

CARLETON UNIVERSITY
Department of Political Science
Department of Sociology and Anthropology

FALL 2009

(PSCI 3802A, ANTH 3027A, SOCI3027A)

GLOBALIZATION AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Lectures: Tuesdays 2:35 -5:25 p.m.

Please confirm location on Carleton Central

Instructor: John W. Foster

Office: B645 Loeb

Office hours: Tuesdays 1:00-2:15 or by appointment

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

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. This course examines various dimensions of globalization and the relationship, contests and conflicts with human rights that have emerged...

We will discuss various political, legal and economic aspects of globalization; the role of the state; the roles of non-state actors whether in civil society or the private sector.

Globalized markets have facilitated more monitoring of social conditions but have also opened up more opportunities for economic exploitation and destructive crises. 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.

Moving from an examination of globalization and human rights in current context, the course moves to an examination of some key theatres, issues and actors. Through work group research and presentation assignments as well as term papers, students will be encouraged to examine one or more of these cases in greater depth.

In addition to global cases, the course will partially focus on the contemporary scene in North America, the interplay of globalization and human rights, the role of public policy

and the engagement of social actors.

OBJECTIVES

1. To provide an introduction to the links, contests and conflicts between largely economic globalization and human rights.
2. To engage with debates about globalization and ways of promoting and protecting human rights.
3. To illuminate power relationships and the roles of diverse actors.
4. To examine public policy implications, particularly as they relate to Canada in the North American as well as global contexts.

COURSE READINGS

A **course pack** for this course has been prepared and is available in the Carleton Bookstore. Required readings are listed (by class) below. In a few cases additional documents are noted for separate distribution. Such additional readings may be assigned by the instructor from time to time during the progress of the course.

COURSE FORMAT

The course will consist of lectures for the first three weeks. Beginning in Week 4, the opening lecture will be followed by group research/ presentations with questions and discussion. In preparation for the lectures/discussion, presentations/discussion reading assignments are provided and must be completed on time and used as a basis for questions and comments in class. Lectures will include reference to the readings but other material as well.

A guide to the research/presentation team work will be provided.

Each student is expected to write one term paper, two short written reports on readings and share in the preparation of one 15-minute group research/presentation, as well as to attend all classes. **The deadline for submission of the term paper is November 10.** Late papers will **not** be accepted, except in extreme circumstances. In cases of serious illness, an explanatory note from a physician is required.

A more detailed guideline sheet regarding term papers will be distributed later in the term. Topics are to be negotiated and agreed with the lecturer.

EVALUATION AND GRADING

Class participation and attendance 10%

Two reading reports @ 10% each (one due September 29, second due November 24)

Group research/presentations 30%

Term paper 40% (due November 10, 2009)

Participation: marks are based on attendance and number of insightful contributions to class discussion.

Group Research/Presentation Project: Students should develop useful teamwork skills. The class will be divided into teams that will make presentations on subjects related to weekly topics beginning October 6th, (in week 4) themes will be assigned by Sept. 29th (week 3). The research topics are derived from current relevant issues in human rights and globalization. The presentations will be 10-15 minutes in length followed by 10 or more minutes of questions and discussion. The groups will be evaluated on their presentation's completeness in presenting the facts of the case; ability to clearly relate issues of globalization to human rights law; group organization and division of workload.

Initial and second reading reports: should be 2-3 typewritten pages. It is based on a common class reading and should contain a critical evaluation of the core concepts in the reading.

Term paper: is to be 3,000-4,000 words. Topics must be negotiated with the Lecturer by the end of office hours, Tuesday October 6th.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

1. Assignments sent by fax to the Department of Sociology and Anthropology / Department of Political Science will NOT be accepted.
2. Essays are to be submitted to the instructor only. Late papers may be submitted to the Political Science Departmental drop box. The drop box is cleared each weekday at 4 p.m. at which time all items are date-stamped with that day's date. Late papers will lose one grade per day.
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.

Late papers: papers submitted after deadline will be graded one letter grade deduction for each day late – ie. a "B" paper becomes a "B-" paper if it is one day late.)

COURSE OUTLINE AND READINGS

There is no text book for this course. There is a course book which students will require, available for purchase at the Carleton University Book Store, and there will be supplementary documents and articles from time to time.

There are four works (distributed separately) for initial reference:

John W. Foster. *New Global Contract: A Framework for Rebalancing Global Norms*. Minneapolis, Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy. 2008

Maria Julia Oliva. *New Global Contract: Promoting Human Rights and the Environment and Trade Rules*. Minneapolis, Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy. 2008

Andre du Plessis. *New Global Contract: Values in Conflict: How Trade and Finance Rules Curtail our Rights*. Minneapolis, Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy. 2008

UN NGLS & Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. *The United Nations Human Rights System: How to Make It Work For You*. U.N., New York and Geneva, 2008.

Week 1: September 15

Introduction and outline of the course

Required reading:

Brysk, Alison (ed.) *Globalization and Human Rights*. Berkeley, University of California Press, 2002 **Introduction**

Week 2: September 22

The G-word: Globalization in crisis

Manfred B. Steger. *Globalization: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford, Oxford University Press. 2009. Second Edition. **Chapter 3**.

Simon Johnson. "The Quiet Coup". New York. *The Atlantic*. May, 2009

Huritalk Insights Series no. 6 “The Global Economic Crisis through a Human Rights Lens” . Huritalk Insight Series. <http://hrba.vr13.com/insight/>

Class organizing into research/presentation teams & team assignments/weeks chosen:

Week 3: September 29

Globalization and human rights: organizations and powers

Required reading:

Foster, John W. with Anand, Anita. *Whose World Is It Anyway? Civil Society, the United Nations and the multilateral future*. Ottawa. UNAC, 1999.

