**Sociology of Globalization / Fall 2013 / McCallum**



**SOCIOLOGY OF GLOBALIZATION– SOAN 260**

Professor Jamie K. McCallum T/TH 1:30-2:45

Middlebury College Munroe Hall 320

Fall 2013 Office hours: Munroe 110 mccallum@middlebury.edu T/TH 3:00 – 4:30pm

***Sociology of Globalization***

***Course Description***

This class examines a defining phenomenon of our time—globalization—a world-historic dynamic that has shaped political, economic, and socio-cultural change in the *longue durée*. The concept crisscrosses the boundaries of academic disciplines and we will benefit from multiple frameworks. However, a sociological lens on globalization means we will not only dissect and critique the fundamental characteristics and contradictions associated with globalism. This includes intervening in debates about national sovereignty, capitalist and development and the world system, corporate and global governance, hybrid identities and postmodern cultural forms, the global economic crisis, and the potential power of counter-hegemonic movements for an alternative globalization. As the body of literature in the field is immense and wide-ranging, we must draw boundaries somewhere; this course will emphasize the political-economic and cultural dimensions of globalization. The course readings are sometimes foundational and sometimes critical of the traditional points of view. The most general critique will be to view globalization not as inevitable outcomes of historical progress, but as conjunctural phenomena arising out of myriad socially-constructed forces. Overall, you should leave this course with a basis for further study of the dilemmas and opportunities posed by a globalizing world.

***Class Participation***

You are expected to come to every class and out-of-class event. Come prepared to discuss readings and join group discussions. You are encouraged to have an opinion, be audacious, and risk your pride. Class participation means you regularly attend class and take part in meaningful ways. Since critical dialogue is probably where most learning happens anyway, this should be in our mutual interests. Learning is a conspiracy, a group activity where we work, play, plot, and debate together. Students should be prepared to take notes without laptops. Cell phones and all other non-airplane-approved devices must be switched off.

***Assignments***

You will write eight short papers (approximately 2 pages each) in response to particular readings and themes. We will discuss how to write these papers in class. During week six I will give you a mid-term exam consisting of several short essay questions. You will also work in groups to complete a presentation to give at the end of the semester. I will give you more specific information on the details of each of these assignments when the time comes.

***A Note on Written Work***

Written work is the primary way you will be evaluated, and your writing will be graded according to its readability, grammatical accuracy, and creativity, in addition to the substantive ideas it conveys. We will discuss the challenges posed by sociological writing, but if you have any concerns about your ability, please see me and consider visiting the CTLR: <http://www.middlebury.edu/academics/resources/ctlr>. All written work is accepted by email.

***Grades***

Your grades come from the assignments stated above, plus class participation. Class participation is derived from a combination of attendance, frequency and quality of participation in class discussions, the competency of your five minute introduction, and observed struggle to engage the material. Late work is lowered half a grade for the first week late, and is not accepted thereafter. The grade breakdown is as follows:

Response papers 25%

Midterm 25%

Group Project 30%

Class participation 20%

Most students can expect to receive a grade in the B range. Typically, A’s at Middlebury are reserved for outstanding work above and beyond what is average and expected. If you object to a grade you receive, email me a detailed explanation as to why you think the grade should be changed. In that email, also include a few times when you can meet me as soon as possible to discuss the matter further.

***Honor Code and Academic Integrity***

The Middlebury Honor Code forbids cheating and plagiarism. For details on what constitutes these breaches of conduct, please see Middlebury policy here: <http://www.middlebury.edu/academics/administration/newfaculty/handbook/honorcode>

Failure to abide such regulations will result in my notifying the proper college authorities. The academy is not known for its sense of humor, but plagiarism is truly no joke. For information on how to avoid plagiarizing, see Earl Babbie’s article: <http://www.csub.edu/ssric-trd/howto/plagiarism.htm>

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***Sociology of Globalization***

**Note: The course schedule that follows may be revised as the course progresses**

**Required Texts:** Robert K. Schaeffer. 1997 [2009]. Understanding Globalization (Fourth

 Edition). Rowman and Littlefield.

 Other materials available on course website:

 http://sites.middlebury.edu/soan260/readings/

**Week 1—**

**9/10:** **Prelude.** Tony Judt. Ill Fares The Land: http://www.nybooks.com/articles/archives/2010/apr/29/ill-fares-the-land/?pagination=false

Course Introduction / Overview of Syllabus

 **9/12** John Gray. *Great Transformation to the Free Market*

 Immanuel Wallerstein. *Rise and Future Demise of the World Capitalist System*

 Benjamin Barber. *Jihad versus McWorld*

 Amartya Sen. *How to Judge Globalism*

 John Micklethwait. *The Hidden Promise: Liberty Renewed*

**Week 2—**

 **9/17:** David Harvey. “ “Chapter 1” and “Chapter 2” in *A Brief History of Neoliberalism*. Oxford University Press USA.

 **9/19:** Robert K. Schaeffer. “Globalizing Production in the United States,

Western Europe, and Japan*.”* In *Understanding Globalization: The Social Consequences of Political, Economic and Environmental Change*.

