



JOHN CABOT UNIVERSITY

COURSE CODE: PL 361

COURSE NAME: Globalization and Democracy

SEMESTER & YEAR: Fall 2018

INSTRUCTOR: Bridget Welsh

EMAIL: bwelsh@johncabot.edu

HOURS: MW 11:30am-12:45pm

TOTAL NO. OF CONTACT HOURS: 45

CREDITS: 3

PREREQUISITES: None

ROOM: Tiber 2.1

OFFICE HOURS: Mondays, 1:00-4:00pm or by appointment Tiber Campus, PS Office B 4th Flr.

COURSE AIMS:

Students will develop the tools to understand contemporary global problems, as well as learn analytical skills and problem-solving. This course is ideal for students interested in honing their ability to interpret complex issues, understand the diverse perspectives of stakeholders and develop tools to address real world challenges. This course teaches students the different contemporary issues and debates on globalization and democracy and provides the knowledge for engaging in political analysis.

SUMMARY OF COURSE CONTENT:

This course is an upper-level course focusing on the relationship between globalization and democracy, broadly conceived. This course will introduce students to the concept of globalization and contemporary debates about globalization and democracy. Each week students are expected to read a leading and contemporary book on how globalization is shaping politics. The issues explored include the role of international institutions and global governance, inequality, threats to democracy, financial crises, trade, the Internet and social media, food scarcity and the environment. Students will enrich their knowledge and skills that will help them in any career and in becoming more empowered and informed citizens.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

After this course, students should expect to begin thinking, reading, writing and acting as a specialist on globalization!

Specific Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- *Understand a Range of Concepts, Theories and Approaches in Globalization*
- *Appreciate the Diversity of Political Perspectives and Outlooks*
- *Frame Problems from Multiple Perspectives*
- *Construct and Present their Own Interpretations of Political Events*
- *Recognize the Range and Variation in Forms of Political Power*
- *Evaluate Different Approaches to Key Issues*

- *Formulate their Own Opinions on Political Issues*
- *Research Contemporary Political Issues*

ASSESSMENT METHODS:

Class Participation	20%
Field Assignments (Two)	8%
Short Book Commentaries (Six)	30%
Class Presentations of Book (Two)	12%
Research Paper	30%
Total	100%

Protocol for Handing in Written Assignments: *Students must turn in all written assignments three ways. This assignment must be 1) emailed to the professor, 2) with a hard copy delivered to the political science assignment basket in front of the Chair’s office on the 2nd floor of the Tiber campus by 5pm on the due date and 3) an electronic copy delivered on through MOODLE to TURNITIN. This will require that you set up your own MOODLE account.*

*a) **Class Attendance & Participation** (20% of total grade) As an upper level course, students are expected to read all the required reading before class to participate in discussion. Please note that more than **THREE** absences of any class session will significantly lower a student’s final participation grade. Regular patterns of tardiness will also negatively affect a student’s performance. Class participation will be assessed based on the quality of participation in the class, with higher marks given to students who relate inputs to the course readings and express individual ideas articulately and succinctly. Students are not evaluated on the volume that they say, but the degree to which their participation adds value to the discussion. Students are asked to turn their smart phones and other devices on silent mode and not use them during class time. Laptops are to be used for note-taking, not chatting and emailing during class time. Student distractions that take away from the overall class learning environment are strongly discouraged and will be assessed in class participation performance.*

*b) **Field Assignments** (8% of total grade): Students are asked to conduct **TWO** interviews in the field to look at different aspects of globalization and democracy and to show how these are related. These field assignments are to be conducted in mid-October.*

*c) **Book Reflection Commentaries** (30% of total grade), These **SIX** commentaries of 1000 words ask students to respond to the issues, arguments and evidence laid out in the assigned book. There are 12 books in the course that authors can choose for this assignment. For each commentary, students are asked to prepare an analytical commentary (taking a position and developing an argument) on the book, drawing from class discussion. Each review is due by 5pm Friday on the week assigned for the book and must be turned in through email and on Moodle, with a hard copy placed in the class assignment box by the following Monday before noon. Students who turn in more than eight commentaries have the top grades used for their final grade. Students are responsible for finishing these assignments before the 14th week of the course, before December 1st.*

*d) **Book Oral Presentation** (12% of the total grade, 6% each presentation). Students are asked to present on **TWO** of the books during the semester. Students will sign up in the second week of the course and readings will be on a first-signed up basis on the **CHOICE** program in MOODLE. The presentation should be no more than 10 minutes and can bring in material outside of the book to enrich the discussion. Students may choose to present on one book that they also write a reflection commentary on, but this overlap option is not available for both presentations. Any power point*

presentation should be forwarded the midnight before. Strict time limits will be imposed. Students will be assessed on their ability to present material clearly and succinctly, the quality of their synopsis as well as their understanding of the reading and comparative case study selected. Students may choose to present on more than two books if there is availability and in this case the top grades will be chosen.

