COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Since human beings are social animals, they cannot live without communicating with other humans; this fact has led to one of the central problems to occupy the human mind: how to create different tools for, and means of, communication, in order to overcome time and space, and spread human knowledge, information, and experience. This search for new tools has impelled different scientists and inventors over the centuries to develop the communication technologies that we now take for granted, starting with the discovery of electricity, and moving progressively through the invention of the telegraph, the telephone, and eventually, the internet and cellular phones. With the increasingly rapid development of these technologies of communication, especially since the 1980s, has come the concept of, discourse on, and the many debates around, the term globalization. For many, globalization rises naturally out of the concept of the free flow of information. This course will critically examine the various dimensions and meanings of globalization and its relationship with human rights. It will first start by investigating the historical roots of the concept of globalization and its relation to the emergence and debates surrounding human rights issues. Next, students will be exposed to a variety of themes around the communicative practices and global challenges that exist in trying to achieve the utopian globalization ideal proposed by these early thinkers in today's age in which “universality” is defined and regulated by international regulatory bodies such as the World Trade Organization (WTO), International Monetary Fund (IMF), International Telecommunication Union (ITU), etc., among others.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

It is important to note that the main objective of this course is not only to introduce a theoretical background, rather to create a critical understanding of the ongoing intellectual debates surrounding the relation between globalization and human rights. In doing so, students will be exploring a variety of theoretical and practical approaches, in order to answer key questions, for example:

1. What do human rights mean? And Why they are very important? What are the philosophical and intellectual grounds of these rights?
2. What is globalization? What are its origins? Is globalization a reality, or just a myth?
3. What is the relationship between globalization and human rights?
4. Why this relationship created such a global resistance in many places around the world, especially from developing countries?
5. What is the impact of globalization on the state of human rights, on the cultural, political, economical, and social levels?
6. How can the language of human rights create a firm resistance of hegemony and a global trend to create a “mono” culture?

REQUIRED TEXTS

- **OTHER REQUIRED READINGS**: Other required readings include online journal articles posted on the course WebCT in a free downloadable format. Students will be expected to retrieve copies of these readings and read them in preparation for the appropriate classes. Hence you are strongly advised to regularly check the course WebCT for course updates and announcements.

**COURSE EVALUATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Deadline Due</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance Participation</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Weekly/Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Presentation</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>To be scheduled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research proposal</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1 February 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Essay</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>14 March 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
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</table>

**EVALUATION SCHEME**

The focus of this course is not only to explore theories, rather discuss issues and cases related to globalization and human rights. Hence, despite the size of the class, there will be a major focus on discussion. You are expected to have read all of the material assigned for each class and to come to class prepared to discuss them in interactive settings during the weekly workshops. Evaluation scheme of the course includes:

1. **ATTENDANCE (20%)**
   Grades will not be awarded to merely attendance, rather, students are expected to attend and participate actively in all classes. It is assumed that you have done all the readings and that you are prepared to discuss them in class. Class interventions should reflect knowledge of the assigned readings. Participation marks will be awarded to the student’s intervention in the weekly workshop discussion of the assigned readings.

2. **ESSAY PROPOSAL (25%)**:
   Students will have to prepare a 4 pages essay proposal which will form the basis of their final essay. It should outline: 1) the proposed topic, 2) the questions of the essay or the problematic of your study, and 3) a preliminary list of bibliography or references. Students will be asked to present their proposal in-class to get some feedbacks from their colleagues as well as the instructor.

3. **ORAL PRESENTATION (20%)**
   Students will be required to prepare and present one (1) oral presentation in-class to be scheduled throughout the course. The main objective of this assignment is to provide: (1) your colleagues with your informed opinion about a particular issue/debate/idea related to the theme of the course “globalization and human rights”; and (2) to reflect on how the project /issue can be situated vis-à-vis the ideas/concepts/arguments presented in the course readings and lectures. The professor will post all related details on the course WebCT as early as possible.

4. **RESEARCH ESSAY (35%)**
   Research essays will be based on your proposal and the feedback from the professor, and should be 8-10 pages (maximum) in length (including notes and bibliography, excluding cover page), typed, double-spaced, and following the APA style. The professor will provide a detailed guideline as well as marking rubric as early as possible.

