

## **IREL 350 01: Globalization**

Meetings: Wednesday, 2:00-4:52, BIOL 324

Instructor: Jason Cons

Coleman 013

[jason.cons@bucknell.edu](mailto:jason.cons@bucknell.edu)

x73445

Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, 10:30-12:00 and by appointment

### **Course Overview:**

Globalization has become an nearly ubiquitous term in contemporary thought. Describing seemingly *any* processes or phenomenon, the term risks spiraling into banality and over-generalization. Yet, at the same time, the effects of a range of globalizing processes are undeniable. They impact and transform everything from the international and cross-border politics between states to what we buy in the supermarket. So, to paraphrase Raymond Carver, what do we talk about when we talk about globalization? Is it a broad and amorphous process or does it describe a set of concrete shifts? Is it a theoretical construct or does it reflect new political-economic and socio-cultural practices? Is it a synonym for transnational capitalism or something more?

This class seeks to provide a set of provisional answers to these questions by working from the standpoint that “globalization” is, at once, two things—a set of accelerating processes that have wrought concrete and often destabilizing transformations in contemporary life *and* a set of academic theories struggling to come to grips with these transformations. To that end, we will look at, and critically unpack, a set of studies seeking to explore and theorize the impacts of global shifts across spatial scales—from broad macro-political and economic projects to their local instantiations and negotiations.

Specifically, the class will avoid moving through a series of “globalization and . . .” studies of everything from environment to social movements, and will instead focus on a set of processes and outcomes that have generally shaped the debate over the meanings of globalization, its pasts, and its futures. Namely, we will explore: broad theorizations of globalization; the rise of neoliberalism, arguably the political-economic logic of globalization; contemporary transformations in state sovereignty and concomitant spatial restructuring; the social impacts of global integration on identity and everyday life; and the rapid expansion of so-called “illicit” globalization. Additionally, we will engage case-studies of globalization through exploring the history of oil in the twentieth and twenty-first century and the broad shifts of globalization and neoliberalism, specifically in Africa.

In short, the course seeks to invite you into a conversation about globalization, its processes, its outcomes, and its various theoretical explanations. Far from exhaustive in scope, the course instead focuses on introducing you to a set of key debates that will allow you to explore the outcomes of globalization in a range of more specific contexts.

### **Learning Goals:**

This course will help you to:

- Understand, critique, and take a critical relationship to a range of competing theories of globalization
- Explain key currents in the contemporary “age of globalization”—including the rise of neoliberalism, transformations in state sovereignty and spatial restructuring, links between global integration and identity politics, currents of “illicit” globalization, and more
- Analyze how globalization differentially transforms and is transformed by various different actors at various geographical scales—including, states, international institutions such as the World

Bank and the World Trade Organization, nongovernmental actors, identity based groups, social and anti-globalization movements, individuals, etc.

- Articulate, through written and spoken word, how broad processes of globalization intertwine with other processes, such as environmental degradation, movements for autonomy, etc.
- Gain exposure to the various ways that different social science disciplines understand and analyze globalization.

### Course Format

This is a discussion-based course, although I will occasionally provide framing lectures and will generally start off and close each class with some remarks that help to contextualized course topics and readings. I expect your full and active participation in class (discussed in more detail below).

### Course Readings and Requirements:

Component	Description	Weight
Participation	I expect you to attend class, complete all of the assigned readings, actively participate in discussions, show respect and encouragement to your peers, and participate with enthusiasm and professionalism in class activities.	25%
Response Papers	Over the course of the semester you will post 9 1 page papers responding to readings to Moodle. These need not be formal, tightly organized, papers. Rather, they are designed to raise a specific <b>question</b> or <b>set of questions</b> you have about either a specific reading or set of readings. These must be posted before 9 AM the morning of class.  These will be graded on a check, check minus, check plus basis.	25%
Mid-Term Essay	5-6 page paper that will address an issue related to the course (prompt to be provided). This will be due: <b>OCTOBER 15</b>	20%
Final Essay	10-12 page final paper on an open topic. The general theme of the paper should be “Globalization and...”. For example, you might be interested in writing a paper on a specific world-historical event such as “Globalization and the Arab Spring” or on a broader thematic such as “Globalization and Environmental Justice.”  You must provide an abstract of your paper by: <b>NOVEMBER 7</b> The final paper will be due by: <b>DECEMBER 13, 2:45 PM</b>	30%

### Late Penalties

Late assignments will be subject to a late penalty of 10% per day (including weekends) of the total marks for the assignment. Late work must be submitted to me in hand during office hours.

