
- Woods, Ngair: “The International Monetary Fund and World Bank”
September 3: International Relations Theories: Liberalism, Realism, Marxism
- Goldsmith & Pevehouse: Selections

September 5: International Relations Theory: Liberalism, Realism, Marxism
- Marx: *The Communist Manifesto*, Chapter 1

**Section II: Globalisms – Globalization and Responses**

September 10: Market Globalism and Debates over Globalization
- Steger Chapters 1 and 2

September 12: From Market Globalism to Imperial Globalism
- Steger Chapter 3

September 17, September 19: Neoliberalism in Latin America

September 24: Excerpts from Movie: *Life & Debt*

September 26: Justice Globalism
- Steger Chapter 4

October 1: Alter-globalization and Reforming Globalization

October 3: Jihadist Globalism and Class Discussion
- Steger Chapter 5

**October 8: MIDTERM EXAM**

**Section III: Human Rights and Global Systems**

October 10: Human Rights – History and Overview
- Excerpt from *Human Rights: A Very Short Introduction* by Andrew Clapham
• UDHR, ICESCR, ICCPR (Links on Blackboard)

October 15: Rwandan Genocide: Ghosts of Rwanda
• Excerpt from: We wish to inform you that tomorrow we will be killed with our families: Stories from Rwanda, by Philip Gourevitch (1998) (pp. 1-43).

October 17: Genocide and Intervention
• Kuperman, A. “Rwanda in Retrospect” Foreign Affairs (2000).

October 22: Human Rights and Global Systems of Enforcement


October 29: Human Rights and Globalization

October 31: Human Rights and Globalization ctd.

Section IV: Poverty and Underdevelopment

November 5: Dependency and Modernization
• Valenzuela & Valenzuela “Modernization and Dependency” (1978).

November 7: The Sachs Approach – The End of Poverty
• Introduction and chapters 1-4

November 12: The Sachs Approach – The End of Poverty
• Sachs chapters 5-9

November 14: The Sachs Approach – The End of Poverty
• Sachs chapters 10-14

November 19: The Sachs Approach – The End of Poverty
• Sachs chapters 15-18
November 21: The Easterly Approach – *The White Man’s Burden*
  • Easterly chapters 1-3

November 26: The Easterly Approach – *The White Man’s Burden*
  • Easterly chapters 4-7

November 28: No Class – Thanksgiving Holiday

December 3: The Easterly Approach – *The White Man’s Burden*
  • Read Easterly chapters 8-11

December 5: Class Discussion: Sachs and Easterly
*Essay due in class*

December 10: Other Approaches and Critiques; Conclusion and wrap up
  • Moyo, Dambisa “Why Foreign Aid is Hurting Africa” *Wall Street Journal* (2009)
  • “Microloan Pioneer and His Bank Win Nobel Peace Prize” *New York Times*
  • “Brazil’s cash transfer scheme is improving the lives of the poorest”
  • “Bolsa Familia: Changing the Lives of Millions in Brazil”

**FINAL EXAM: Tuesday December 17, 10:30AM-12:30PM.**