**COURSE TOOLS**

The course will make extensive use of the university WebCT. The professor will use WebCT to chat during office hours as outlined above; this can be done either publicly, i.e., so that everyone in the course can read it, or privately, just between the instructor and the individual student or group. WebCT will give students flexibility in reaching the instructor, and in accessing the various materials of the course (PDF files, PowerPoint presentations, Word documents, video or audio materials, etc.), as well as meeting with their teaching assistant.
COURSE SCHEDULE & READINGS

DATE | WEEKLY THEMES AND READINGS
---|---
Week (1): Introduction
Jan. 4 | Welcome to the class; distribution of course outlines; general introduction to the course materials; overview of the WebCT tools used in the class, and course's expectations.
| No assigned readings.
Week (2): The Foundations of Human Rights
Jan. 11 | Textbook, Chapter (2) and (4).
| Weekly in-class workshop: What is human right? Why it is important for us to study? And what is the most brutal violation of human rights you have ever heard of? And why?
Week (3): Guidelines And Resources: How To Research Your Case-study?
Jan. 18 | Guest Speaker: Janet Hempstead, Subject Specialist in Sociology, Carleton University Library.
| A comprehensive workshop to the library different databases, electronic journals, government documents and others helpful resources in researching your topics.
| Weekly in-class workshop: What is your presentation topic? And how to research it?
Week (4): Globalization: Utopia or Prison?
Jan. 25 | Textbook, Chapter (3).
| Weekly in-class workshop: What is globalization? Define using examples of your choice. Do you think it is positive, or negative? And Why?
Week (5): Human Rights Practice in “Real Life”
| Weekly in-class workshop: Examples and case studies will be provided in-class.
| Research proposal due date
Week (6): The “West” vs. “The Rest” Discourse?
Feb. 8 | Textbook, chapter (5).
| Weekly in-class workshop: Globalization is creating an “unbalanced” flow of information between the “north-West” and the “south-Rest” countries. Do you agree on this statement, or not? And Why?
Week (7): Global Corporate Conglomeration: The spread of the American dream?
Feb. 15 | Textbook, chapter (6).
| Weekly in-class workshop: Do you think that the current global trend of corporate mergers threatens the practice of human rights? Why?
Week (8):  
Feb. 22  
**No Class**  
- Happy Winter break!!

Week (9):  
Feb. 29  
**Global Information Technologies: Promoting Democracy?**  
- **Weekly in-class workshop:** Do you think globalization increases or reduces global equality? Discuss using the examples of poverty, HIV, ...etc

Week (10):  
Mar. 7  
**Empire, Imperialism & Globalization**  
- **Weekly in-class workshop:** Some argue that globalization is creating a real threat to national sovereignty. Do you agree or not? and why? Discuss using the example of the McDonaldization of the world!

Week (11):  
Mar. 14  
**Globalization...Freedom of Speech, and Hate speech: Where we draw the line?**  
- **Weekly in-class workshop:** How can we draw a line between the two practices in our global world? How can we enforce an ethical practice in our global world?  

Research Essay is due

Week (12):  
Mar. 21  
**The Internet & The Global Digital Divide**  
- **Weekly in-class workshop:** Do you think that the Internet has created an "equal" global village, using different tools (blogging,..etc), or not? And why?

Week (13):  
Mar. 28  
**Reflections Final wrap-ups**  
- No assigned readings.

Week (14):  
Apr. 4  
**Reflections Final wrap-ups**  
- No assigned readings.

**IMPORTANT NOTES**
- **Communication Outside of the Class:** Please note that the course WebCT is the primary tool for communicating electronically with students outside of class. Students should check Web-CT on a daily (regular) basis for information updates concerning assignments, announcement, readings,..etc.
• **Course changes:** Please note that the instructor may make any changes to this course outline on the WebCT at any time during this term (winter 2012). Therefore, students are highly advised to regularly check in the syllabus available on their WebCT accounts.

• **For Students with Disabilities:** "Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must contact a coordinator at the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities to complete the necessary Letters of Accommodation. After registering with the PMC, make an appointment to meet and discuss your needs with me in order to make the necessary arrangements as early in the term as possible, but no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first test requiring accommodations. For further information, please see: [http://www2.carleton.ca PMC/students/accommodations](http://www2.carleton.ca). If you require accommodation for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodation to PMC by 11 November 2011 for December exams and 7 March 2012 for April exams. For Religious and Pregnancy accommodations, please contact Equity Services, x. 5622 or their website: [www.carleton.ca/equity](http://www.carleton.ca/equity).

• **For Religious observance:** Students requesting academic accommodation on the basis of religious obligation 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 event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor 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. Please consult Equity Services Website or an Equity Advisor (ext. 5622) for Policy and list of Holy Days ([www.carleton.ca/equity](http://www.carleton.ca/equity)).

• **For Pregnancy:** Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations should contact Equity Services to obtain a [letter of accommodation](http://www2.carleton.ca). 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.