Arrangements can be made when an assignment is late due to verifiable reasons beyond one’s control. Please, inform me immediately when circumstances prevent you from submitting an assignment on time..

### Academic Responsibility

Please, review Bucknell’s policies regarding:

- **Academic Integrity** : <http://www.bucknell.edu/x1340.xml>
- **Avoiding Plagiarism**: <http://www.bucknell.edu/x1341.xml>
- **Unauthorized Collaboration**: <http://www.bucknell.edu/x1344.xml>

- **Bucknell Resources for Research and Writing:** <http://www.bucknell.edu/x1342.xml>

### **Students with disabilities**

Bucknell is “committed to ensuring reasonable accommodations to all students who are diagnosed with disabilities (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1992).

It is the responsibility of students with disabilities to identify themselves to the appropriate Associate Dean, to provide documentation of their disability, including an assessment of needs, and to discuss the types of accommodations that they may need. Given the many types, dimensions and complexities of disabilities, reasonable accommodations will be determined on an individual basis and shall be worked out with the assistance of the Associate Dean in consultation with the student, faculty members, and/or university staff. To provide the most appropriate services, the university reserves the right to review the diagnosis provided by the student and may suggest that a new or updated diagnosis be provided by the student.” For more information go to <http://www.bucknell.edu/DisabilityServices.xml>

### **E-mail Policy**

Please, feel free to contact me for any reason. However, please also keep in mind that I am as busy as you. Make sure you consult the course syllabus, other handouts, and the course Moodle BEFORE sending an e-mail. Note that e-mail should NOT be seen as an alternative to meeting with me during office hours. Nor should e-mail be used as a mechanism to receive private tutorials or to explain material that was covered in classes you’ve missed (those are your responsibility to obtain from your peers). To ensure that your e-mail reaches my inbox, include the course code (FOUN 098) and the nature of your question/comment in the subject of your e-mail.

### **Required Material**

The following required texts are available at the Campus Bookstore:

- Bayat. *Life as Politics: How Ordinary people Change the Middle East*. Stanford University Press.
- Ferguson. *Global Shadows: Africa in the Neoliberal World Order*. Duke University Press.
- Harvey. *A Brief History of Neoliberalism*. Oxford University Press.
- Mitchell. *Carbon Democracy: Political Power in the Age of Oil*. Verso Books.
- Nordstrom. *Global Outlaws: Crime, Money, and Power in the Contemporary World*. University of California Press.
- Timmons Roberts and Hite. *The Globalization and Development Reader: Perspectives on Development and Global Change*. Blackwell.
- 

### **August 22<sup>nd</sup>: Introduction—Globalization (the concept), What is it good for?**

- Film: Inside Job

### **August 29<sup>th</sup>: Globalization, the popular and the critical**

*Required:*

- McMichael, P. “Globalization: Trend or Project.” 103-117 in *Global Political Economy*.
- Harvey, D. 1990. “Time-Space Compression and the Postmodern Condition.” Pp 284-307 in *The Condition of Postmodernity*.
- Stiglitz, J. “Globalism’s Discontents.” Pp 295-304 in *The Globalization and Development Reader*.
- Freedman, T. “It’s a Flat World After All.” Pp 247-256 in *The Globalization and Development Reader*.

*Recommended:*

- Appadurai, A. "Disjuncture and Difference in the Global Cultural Economy." Pp 27-47 in *Modernity at Large: Cultural Dimensions of Globalization*.
- Bhagwati, J. "Coping with Anti-Globalization." Pp 3-50 in *In Defense of Globalization*.
- Klein, N. 2007. "Blank is Beautiful." Pp 3- 25 in *The Shock Doctrine: The Rise of Disaster Capitalism*.
- Kaplan, R. 2001. "The Coming Anarchy." Pp 3-58 in *The Coming Anarchy: Shattering Dreams of the Post Cold War*.

