



CONTEMPORARY GLOBAL ISSUES (POLI 100/GLST 100) TOPICS IN GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

COURSE SYLLABUS

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, American University of Ras al Khaimah

Course Instructor:

Class Time: Wednesday, 5-8pm

Office hours: S, M 15:30 – 17:30; local 20

E-mail: AURAKpoli100@gmail.com

II-Course Credit Hours: 3

Co-requisites: none

III-COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course addresses contemporary issues impacting international and global affairs in terms of the major political, social, economic and environmental forces confronting global communities. Themes include democracy and human rights, nationalism and conditions of conflict and stability, economic globalization, resource distribution and depletion, responsibilities of international and transnational organizations, technological development and environmental concerns, cultural diversity and identity, and the possibility of global stability and future world order.

IV-COURSE MATERIALS AND BASIC RESOURCES

Reading assignments are listed below. All readings are required unless otherwise indicated. Lectures will make more sense if you've done the readings!

Required Text: Richard J. Payne, Global Issues: Politics, Economics and Culture, 4th Edition, 2014

V-COURSE GOALS AND STUDENTS LEARNING OUTCOMES

Goals:

The course enables the student to:

- 1- Develop a broad view on the globalization phenomenon.

2- Distinguish between economic, political, cultural and environmental globalization.

Student Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the course the student should be able to:

SLO 1 Demonstrate a significant understanding of globalization terminology

SLO 2 Compare and contrast the various common globalization theories

SLO 3 Solve selected traditional global problems

SLO 4 Analyze states and international economic organizations' behavior in a global world

SLO 5 Discuss current global issues such as states' sovereignty, world economic production, warfare, transnational corporations, (in) justice, (un) democracy, (in) security and their impact not only on world politics as a whole but on you as an individual

SUCCESSFUL STUDENT STRATEGIES:

1. Has excellent attendance, listen to the professor and take notes.
2. Reads text before class.
3. Asks questions, when material is unclear.
4. Reviews notes, graphs and text after class.
5. Studies in advance of the next exam.

VI-Weekly Topics and Assignments

Tentative Schedule

Week /Date	Chapter No./ Title	Topics/In-Class Activities	Assignment Due Dates	SLO
1		Introduction to the course		
2	Chapter 1: Globalization in History (A Definition of Globalization)	- Four general concepts - Globalization as: - internationalization; - liberalization; - universalization; - westernization - 'Global', 'supraterritorial' social spaces	Reading: Richard J. Payne, Global Issues: Politics, Economics and Culture, Pearson, 4th Edition, 2014, Ch. 1, pp.1-16.	1,2
3	Chapter 2: Causes of Globalization: Rationalism and Capitalism	- Interpretation - Emergence of global consciousness - Turns in the development of capitalism	Reading: Richard J. Payne, Global Issues: Politics, Economics and Culture, Pearson, 4th	1,2

			Edition, 2014, Ch. 2, pp. 27-36.	
4	Chapter 3: Causes of Globalization: Technology and Regulations	- Technological innovations - Regulatory frameworks	Reading: Richard J. Payne, Global Issues: Politics, Economics and Culture, Pearson, 4th Edition, 2014, Ch. 2, pp.27-39.	1,2
5	Chapter 4: Economic Globalization: IMF and World Bank	- Institutional framework - Role of IMF - Balance of Payments - Criticism of the IMF	Reading: Richard J. Payne, Global Issues: Politics, Economics and Culture, Pearson, 4th Edition, 2014, Ch. 7	2,3,4,5
6	Chapter 5: Economic Globalization: the WTO	- Role of the WTO - Main principles of the WTO - Multinational Corporations	Reading: Richard J. Payne, Global Issues: Politics, Economics and Culture, Pearson, 4th Edition, 2014, Ch. 7	3,4,5
7	Chapter 6: Political Globalization: the State	- Definition of governance - The end sovereignty - Changes in: - terms of the constituencies - policy tools	Mid-term exam Reading: Richard J. Payne, Global Issues: Politics, Economics and Culture, Pearson, 4th Edition, 2014, Ch. 4	2,3,4,5
April 1	Mid-term exam	In class		
8	Chapter 7: Political Globalization: Warfare	- Altered patterns of warfare - Asymmetrical warfare -Multilateralism	Reading: Richard J. Payne, Global Issues: Politics, Economics and Culture, Pearson, 4th Edition, 2014, Ch. 8	3,4,5
9	Chapter 8: Globalization of Finance	- Financial markets - Foreign exchange markets framework of social solidarity. - Role of stock markets	Reading: Richard J. Payne, Global Issues: Politics, Economics and Culture, Pearson, 4th Edition, 2014, Ch. 5	3,4
10	Chapter 9: Cultural Globalization	- Definition of culture - Crucial factors in the globalization of culture	Reading: June Johnson, Global Issues, Local Arguments, Longman, 2 nd edition, 2010, Ch. 8	2,3,4
11	Chapter 10: Cultural Globalization:	- Responses to cultural globalization - Cultural sub-globalization	Reading: June Johnson, Global Issues, Local	2,3,4,5