• **Plagiarism and Other Academic Offences:** It is a serious violation of university regulations to take credit for the work of others. Students are expected to consult and become familiar with Carleton University's policies on plagiarism. All sources must be cited according in the APA style, this includes all paraphrased work and accredited internet sources. A student caught plagiarizing will be referred to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action. University rules regarding registration, withdrawal, appealing marks, and most anything else you might need to know can be found on the university's website, here: [http://www2.carleton.ca/sasc/advisingcentre/academic-integrity](http://www2.carleton.ca/sasc/advisingcentre/academic-integrity).

• **What is Plagiarism anyway?**
Plagiarism is the passing off of someone else's work as your own and is a serious academic offence. For the details of what constitutes plagiarism, the potential penalties and the procedures refer to the section on Instructional Offences in the Undergraduate Calendar.

  **What are the Penalties for Plagiarism?**
  A student found to have plagiarized an assignment may be subject to one of several penalties including: expulsion; suspension from all studies at Carleton; suspension from full-time studies; and/or a reprimand; a refusal of permission to continue or to register in a specific degree program; academic probation; award of an FNS, Fail, or an ABS.

  **What are the Procedures?**
  All allegations of plagiarism are reported to the faculty of Dean of FASS and Management. Documentation is prepared by instructors and/or departmental chairs. The Dean writes to the student and the University Ombudsman about the alleged plagiarism. The Dean reviews the allegation. If it is not resolved at this level then it is referred to a tribunal appointed by the Senate.

• **Expectations:** I believe that it is one of my students’ “rights” to know exactly my expectations, and the basis of my evaluation of their performance in this course. Hence, a detailed rubric for each assignment will be discussed in class, and will be posted as early as possible on the course WebCT.

• **Satisfactory In-Class Performance** in this course includes: 1) Regular class attendance; 2) Reading and preparing the course materials; 3) Being actively engaged in the weekly discussions; 4) Submitting your work on-time; 5) Being well-organized and prepared to contribute and lead the discussion throughout the course.
Satisfactory Written Performance in this course includes: 1) Doing a reasonable amount of research (not merely depending on the course readings as the only resource; 2) effective use of primary resources, relying basically on refereed academic publication; 3) AVOID the use of internet non-academic sources; 4) Following APA style; 5) Ensuring that work handed in is free from any grammar and spelling mistakes; 6) having a clear thesis statement in your essay/proposal/analyses; 7) using appropriate methodology; and 8) Depending on an appropriate theoretical background; 8) your work is typewritten, double-spaced, 12pt Times New Roman font with standard 1-inch margins; 9) you have included a title page (indicating: course code, your name; student number; professor’s name; and the date of submission). For assistance, please contact the Student Academic Success Centre (SASC), at: www.carleton.ca/sasc; the Writing Tutorial Services, at: www.carleton.ca/wts; and the Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS), at: www.carleton.ca/sasc/peer-assisted-study-sessions

Standing: “Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the faculty dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the dean.”

Grading system: According to Carleton University grading system (section 2:3) of the undergraduate calendar, the following percentage equivalents apply to the course final grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>90-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>85-89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>80-84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>67-69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>63-66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>60-62</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>77-79</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>73-76</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>70-72</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>57-59</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>53-56</td>
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<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>50-52</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WDN</td>
<td>Withdrawn from the course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABS</td>
<td>Student absent from final exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEF</td>
<td>Deferred</td>
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<tr>
<td>FND</td>
<td>Failed, (no Deferred)</td>
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In fairness for all students, the professor WILL NOT review or comment on any assignments’ draft by e-mail prior to submission. Instead, I will be happy to discuss any questions, inquiries, writing advices in person during the office hours, in-class, or at the WebCT chat. Meanwhile, you can always get advices and suggestions from the course’s teaching assistant.

Missed assignments will NOT be deferred unless an official note is submitted to and approved by the instructor. In that case, the missed assignment will receive a zero mark. If you find that you are unable to complete an assignment for the date in which it is due, you must make accommodation with the instructor AT LEAST 24 HOURS PRIOR TO the start of the class in which the assignment is due. Accommodation will only be made for valid, verifiable circumstances that would prevent the student from attending the class or completing the assignment. Poor time management or planning is not a valid circumstance. Please consult the Registrar’s office webpage for more information: (http://www.carleton.ca/registrar/).

Assignments’ delivery: To maximize the safe delivery of any written assignment, you are requested to submit them either to the instructor in person or department’s (SOCILOGY dept, 7th floor Loeb building) drop-in box. Please DO NOT submit your papers by attached files to the emails or dropping them under the instructor’s doorstep; They WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Retaining course work assignments: All written assignments will be evaluated by the instructor, grades will be posted at the course WebCT, and papers are to be picked up from the instructor in person in class.

Backup: For your protection, please keep a copy of your work. In case of loss, theft, or dispute over authorship, or any other eventuality, it is your exclusive responsibility to provide the original essay/analyses/cases..etc.