### **September 5<sup>th</sup>: Debating Globalization-What, When, Why, and How?**

#### *Required:*

- Sklair, L. "Competing Conceptions of Globalization." Pp 233-246 in *The Globalization and Development Reader*
- Comaroff, J. and Comaroff, J. "Millennial Capitalism: First Thoughts on a Second Coming." *Public Culture*. 12(2). Pp 291-242
- Wallerstein, I. "The Rise and Future Demise of the World Capitalist System: Concepts for Comparative Analysis." Pp 95-113 in *The Globalization and Development Reader*.
- Bayart, JF. "Two Centuries of Globalization: The Changing Scale of State and Capitalism." Pp 1-28 in *Global Subjects: A Political Critique of Globalization*.

#### *Recommended:*

- McMichael, P. "Globalization: Myths and Realities." Pp 216-233 in *The Globalization and Development Reader*.
- Rosenberg, J. 2000. "The Problem of Globalization Theory." Pp 1-15 in *The Follies of Globalization Theory*
- Arrighi, G., Silver, B., and Barber, B. "Industrial Convergence, Globalization, and the Persistence of the North-South Divide." Pp 320-334 in *The Globalization and Development Reader*.
- Hardt, M and Negri, A. 2000. "Part1: The Political Constitution of the Present." Pp 1-66.
- Arrighi, G. 1994. "The Three Hegemonies of Historical Capitalism." Pp 27-84 in *The Long Twentieth Century*.

### **September 12<sup>th</sup>: Neoliberalism: The Economic Logic of Globalization?**

#### *Required:*

- Harvey, D. 2005. *A Brief History of Neoliberalism*. (Focus on Chapters 1-4 skim 5-7)

#### *Recommended:*

- Fröbel, F., Heinrichs, J., and Kreye, O. "The New International Division of Labor in the World Economy." Pp 160-174 in *The Globalization and Development Reader*.
- Norberg, J. "In Defense of Global Capitalism." Pp 263-276 in *The Globalization and Development Reader*.
- Palley, T. 2005. "From Keynesianism to Neoliberalism: Shifting Paradigms in Economics." Pp 20-29 in *Neoliberalism: A Critical Reader*
- Colás, A. 2005. "Neoliberalism, Globalisation and International Relations." Pp 70-79 in *Neoliberalism: A Critical Reader*.

### **September 19<sup>th</sup>: Neoliberal Development: The Institutions of Globalization**

#### *Required:*

- Gore, C. 2000. "The Rise and Fall of the Washington Consensus as a Paradigm for Developing Countries." *World Development*. 28(5). 780-804.
- Goldman, M. 2001. "The Birth of a Discipline: Producing Authoritative Green Knowledge, World-Bank Style." *Ethnography*. 2:2. Pp. 191-217.

- Roy, A. 2012. "Subjects of Risk: Technologies of Gender in the Making of Millennial Modernity." *Public Culture*. 24:1. 131-155
- Elyachar, J. 2002. "Empowerment Money: The World Bank, Non-Governmental Organizations, and the Value of Culture in Egypt." *Public Culture*. 14:3. Pp 493-513.

*Recommended:*

- Hart, G. 2002. "Geography and Development: Development/s Beyond Neoliberalism? Power, Culture, and Political Economy." *Progress in Human Geography*. 26 (2). Pp 812-822.
- Peet, R. and Watts, M. 1993. "Development Theory and the Environment in an Age of Market Triumphalism." *Economic Geography*. 69:3. Pp 227-253.
- Fine, B. 2009. "Development as Zombieconomics in the Age of Neoliberalism." *Third World Quarterly*. 30: 5. Pp 885-904.
- Wolford, W. 2005. "Agrarian Moral Economies and Neoliberalism in Brazil: Competing Worldviews and the State in the Struggle for Land." *Environment and Planning A*. 241-261.
- Cons, J & Paprocki, K. 2010. "Contested Credit Landscapes: Microcredit, Self-Help, and Self-Determination in Rural Bangladesh." *Third World Quarterly*. 31:4. 637-654.