*e) **Research Paper** (30% of total grade, 5% is for the in-class presentation of the paper) Students are asked to submit an original paper of 3,000-3500 words concisely examining one of the issues developed in the course or related to the course theme. The paper must develop an argument and use concrete evidence to support this argument. Students must consult with the professor on the topic via email or in her office hours. Further guidelines on this paper will be provided. The initial paper topic and bibliography is due October 22nd via hard copy and email. The final assignment must be turned in through the assignment protocol noted above by 5pm on the due date, Tuesday, November 20th. No late papers will be accepted. Students are expected to present their paper (no more than 10 minutes) to their classmates the last week of the semester for discussion.*

HONORS OPTION:

Students who opt for the honors option are required to submit EIGHT commentaries and make FOUR class presentations on books in the course of the semester.

GRADES:

Assessment Guidelines for assigning main letter grades: A, B, C, D, and F.

A: *Work of this quality directly addresses the question or problem raised and provides a coherent argument displaying an extensive knowledge of relevant information or content. This type of work demonstrates the ability to critically evaluate concepts and theory and has an element of novelty and originality. There is clear evidence of a significant amount of reading beyond that required for the course.*

B: *This is highly competent level of performance and directly addresses the question or problem raised. There is a demonstration of some ability to critically evaluate theory and concepts and relate them to practice. Discussions reflect the student's own arguments and are not simply a repetition of standard lecture and reference material. The work does not suffer from any major errors or omissions and provides evidence of reading beyond the required assignments.*

C: *This is an acceptable level of performance and provides answers that are clear but limited, reflecting the information offered in the lectures and reference readings.*

D: *This level of performances demonstrates that the student lacks a coherent grasp of the material. Important information is omitted and irrelevant points included. In effect, the student has barely done enough to persuade the instructor that s/he should not fail.*

F: *This work fails to show any knowledge or understanding of the issues raised in the question. Most of the material in the answer is irrelevant.*

Grading:

A: 95-100

A-: 91-94.99

B+: 87-90.99

B:	83-86.99
B-:	79-82.99
C+:	75-78.99
C:	71-74.99
C-:	67-70.99
D+:	63-66.99
D:	59-62.99
D-:	55-58.99
F:	0-54.99

In assignments, grades between two letter grades are often given, indicating a score on the margins of these two letter grades.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students are expected to uphold high standards of academic integrity. Plagiarism, cheating and disrespect for diversity of views in the classroom are not acceptable. In the beginning of term, the professor will review different guidelines for research and help familiarize students with the techniques needed for report preparation. Throughout the course, a classroom environment of acceptance, respect and tolerance will be reinforced. Specific task-oriented assignments have been selected to reduce the temptation for students to rely on the ideas of others and tap directly into an individual student's abilities. All written assignments must be submitted to TURNITIN on MOODLE.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND EXPECTATIONS

The assignments in this course develop knowledge and skills, with the aim of making students more confident and better prepared to address real world problems they will face. Simultaneously, they introduce students to contemporary problems in the world and teach core material associated with political science. Texts and course material for this course are purposely selected for accessibility. Teaching materials include novels, the course website, in-class simulations and core disciplinary reading material.

CONSULTATIONS

Students are encouraged to meet one-on-one with the professor to discuss course material and their assignments. The professor holds regular office hours where students can meet her. Students are also welcome to schedule an appointment, but should provide at least two different alternatives to be accommodated for a meeting outside of office hours. Students are encouraged to book their time early. During term, students should expect a response to their emails within three business days.

STUDENTS WITH LEARNING OR OTHER DISABILITIES

John Cabot University does not discriminate on the basis of disability or handicap. Students with approved accommodations must inform their professors at the beginning of the term. Please see the website for the complete policy.

CLASS SESSIONS

Class sessions will be held for two and a half hours per week. Each session will combine lectures, discussions, and group activities focused on the assigned topics.

REQUIRED TEXT AND READINGS

Students will be expected to read all the required reading before class. All the required course reading will be available in the Library on reserve or available on MYJCU.

COURSE TEXTS AND MATERIAL

Students are asked to read the *NY Times* before each class and regularly during the term. Students are expected to read the following books in this upper level course this semester. Books are available at the Almost Corner Bookstore.

Manfred B. Steger: *Globalization: A Very Short Introduction*, 4th edition. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017) ISBN-13: 978-0198779551

Mohsin Hamid, *Exit West*, (New York: Penguin Books, 2017) ISBN 978-0-241-97906-8

Joseph Stiglitz, *Globalization and its Discontents Revisited: Anti-Globalization in the Era of Trump*, (New York: W.W. Norton, 2018) ISBN: 978-0393355161

Prakaj Mishra, *Age of Anger: The History of the Present* (London: Picador; 2018) ISBN-13: 978-1250159304

Yasha Mounk, *The People vs. Democracy: Why Our Freedom Is in Danger and How to Save It*. (Harvard University Press, 2018) ISBN-13: 978-0674976825