Chapters 12 and 13.

UN NGLS & Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. *The United Nations Human Rights System: How to Make It Work For You*. U.N., New York and Geneva, 2008 (Distributed separately)

Week 4: October 6

Trading away rights/ Globalization, investment and human rights

Required reading

Sands, Philippe: *Lawless World: Making and Breaking Global Rules*. London, Penguin. 2006 **Chapter 5, Chapter 6**

John W. Foster. *New Global Contract: A Framework for Rebalancing Global Norms*. Minneapolis, Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy. 2008 (distributed separately)

Maria Julia Oliva. *New Global Contract: Promoting Human Rights and the Environment and Trade Rules*. Minneapolis, Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy. 2008 (distributed separately)

Andre du Plessis. *New Global Contract: Values in Conflict: How Trade and Finance Rules Curtail our Rights*. Minneapolis, Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy. 2008 (distributed separately)

Group research/presentation

Week 5: October 13

Globalization, Civil Society and Human Rights: organizing for change

Required reading:

Held, David & McGrew Anthony, *Globalization and Anti-Globalization*. Cambridge, Polity Press. 2003. **Chapter 8.**

Smith, Jackie, *Coalitions Across Borders: Transnational Protest and the Neoliberal Order*. Oxford, Roman and Littlefield. 2004. **Chapter 11.**

Group research/presentation

Week 6: October 20

Case 1: the human right to health. HIV/AIDS, TRIPS and GATS

Required reading:

Thomas, Paul and Foster, John, *AIDS, Development and Canadian Policy: Achieving universal access by 2010*. Ottawa, The North-South Institute, 2007

Group research/presentation

Week 7: October 27

Case 2 a) Battle fronts: Globalization and labour,

“Labour Rights as Human Rights in the Age of Globalization”: Chapter 6 in Tremblay, Reeta, et al. *Understanding Human Rights: Origins, Currents and Critiques*. Thomson/Nelson. 2008

Faux, Jeff, *The Global Class War*. Hoboken, Wiley. 2006 **Chapter 3.**

Case2b) globalization and environment

Readings: **t.b.a.**

Group research/presentation

Week 8: November 3

Case 2c) Corporate actors

Required reading:

Report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, John Ruggie *Protect,*

Respect and Remedy: a Framework for Business and Human Rights. UN A/HRC/8/5 7
April 2008

“Problematic Pragmatism: The Ruggie Report 2008: Background, Analysis and Perspectives.” Misereor & Global Policy Forum, Europe. June 2008

Group research/presentation

Week 9: November 10 Term Paper due

Case 2d: Globalization and culture *Required reading:*

UNESCO. Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions. <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001429/1429.19e.pdf>

Case 2e: Globalization, culture and indigenous roots: the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Canadian reaction.

United Nations General Assembly: *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples A/Res. 61/295*

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N06/512/07/PDF/N0651207.pdf?OpenElement>

Press release and summary of comments on the decision.

<http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2007/ga10612.doc.htm>

Group research/ presentation

Week 10: November 17

Case 2f: Developing human rights: globalization, sexual minorities and reproductive rights.

Required reading:

The Yogyakarta Principles: Principles on the Application of International Human Rights Law in Relation to Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity: November, 2006.

www.yogyakartaprinciples.org

Sanders, Douglas “The Role of the Yogyakarta Principles”. ILGHRC. Aug.4, 2008
www.ilghrc.org

Group research/presentation

Week 11: November 24

Case 3a: Globalization and inequality: North America: Social Rights

Required reading

Campbell, Bruce. 20 Years Later: Has Free Trade Delivered on its Promise?" Ottawa, CCPA, December, 2007

And one of the following:

Clarkson, Stephen. *Uncle Sam and US*. Toronto, University of Toronto Press. 2002

Chapter 4

Foster, John Provisional title: "North America under Obama: change betrayed" *Canada and the USA, 2010*. London. Taylor and Francis, 2009. (To be distributed separately.)

Group research/presentation

Week 12: December 1

Fighting for human rights in a repressive age

Required readings: t.b.a.

Group research/presentation

Week 13: December 8

Canada, Globalization and Human Rights: policy under the "scope"

Conclusions and ways forward

Required reading:

John W. Foster. "Canada and International Human Rights" in Teresa Healy (ed). *The Harper Record*. Ottawa. Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives. 2008.

Other readings: **t.b.a**

Term papers returned

Academic Accommodations

For students with Disabilities: Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (500 University Centre) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Registered PMC students are required to contact the centre (613-520-6608) every term to ensure that the instructor receives your request for accommodation. 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 assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations**. If you require accommodation for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodation to PMC by **November 16, 2009 for December examinations** and **March 12, 2010 for April examinations**.

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).

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 University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

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. This means that grades submitted by an instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

Course Requirements: 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: All email communication to students from the Department of Political Science will be via Connect. Important course and University information is also distributed via the Connect email system. It is the student's responsibility to monitor their Connect account.

Carleton Political Science Society: The Carleton Political Science Society (CPSS) has made its mission to provide a social environment for politically inclined students and faculty. Holding social events, debates, and panel discussions, CPSS aims to involve all political science students in the after-hours academic life at Carleton University. Our mandate is to arrange social and academic activities in order to instill a sense of belonging within the Department and the larger University community. Members can benefit through numerous opportunities which will complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, please email carletonpss@gmail.com, visit our website at poliscisociety.com, or come to our office in Loeb D688.

Official Course Outline: The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.