**September 26<sup>th</sup>: Globalization and the State: Whither Sovereignty? (1)**

*Required:*

- Robinson, W. 2001. "Social Theory and Globalization: The Rise of the Transnational State." *Theory and Society*. 30. 157-200.
- McMichael, P. 2001. "Revisiting the Question of the Transnational State: A Comment on William Robinson's 'Social Theory and Globalization'". *Theory and Society*. 20. Pp 201-210.
- Agnew, J. 2008. "Sovereignty Regimes: Territoriality and State Authority in Contemporary World Politics." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*. 95(2). Pp 437-461.
- Sassen, S. 1996. "The State and the New Geography of Power." Pp 1-31 in *Losing Control? Sovereignty in an Age of Globalization*.

*Recommended:*

- Trouillot, MR. "The Anthropology of the State in the Age of Globalization." *Current Anthropology*. 42:1. Pp 125-137.
- Gupta, A. and Sharma, A. "Rethinking Theories of the State in an Age of Globalization." Pp 1-41 in *The Anthropology of the State: A Reader*.
- Robinson, W. 2005. "Gramsci and Globalization: From Nation-State to Transnational Hegemony." *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy*. 8:4. Pp 1-16.
- Jessop, B. 2002. "Time and Space in the Globalization of Capital and Their Implications for State Power." *Marxism Today*. 14:1. Pp 97-117.

**October 3<sup>rd</sup>: Globalization and Spatial Restructuring: Whither Sovereignty? (2)**

*Required:*

- Brenner, N. 1999. "Beyond State-Centrism? Space, Territoriality, and Geographical Scale in Globalization Studies." *Theory and Society*. 28. Pp 39-78.
- Ong, A. 2000. "Graduated Sovereignty in South-East Asia." *Theory, Culture, and Society*. 17:4. Pp 55-75.
- Palan, R. 2003. "Numerical Organizations, Nomadic Spaces, and Modern Capitalism." Pp 162-180 in *The Offshore World*.
- Roy, A. 2009. "Why India Cannot Plan its Cities: Informality, Insurgence and the Idiom of Urbanization." *Planning Theory*. 8 (1): 76-87.
- Tsing, A. 2005. "Frontiers of Capitalism." Pp 21-50 in *Friction: An Ethnography of Global Connection*.

*Recommended:*

- Smith, N. "Remaking Scale: Competition and Cooperation in Pre-National and Post-National Europe." Pp 227-238 in *State/Space: A Reader*.
- Davis, M. 2004. "Planet of Slums: Urban Involution and the Informal Proletariat." *New Left Review*. 26 (March April). Pp 5-34.
- Goldman, M. 2011. "Speculative Urbanism and the Making of the Next World City." *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*. 35:3. Pp 555-581.
- Brown, W. 2010. "Waning Sovereignty, Walled Democracy." Pp. 7-42 in *Walled States, Waning Sovereignty*.
- Balibar, E. "Europe as Borderland." *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space*. 27. Pp 190-215.

### **October 10<sup>th</sup>: Class Rescheduled**

### **October 17<sup>th</sup>: Everyday Globalization**

#### *Required:*

- Bayat, A. 2010. Chapters 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 12, 13. Pp 1-65, 137-170, and 221-251. In *Life as Politics: How Ordinary People are Changing the Middle East*

#### *Recommended:*

- Burawoy, M. 2000. "Grounding Globalization." Pp336-350 in *Global Ethnography: Forces, Connections, and Imaginations in a Postmodern World*.
- Holston, J. "2008. Citizenship Made Strange." Pp 3-37 in *Insurgent Citizenship: Disjunctions of Democracy and Modernity in Brazil*.
- Chari, S. 2004. "Can the Subaltern Accumulate Capital?" Pp 182-239 in *Fraternal Capital: Peasant-Workers, Self-Made Men, and Globalization in Provincial India*.