	Alternative Globalization		Arguments, Longman, 2 nd edition, 2010, Ch. 8	
12	Chapter 11: Globalization and (In) Security	- Safety and confidence - Human security covering peace, ecological integrity, subsistence, employment	Reading: Richard J. Payne, Global Issues: Politics, Economics and Culture, Pearson, 4th Edition, 2014, Ch. 11	3,4,5
13	Chapter 12: Globalization and (In) Justice 1	- Social justice - Improved possibilities for young people, poor countries, women, etc. - Increased arbitrary hierarchies - Structural inequalities - Social injustice	Reading: Richard J. Payne, Global Issues: Politics, Economics and Culture, Pearson, 4th Edition, 2014, Ch. 10	3,4,5
14	Chapter 13: Globalization and inequalities	- Social justice - Improved possibilities for young people, poor countries, women, etc. - Increased arbitrary hierarchies - Structural inequalities - Social injustice	Reading: Richard J. Payne, Global Issues: Politics, Economics and Culture, Pearson, 4th Edition, 2014, Ch. 10	3,4,5
May 25	Final exam	14:00 – 16:00		

VII-Evaluation of Learning

The grade breakdown is as follows:

Methods	Dates	Weights	SLO
Mid-term exam	April 1	30%	1,2,3,4,5
Final exam	Exam period	30%	1,2,3,4,5
5 Quizzes (6 points each, pop up quizzes)	To be determined	30%	1,4,5
Attendance and Participation (pop up class discussion, 5%)		10%	1,4,5

Assessment Criteria

- Clarity of description and explanation;
- Clarity of English;
- Quality and depth of ideas and arguments;
- Originality of ideas and arguments;
- Succinctness and relevance of the essay

Warning

DO NOT leave all reading for the night before the exam. Complete reading assignments ahead of time or print them out in advance. The excuses “I was sick lately”, “I was very busy in the last few courses”, and “I didn’t know...” will not garner sympathy on the day of the three exams, given that you can print out the course required book at any time during the semester at the university library or any place else.

Additional Readings/Handouts. I may assign additional readings – such as topical newspaper articles.

VIII-Grading System and Scale

University course work is measured in terms of quantity and quality. A credit normally represents one hour per week of lecture or recitation or not fewer than two hours per week of independent or laboratory work throughout a semester. The number of credits is a measure of quantity. The grade is a measure of quality. The university system for undergraduate grading is as follows:

Grade	Percentage Scores	Grade Points
A	90-100	4.0
B+	85-89	3.5
B	80-84	3.0
C+	75-79	2.5
C	70-74	2.0
D+	65-69	1.5
D	60-64	1.0
F	0-59	0

IX-METHODOLOGY FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING:

This course is composed of lectures. You are expected to attend class regularly and take notes. A large segment of the material for the exam is taken from lecture. I will use material for lecture that is not covered in the readings. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to get the lecture notes from a classmate. I will not, under any circumstances, give my lecture notes to students.

On certain class, a period might be dedicated to class discussion. I will let you know ahead of time what our topic of discussion will be. I might give you some short articles to read in preparation for the class discussions. It is a good way for you to reflect about the topic covered in class.

I repeat that students should be aware that lectures do not repeat all the main points of the readings but rather build upon and add to them. There is important material in the readings that may be only lightly touched on in class or omitted entirely from lectures if time is pressing. There is important material in lectures that is not covered at all in the readings.

Students will have to attend all lectures and do their assigned readings regularly and actively participate in the class. Students are encouraged to ask questions and raise issues in the lectures. Students are strongly recommended to read newspapers (international news) and watch T.V. news, particularly CNN and ORT news. To complete this course, students will have to complete all home assignments, do three tests in the classroom, plus quizzes. The instructor will have his "OFFICE HOURS" and students are encouraged to come to see their instructors to discuss their individual problems and requirements. Time and place of "office hours" will be posted.

X. Relevant Policies

A. Academic Misconduct. A. Academic Misconduct:

The Honor Code and Honor System

The Honor Code is an integral part of university life. Students are responsible, therefore, for understanding the code's provisions. Cheating and attempted cheating, plagiarism, lying, and stealing of academic work and related materials constitute Honor Code violations. In the spirit of the code, a student's word is a declaration of good faith acceptable as truth in all academic matters. To maintain an academic community according to these standards, students and faculty must report all alleged violations to the Honor Committee.