Masha Gessen. *The Future Is History: How Totalitarianism Reclaimed Russia* (New York: Riverhead Books, 2017) ISBN: 978-1594634536

Charles P. Kindleberger and Robert Z. Aliber, *Manias, Panics, and Crashes: A History of Financial Crises, Seventh Edition 7th Edition* (New York: PalgraveMacmillan, 2015). ISBN: 978-1137525758

Dani Rodrik, *Straight Talk on Trade: Ideas for a Sane World Economy*. (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2017) ISBN-13: 978-0691177847

Stephen D. King. *Grave New World: The End of Globalization, the Return of History*. (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2017) ISBN-13: 978-0300218046

Michael T. Osterholm and Mark Olshaker, *Deadliest Enemy: Our War Against Killer Germs*. (New York: Little Brown and Company, 2017) ISBN-13: 978-0316343695

Jamie Bartlett, *The People Vs Tech: How the internet is killing democracy (and how we save it)*. (London: Random House, 2018) ISBN-13: 978-1785039065

Lisa Palmer. *Hot, Hungry Planet: The Fight to Stop a Global Food Crisis in the Face of Climate Change*. (New York: St. Martin's Press, 2017) ISBN-13: 978-1250084200

WEEKLY LESSONS AND READINGS

WEEK 1 (September 2-8) Introducing Globalization

Session 1 (September 3) Course Introduction

Students are asked to read the *NY Times* before each class, including this one.

Session 2 (September 5) Understanding Globalization

Manfred B. Steger: *Globalization: A Very Short Introduction*, 4th edition. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017) (entire)

Watch: https://www.ted.com/talks/chimamanda_adichie_the_danger_of_a_single_story

WEEK 2 (September 9-15) Introducing Debates on Globalization and Democracy

Session 3 (September 10) Bryan S. Turner and Robert K. Holton (eds). *The Routledge International Handbook of Globalization Studies: Second edition* (Routledge International Handbooks) 2nd Edition, (London: Routledge, 2016). Chapters 1, 2, 3 & 8

Session 4 (September 12) Bryan S. Turner and Robert K. Holton (eds). *The Routledge International Handbook of Globalization Studies: Second edition* (Routledge International Handbooks) 2nd Edition, (London: Routledge, 2016). Chapters 14 & 21

Book of the Week: Mohsin Hamid, *Exit West*, (New York: Penguin Books, 2017)
****Course Dinner Tuesday, September 11th, 7:30pm to discuss course novel above****

WEEK 3 (September 16-22) Dissecting Anti-Globalization

Book of the Week: Joseph Stiglitz, *Globalization and its Discontents Revisited: Anti-Globalization in the Era of Trump*, (New York: W.W. Norton, 2018)

WEEK 4 (September 23-29) Dissecting Anti Democracy I

Book of the Week: Prakaj Mishra, *Age of Anger: The History of the Present* (London: Picador; 2018)

WEEK 5 (September 30-October 6) Dissecting Anti Democracy II

Book of the Week: Yascha Mounk, *The People vs. Democracy: Why Our Freedom Is in Danger and How to Save It*. (Boston: Harvard University Press, 2018)

WEEK 6 (October 7-13) Looking at Russia

Book of the Week: Masha Gessen. *The Future Is History: How Totalitarianism Reclaimed Russia* (New York: Riverhead Books, 2017)

WEEK 7 (October 14-20) Field Assignments

WEEK 8 (October 21-27) Financial Crises

Book of the Week: Charles P. Kindleberger and Robert Z. Aliber, *Manias, Panics, and Crashes: A History of Financial Crises, Seventh Edition 7th Edition* (New York: PalgraveMacmillan, 2015).

****Research Paper Bibliography Due October 22nd by 5pm* ***

WEEK 9 (October 28-November 3) Trade Wars

Book of the Week: Dani Rodrik, *Straight Talk on Trade: Ideas for a Sane World Economy*. (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2017)

WEEK 10 (November 4-10) Political Economic Transformations

Book of the Week: Stephen D. King. *Grave New World: The End of Globalization, the Return of History*. (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2017)

WEEK 11 (November 11-17) Global Health

Book of the Week: Michael T. Osterholm and Mark Olshaker, *Deadliest Enemy: Our War Against Killer Germs*. (New York: Little Brown and Company, 2017)

WEEK 12 (November 18-24) Internet and Social Media

Book of the Week: Jamie Bartlett, *The People Vs Tech: How the internet is killing democracy (and how we save it)*. (London: Random House, 2018)

****Research Paper Due November 20th by 5pm* ***

WEEK 13 (November 25-December 1) Food Security and the Climate Change

Book of the Week: Lisa Palmer. *Hot, Hungry Planet: The Fight to Stop a Global Food Crisis in the Face of Climate Change*. (New York: St. Martin's Press, 2017)

WEEK 14 (December 2-8) Reflections and Review

****Presentations of Research Paper in Class Sessions* ***

WEEK 15 (December 9-15) Finals (No Course Final)