### **October 24<sup>th</sup>: Global Identities: Ethnicity, Indigeneity, Nationalism**

#### *Required:*

- Appadurai, A. 1998. "Dead Certainty: Ethnic Violence in the Era of Globalization." *Public Culture*. 10(2): 225-247.
- Comaroff, J. and Comaroff, J. 2009. "Selection TBD." *Ethnicity, Inc*.
- Ramos, A. 2003. "Pulp Fictions of Indigenism." Pp 356-379 in *Race, Nature and the Politics of Difference*.
- Anderson, B. 1998. "Long Distance Nationalism." Pp 58-74 in *The Spectre of Comparisons: Nationalism, Southeast Asian and the World*.

#### *Recommended:*

- Middleton, T. 2011. "Across the Interface of State Ethnography: Rethinking Ethnology and Its Subjects in Multicultural India." *American Ethnologist*. 38(2). 249-266.
- Toyota, M. 2007. "Ambivalent Categories: Hill Tribes and Illegal Migrants in Thailand." Pp 91-116 in *Borderscapes: Hidden Geographies and Politics at Territory's Edge*.
- Mohammad, R. 2007. "*Phir bhi dil hai Hindustani* (Yet the Heart Remains Indian): Bollywood, the 'Homeland' Nation-State, and the Diaspora." *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space*. 25. 1015-1040.
- Shah, A. 2010. "The Dark Side of Indigeneity." Pp 9-35 in *In the Shadows of the State: Indigenous Politics, Environmentalism, and Insurgency in Jharkhand, India*.

### **October 31<sup>st</sup>: Illicit Globalization (1)**

#### *Required*

- Andreas, P. 2004. "Illicit International Political Economy: The Clandestine Side of Globalization." *Review of International Political Economy*. 11:3. Pp 641-652.

- Nordstrom, C. 2007. "International" and "Global." Pp 70-188 in *Global Outlaws: Crime, Money, and Power in the Contemporary World*.

*Recommended:*

- Roitman, J. 2006. "The Ethics of Illegality in the Chad Basin." Pp 219-246 in *Law and Disorder in the Postcolony*.
- Saviano, R. 2006. *Gomorra: A Personal Journey into the Violent International Empire of Naples' Organized Crime System*.
- Calhoun, C. 2010. "The Idea of Emergency: Humanitarian Action and Global (Dis)Order." Pp 29-58 in *Contemporary States of Emergency: The Politics of Military and Humanitarian Intervention*.

**November 7<sup>th</sup>: Illicit Globalization (2)**

*Required:*

- Gilman, N. "Deviant Globalization." Lecture for The Long Now Foundation. Available at: [http://fora.tv/2010/05/10/Nils\\_Gilman\\_Deviant\\_Globalization#fullprogram](http://fora.tv/2010/05/10/Nils_Gilman_Deviant_Globalization#fullprogram)
- Van Schendel, W. "Spaces of Engagement." Pp 38-68 in *Illicit Flows and Criminal Things: States, Borders, and the Other Side of Globalization*.
- Scheper-Hughes, N. 2003. "Rotten Trade: Millennial Capitalism, Human Values and Global Justice in Organs Trafficking." *Journal of Human Rights*. 2:2. Pp 197-226.
- Larkin, B. 2004. "Degraded Images, Distorted Sounds: Nigerian Video and the Infrastructure of Piracy." *Public Culture*. 16:2. 289-314.

*Recommended:*

- Sur, M. 2012. "Bamboo Baskets and Barricades: Gendered Landscapes at the India Bangladesh Border." Pp 127-150 in *Transnational Flows and Permissive Politics: Ethnographies of Human Mobilities in Asia*.
- Smillie, I. 2005. "Criminality and the Global Diamond Trade: A Methodological Case Study." Pp 177-200 in *Illicit Flows and Criminal Things: States, Borders, and the Other Side of Globalization*.
- Singer, PW. 2002. "Corporate Warriors: The Rise of the Privatized Military Industry and Its Ramifications for International Security." *International Security*. 26:3. Pp 186-2002.

**November 14<sup>th</sup>: Histories of Globalization: Case Study—Oil! (1)**

*Required:*

- Mitchell, T. 2011. "Introduction" and Chapters 1-4. Pp 1-108 in *Carbon Democracy: Political Power in the Age of Oil*.
- Coll, S. 2012. "The Camel and the Jackal." Pp 154-176 in *Private Empire: ExxonMobil and American Power*.

