

**CARLETON UNIVERSITY**  
**Department of Political Science**  
**Department of Sociology and Anthropology**

**Winter 2006**

**PSCI 3802B / SOCI 3027B / ANTH 3027B**  
**GLOBALIZATION AND HUMAN RIGHTS**  
**Lectures: Wednesdays 8:35 a.m. – 11:25 a.m., 518 SA**

**Instructor:** Daniel Aguirre  
**Email:** TBA  
**Office:** B643 Loeb  
**Office Hours:** TBA  
**Phone:** x2761 (no voicemail)

**Prerequisites:** SOCI 1001 and SOCI 1002 or ANTH 1001 and ANTH 1002 and third-year standing, or permission of the Instructor.

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES**

The terms human rights and globalization are often used and often misunderstood. In the post-Cold War era the discourse of human rights has come to assume great prominence in foreign policy debates, the struggles of social movements and in wider debates over globalization and transnational legal processes. However, contemporary economic globalization, a multifaceted process comprised of dynamic power relations that are reformulating and transforming economic, political, social and cultural boundaries, is often at odds with human rights discourse. This course examines the various dimensions and meanings of globalization and its relationship with human rights. We will examine the various political, legal and economic aspects of globalization in an interdisciplinary manner. Importantly, the role of the state remains a central focus in the globalization process despite its apparent decline in power. This course highlights the relationship between the state and non-state actors within a global discourse of contested struggles.

This course is a systematic attempt to untangle the contradictory impacts of globalization on human rights. Transnational integration and increased mobility can simultaneously strengthen and diminish the protection of individual rights and the dignity of individuals. Globalized markets have facilitated more monitoring of social conditions but have also opened up more opportunities for economic exploitation. At the same time, information flows have emboldened human rights campaigns and fostered transnational activist networks. In particular, this course focuses on the impact of globalization on development as it directly influences the human rights of millions of the world's people.

The first part of the course provides a framework for the detailed discussion of globalization and human rights. The various dimensions of globalization are examined and viewed through a human rights-based lens. This is then followed by an outline of human rights discourse, including its legal and political ramifications. The second part

examines the obstacles to human rights presented by the globalization process. It considers the implications of the emerging global economy for economic, social, political and cultural rights. In this regard, we highlight the impact of globalization on development, environment, and politics. The last part considers the importance of the emerging resistance to globalization. IN doing so we will focus on the emerging collective responsibility of State's to protect, promote and fulfill human rights obligations.

## **OBJECTIVES**

**The course has four (4) objectives:**

1. The main objective is to provide students with an introduction to the links between the global economic order and human rights.
2. To engage with some of the debates about globalization and some of the challenges it raises for promoting and protecting human rights.
3. To explore the different dimensions and meanings of globalization, the form of power that operates under these conditions and their implications for the pursuit of economic, social, political and cultural rights. Importantly, the global power relations between states and individuals as well as between states are highlighted.
4. To understand the resistance to globalization and how the language of rights relate to other forms of power in these struggles.

## **COURSE READINGS**

The textbook for the course is Alison Brysk (ed). *Globalization and Human Rights*. (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2002) 310 pp.. Additional course material will be placed in the reserves section of MacOdrum Library.

## **COURSE FORMAT**

This course will consist of a lecture and a discussion each week. Lectures are intended to clarify, augment and assess critically the course readings. Reading assignments must be completed on time and used to generate comments and questions in class. Some of the readings will be specifically reviewed in my lectures but much of it will not; you are nevertheless responsible for them.

Students are required to write ONE (1) term paper. The deadline for the submission of the term paper will be announced in week 2. Please be reminded that late papers will not be accepted except in extreme situations. In cases of serious illness, an explanatory note

from a physician is required. A more detailed guideline sheet regarding the term papers will be handed out later in the term.

There will be a take-home examination in the regularly scheduled examination period (April 10 – 29, 2006), which will be clarified later in the term. The take-home exam must be completed by April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2006. Students will be examined on the material covered in the course and in the required readings only.

## EVALUATION AND GRADING

Attendance and Participation	20%
Term Paper	40%
Take-Home Examination (due on April 29, 2006)	40%

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

1. Assignments sent by fax to the Department of Sociology and Anthropology or the Department of Political Science will NOT be accepted.
2. Essays are to be submitted to the instructor only.
3. Always retain a hard copy of the work you submit.
4. Essays will be returned by the instructor in class only. You must attend that class in order to receive your graded essay. You may submit a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your essay in order to ensure its safe return to you after it has been graded.
5. All final grades are subject to the Dean's approval, meaning that the mark you receive from the course instructor may be altered.. **It is not permitted to hand in the same assignment to two or more courses.**
6. At the discretion of the instructor, students may be required to pass a brief oral examination on research papers and essays. This provision is intended to allow the instructor to evaluate suspected cases of plagiarism or other problems with papers. **Please read carefully the information regarding Instructional Offences and Offences of Conduct on pp. 61-64 of the Undergraduate Calendar.**

### Grades:

In accordance with the Carleton University Undergraduate Calendar (p 43), the letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100	B+ = 77-79	C+ = 67-69	D+ = 56-59
A = 85-89	B = 73-76	C = 63-66	D = 53-56
A - = 80-84	B - = 70-72	C - = 60-62	D - = 50-52
F = Below 50			
WDN = Withdrawn from the course			
ABS = Student absent from final exam			
DEF = Deferred (See above)			

FND = (Failed, no Deferred) = Student could not pass the course even with 100% on final exam.

## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Students with a disability who require academic accommodation, please feel free to come and discuss this with me. Students must also contact the Paul Menton Centre to complete the required forms.

### **For Religious Observance:**

Students requesting academic accommodation on the basis of religious observance should make a formal, written request to their instructors for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student.

Students or instructors who have questions or want to confirm accommodation eligibility of a religious event or practice may refer to the Equity Services website for a list of holy days and Carleton's Academic Accommodation policies, or may contact an Equity Services Advisor in the Equity Services Department for assistance.

### **For Pregnancy:**

Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a *letter of accommodation*. The student must then make an appointment to discuss her needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

Course Outline:

### **Part 1 Introduction to the Concepts**

**Week 1:** January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2006

Introduction and Outline of the Course

**Week 2:** January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2006

Economic Globalization and Human Rights

**Week 3:** January 18<sup>th</sup>

International Organization and Globalization

### **Part 2 Obstacles in the Globalization Process for Human Rights**

**Week 4:** January 25<sup>th</sup>:

Multinational Corporations and Human Rights

Film: The Corporation

**Week 5:** Feb 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006  
Globalization, development and human rights

**Week 6:** Feb 8<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
Globalization, Investment and Human Rights

**Week 7:** Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> 2006  
Market Friendly Human Rights?

**Week 8:** Feb 22

**No Class – Winter Break**

**Week 9:** March 1<sup>st</sup> 2006  
Globalization, Culture and Democracy

### **Part 3 Responses to Globalization**

**Week 10:** March 8<sup>th</sup> 2006  
Globalization, Labour and Migration

**Week 11:** March 15<sup>th</sup> 2006  
Globalization, Civil Society and Human Rights

**Week 12:** March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2006  
Globalization and the Politics of Resistance

**Week 13:** March 29<sup>th</sup> 2006  
The Obligation to Protect: International Collective Responsibility  
Review and Conclusion



#### **Academic Accommodations**

**For Students with Disabilities:** Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course are encouraged to contact the Paul Menton Centre (PMC) for Students with Disabilities (500 University Centre) to complete the necessary forms. After registering with the PMC, make an appointment to meet with the instructor in order to discuss your needs **at least two weeks before the first in-class test or CUTV midterm exam**. This will allow for sufficient time to process your request. Please note the following deadlines for submitting completed forms to the PMC for formally scheduled exam accommodations: **November 7th, 2005** for fall and fall/winter term courses, and **March 10, 2006** for winter term courses.

**For Religious Observance:** Students requesting accommodation for religious observances should apply in writing to their instructor for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in

a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. Instructors and students may contact an Equity Services Advisor for assistance ([www.carleton.ca/equity](http://www.carleton.ca/equity)).

**For Pregnancy:** Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a *letter of accommodation*. Then, make an appointment to discuss your needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

**Plagiarism:** The Undergraduate Calendar defines plagiarism as: "to use and pass off as one's own idea or product, work of another without expressly giving credit to another." The Graduate Calendar states that plagiarism has occurred when a student either: (a) directly copies another's work without acknowledgment; or (b) closely paraphrases the equivalent of a short paragraph or more without acknowledgment; or (c) borrows, without acknowledgment, any ideas in a clear and recognizable form in such a way as to present them as the student's own thought, where such ideas, if they were the student's own would contribute to the merit of his or her own work. Instructors who suspect plagiarism are required to submit the paper and supporting documentation to the Departmental Chair who will refer the case to the Dean. It is not permitted to hand in the same assignment to two or more courses. The Department's Style Guide is available at: [www.carleton.ca/polisci/undergrad/styleguide.pdf](http://www.carleton.ca/polisci/undergrad/styleguide.pdf)

**Oral Examination:** At the discretion of the instructor, students may be required to pass a brief oral examination on research papers and essays.

**Submission and Return of Term Work:** Papers must be handed directly to the instructor and will not be date-stamped in the departmental office. Late assignments may be submitted to the drop box in the corridor outside B640 Loeb. Assignments will be retrieved every business day at 4 p.m., stamped with that day's date, and then distributed to the instructor. For essays not returned in class please attach a **stamped, self-addressed envelope** if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Please note that assignments sent via fax or email will not be accepted. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

**Approval of final grades:** Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor, *subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean*.

**Course Requirements:** Students must fulfill all course requirements in order to achieve a passing grade. Failure to hand in any assignment will result in a grade of F. Failure to write the final exam will result in a grade of ABS. FND (Failure – No Deferred) is assigned when a student's performance is so poor during the term that they cannot pass the course even with 100% on the final examination. In such cases, instructors may use this notation on the Final Grade Report to indicate that a student has already failed the course due to inadequate term work and should not be permitted access to a deferral of the examination. Deferred final exams are available ONLY if the student is in good standing in the course.

**Connect Email Accounts:** The Department of Political Science strongly encourages students to sign up for a campus email account. Important course and University information will be distributed via the Connect email system. See <http://connect.carleton.ca> for instructions on how to set up your account.