The Wall Street Journal. “We’ve become a nation of takers, not makers.”

 April 1, 2011:

 http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704050204576219073867182108.html

**Week 3—**

**9/24:** Response Due

Kenichi Ohmae. *The End of the Nation State*

 Susan Strange. *The Declining Authority of States*

David Harvey. *The Neoliberal State.*

**9/26:** Gary Gerreffi. *The Global Economy: Organization, Governance, and Development*

James Vreeland. *The International Monetary Fund*

 Anne-Marie Slaughter. *A New World Order*

 Joseph Stiglitz. *The Promise of Global Institutions*

Fred Halliday*. Global Governance: Prospects and Problems*

**Week 4—**

**10/1:** Response Due

Robert K. Schaeffer. “Chapter 4: Debt Crisis and Globalization.”

 In *Understanding Globalization: The Social Consequences of Political, Economic, and Environmental Change*

**10/3:** Martin Wolf. Incensed about Inequality

 Hunter Wade Thompson. Is Globalization Reducing Poverty and Inequality?

Branco Milanovic. Income Inequality and Speculative Investment Led to the Financial Meltdown

Ashok Bardhan. Globalization and Financialization = The Crash

Ha-Joon Chang. “Thing 7:Free Market Policies Rarely Make Poor Countries Rich.”In *23 Things They Don’t Tell You About Capitalism*

**Week 5—**

**10/8:** Response Due

Immanuel Wallerstein. The Curve of American Power. NLR 40, July 2006.

Chua, Amy. “Introduction” and “US as Hyperpower”. *Day of Empire: How Hyperpowers Rise to Global Dominance and How They Fail*

 Hardt, Michael and Negri, Antonio. *Empire*. Pp 217-226.

**10/10:** Charles Tilly. *Globalization Threatens Labor Rights*

Jagdish Bhagwati. 2007. “Wages and Labor Standards at Stake?” From *In Defense of Globalization*. Pgs 127-134

Andrew Herod. *Labor Internationalism and the Contradictions of Global Capitalism: Or, Why the local is still sometimes important in the global economy.*

Jennifer Chun. *Organizing at the Margins Chapter 1*

**Week 6—**

**10/15:** Brink Lindsey. *Poor Choice:* *Why Globalization Didn’t Create 9/11*.

 Robert K Schaeffer. “The Legacy of Partition in India and Pakistan: 1947-1948”

 “Partition in Palestine: 1948”

 “Revolution and war in Iran and Iraq: 1978-1980”

 “Revolution and War in Afghanistan”

 “The Aftermath of 9/11”

**10/17:** David Harvey. 1991. “Part IV: The Condition of Postmodernity.” In *The Condition of Postmodernity: An Enquiry into the Origins of Cultural Change.*

Pp. 327-360

 **10/20:** Midterms due 5pm

**Week 7 —**

**10/22:** No Class, Fall Recess

**10/24:** No Class

**Week 8 —**

**10/29:** Response Due

Douglas Kellner—Globalization and Postmodernism

(Bring Condition of postmodernity to class as well)

**10/31:** Reader—Part III: Experiencing Globalization. Pgs 105-146

**Week 9—**

**11/5:** Amy Chua. Introduction. In *World on Fire: How Exporting Free Market Democracy Breeds Ethnic Hatred and Global Instability*

Juergensmeyer, Mark. 1996. “The Worldwide Rise of Religious Nationalism.” *The Journal of International Affairs*. Summer. 50,1.

Charles Kurzman. *Bin laden and other Thoroughly Modern Muslims*

The Globalization of Environmental Problems. Readings TBA.

**11/7:** The Globalization of Environmental Problems. Readings TBA

**Week 10—**

**11/12:** Reader—Part XI: Alternative Globalization and the Global Justice Movement

Jagdish Bhagwati. “Anti-Globalization: Why?” From *In Defense of Globalization*

Solnit Readings

**11/14:** Jay Mazur: *Labor’s New Internationalism*. Foreign Affairs.

 Peter Evans. *Labor’s Turn to Globalize*. Global Labour Journal.

Stephen Lerner. *Global Unions: A Solution to Labor’s Worldwide Decline*. New Labor Forum

**Week 11—**

**11/19:** Group Meetings

**11/21:** Response Due

Stephen Gill. Toward a Postmodern Prince

Naomi Klein. Reclaiming the Commons

 http://www.newleftreview.org/A2323

**Week 12—**

**11/26:**

Milstein, Cindy. 2000. Reclaim the Cities: From Protest to Popular Power.

 <http://theanarchistlibrary.org/HTML/Cindy_Milstein__Reclaim_the_Cities__From_Protest_to_Popular_Power.html>

 Francis Fukuyama. The End of History and the Last Man: <http://www.politicalcity.biz/wp-content/uploads/Francis_Fukuyama.pdf>

 Ha-Joon Chang. Conclusion: How to Rebuild the World Economy.

 **11/28:** No Class. Thanksgiving.

**Week 13—**

 **12/3:** Group Presentations

**12/5:** Group Presentations