AURAK expects its students to uphold high standards of academic integrity and conduct. In particular, students are required to:

- Attend classes regularly and punctually.
- Be actively involved in class discussions and other course related classroom activities.
- Complete assignments on time.
- Meet the requirements for course and program completion.

- Abide by high standards of academic integrity, ethics, and honesty.
- Refrain from cheating on homework and examinations, plagiarizing other people's work by submitting it as their own, or any other forms of academic dishonesty.
- Adhere to the published test or examination rules and regulations.
- Make every effort to maintain good academic standing.

Given the internet and easy access to information and knowledge sources, the University is committed to students' learning in an ethical manner. For all academic assignments, project work, and presentations, students need to ensure that due acknowledgement is given to the source of any information which they incorporate in their work. The following are some examples of academic misconduct:

- Cheating/using unfair means in examinations
- Significant paraphrasing in written academic work that is unacknowledged
- Unacknowledged use of information or ideas unless such ideas are
commonplace
- Citing sources which student has not read or referred to
- Breaching the word limit of assignments and mentioning wrong word count
- Plagiarism

Plagiarism. Plagiarism is a serious academic offense. Plagiarism is the use of someone else's ideas, words, projects, artwork, phrasing, sentence structure or other work without properly acknowledging the ownership (source) of the property (item). Plagiarism is dishonest because it misrepresents the work of someone else as one's own. It is intellectual theft as it robs others of credit for their work. Plagiarism takes many forms including:

- Using someone else's words without putting those words in quotation marks and providing full information about their source, sufficient information so that another person could easily locate the words that are being quoted, whether it is in an article, a book, or on the web.
- Using unique, original ideas, phrases, sentences, paragraphs, or other materials, etc. from a single source or a variety of sources such as a text, journal, web page, electronic source, design, artwork, etc. in one's work without citing all sources. For a student found plagiarizing, the punishment will be a failing grade in the assignment without the right to redo the assignment up to a failing grade in the course.

Examples of Cheating. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Copying from another student's paper during an exam, or allowing or encouraging another student to copy from your paper during an exam.
2. Having someone else take your exam in your place, or taking an exam for someone else.

3. Obtaining unauthorized access to exams and accepting exams obtained by unauthorized access.

Examples of Plagiarism. Acts of plagiarism include, but are not limited to, the following

1. Handing in as 'original', work prepared by someone else or preparing/completing someone else's work.
2. Copying from a book or other publication without citing sources.
3. Using the same work to satisfy the requirements of two or more courses (during the same or different terms).
4. Having someone else rewrite a rough draft or rewriting a rough draft that is not your own work.

Violations of plagiarism are subject to evaluation according to the criterion of "reasonable doubt". The student's right to appeal and the procedures to be followed in carrying out the appeal of the University's decision is clearly stated in the *Student Handbook*.

Any violations of the University's academic rules, regulations or directives are reported to the Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic Affairs and may result in one of the following disciplinary measures.

- Verbal or written warning
- Repeating the term
- Dismissal from the University

Please refer to the relevant section in the *Handbook* and ensure a clear understanding of the provisions of the University honor code and honor system in order to avoid infringement of the policy and attendant penalization.

B. Concerns about grades or other course matters. Students are responsible for their learning experiences. If you are concerned about a class matter, first discuss it with the instructor. If the matter is not resolved, the next step is to meet with the Program Chair. If you still have a concern, meet with the Dean. The matter is likely to be resolved before it reaches that point, but if it is not, then the following positions are next on the organization chart: the Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, and, finally, the Vice Chancellor. Students who decide to "jump to the top" will be referred back to the appropriate next step.

C. Assignments. University policy is that assignments are due on the date assigned. Instructors may refuse to accept late assignments or lower the grade that would be otherwise given.

D. Attendance. University policy is that students are to attend all classes and to arrive on time. Verified emergencies may require an absence or delay, but habitual tardiness or absence affects your learning and disrupts the class. Your presence is important since student

contributions are a significant part of classroom activity and absence deprives others of your contributions.

According to current University Regulations for attendance,

Student with 2 absences: receives 5% warning

Student with 3 absences: receives 10% warning

Student with 5 absences: receives 15% and fails the course

E. Mobile Phones: All mobile phones, pagers and/or other communication devices should be turned off before entering the classroom.

F. Diversity and the Use of English. English is the common language of the AURAK campus, the use of which includes everyone. It is the only language to be used in the classroom. AURAK brings together students and faculty from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds, which is one of the strengths of the university. This diversity provides an opportunity to share our different experiences and enlarge our understanding of the world. Classroom discussions and other activities are to be conducted with courtesy and civility and respect for one another and for our differences.