*Recommended:*

- Watts, M. 2005. "Resource Curse? Governmentality, Oil, and Power in the Niger Delta, Nigeria." Pp 50-80 in *The Geopolitics of Resource Wars*.
- Zalik, A. 2009. "Zones of Exclusion: Offshore Extraction, the Contestation of Space and Physical Displacement in the Nigerian Delta and the Mexican Gulf." *Antipode*. 41:3. Pp 557-582.

**November 21<sup>st</sup> No Class, Thanksgiving Recess**

**November 28<sup>th</sup>: Histories of Globalization: Case Study—Oil! (2)**

*Required:*

- Mitchell, T. 2011. "Chapters 5-8" and "Conclusion". Pp 110-254 in *Carbon Democracy: Political Power in the Age of Oil*.

- Coll, S. 2012. "Chad Can Live Without Oil." Pp 349-370 in *Private Empire: ExxonMobil and American Power*.

*Recommended:*

- Coronil, F. 1997. "Harvesting the Oil: The Storm of Progress." Pp 367-386 in *The Magical State: Nature, Money, and Modernity in Venezuela*.
- Vitalis, R. 2009. "Captive Narratives: A Brief and Unexceptional History of Firms and States." Pp 1-25 in *America's Kingdom: Mythmaking and the Saudi Oil Frontier*.
- Munif, A. 1989. *Cities of Salt*

**December 5<sup>th</sup>: Globalization in a Very Large Place**

*Required:*

- Ferguson, J. 2006. "Introduction", and Chapters 1-3, 6, 8. Pp 1-88, 155-175, and 194-210 in *Global Shadows: Africa in the Neoliberal World Order*.

*Recommended:*

- Simone, A. 2004. "Introduction: Remaking African Cities." Pp 1-19 in *For the City Yet to Come: Changing African Life in Four Cities*.
- Elyachar, J. 2007. "Mappings of Power: Informal Economy and Hybrid States." Pp 66-95 in *Markets of Dispossession: NGOs, Economic Development, and the State in Cairo*.
- Mbembe, A. 2000. "At the Edge of the World: Boundaries, Territoriality, and Sovereignty in Africa." *Public Culture*. 12:1. Pp 259-284.

**Floating Week: Countering Globalization**

*Collectively chosen from:*

- Wolford, W. 2002. "Families, Fields, and Fighting for Land: The Spatial Dynamics of Struggle in Rural Brazil." *Mobilization*. 8(2). 201-215.
- Baletti, B., Johnson, T., and Wolford, W. 2008. "'Late Mobilization': Transnational Peasant Networks and Grassroots Organizing in Brazil and South Africa." *Journal of Agrarian Change*. 8(2-3). 290-314.
- Patel, R. and McMichael, P. 2004. "Third Worldism and the Lineages of Global Fascism: The Regrouping of the Global South in the Neoliberal Era." *Third World Quarterly*. 25(1). 231-254.
- Graeber, D. 2007. "There Never Was a West: Or, Democracy Emerges from the Spaces in Between." Pp 329-374 in *Possibilities: Essays on Hierarchy, Rebellion, and Desire*.
- Harvey, D. 2012. "Reclaiming the City for Anti-Capitalist Struggle." Pp. 115-154 in *Rebel Cities: From the Right to the City to the Urban Revolution*.
- Van Gelder, S (ed). 2011. "Part 1: Occupy Wall Street." Pp 14-49 in *This Changes Everything: Occupy Wall Street and the 99% Movement*.
- Piven, FF. 2011. "The Nature of Disruptive Power." Pp 207-226 in *Who's Afraid of Frances Fox Piven*.
- Patel, R. 2010. "Cities without Citizens: A Perspective on the Struggle of Abahlali baseMjondolo, the Durban Shackdweller Movement." Pp 33-49 in *Contesting Development: Critical Struggles for Social Change*.
- Edward, B. 2011. "Tahir: Ends of Circulation." *Public Culture*. 23(3). 493-504
- Prashad, V. 2012. Selections from *Arab Spring, Libyan Winter*.

**Final Paper Due: Thursday, December 13, 2:45 PM**