

# Globalization and Politics

POLS 444 — Spring 2008  
Dr. Linda Young  
Tuesday and Thursday 11am-12:15pm  
115 Wilson

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Have you wondered why meetings of previously obscure multilateral institutions are now front-page news due to protests by members of environmental, labor and hunger NGOs? Do you ponder if you should buy imported goods that may have been produced by children in less developed countries? Should the United States allow less developed nations access to patented pharmaceuticals needed to address critical public health pandemics?

This seminar will address the issues raised by economic integration—issues prompted by the escalation of trade in goods, services, and capital, and by the migration of people. The forces leading to their liberalization and the increasing importance and impacts of multilateral institutions, such as the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and the World Trade Organization will be key to our analysis. We begin by defining globalization, and exploring the viewpoints of the critics and proponents of increased economic interdependence.

Goals of the seminar include:

- To understand and define the phenomena of globalization, including the changes in policy and technology that accelerated the economic interdependence of countries;
- To analyse this complex phenomena in terms of the rules, policies, and the institutions that govern and constrain economic integration;
- To discuss the contribution and limitations of two disciplines—economics and political science—in understanding globalization; and
- To evaluate and synthesize diverse points of view on complicated issues. Key to this evaluation is a constant and critical analysis of how we evaluate the credibility of different sources of information, data, analysis and theory.

**Requirements:** Students are expected to attend class regularly; read assignments before class and be prepared discuss them during class. Lectures are designed to supplement and clarify material presented in the readings. To participate in this seminar you must commit to doing the reading and participating in class discussions and group assignments.

**Office Hours:**

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Monday 9-11 and Wednesday 9-11 and by appointment

**Texts:****Required to Purchase:**

Pietra Rivoli. *The Travels of a T-Shirt in the Global Economy. An Economist Examines the Markets, Power and Politics of World Trade*. John Wiley and Sons, Hoboken New Jersey, 2005.

**Other required readings are listed in the Lectures and Reading Schedule.**

**Grading:****Paper–15%**

One short paper will be required.

**Reading Quizzes– 12% Four** quizzes (1%) will be given with no notice to test students on their comprehension of the assigned readings. **NO MAKESUPS WILL BE GIVEN.** The purpose of these readings is to give you motivation to do them on time – essential for a seminar focused on class discussions and critique.

**Midterm – 20%**

The mid-term will consist take home essays synthesizing and evaluating the course material to date. The questions will be given out one week ahead of the midterm.

**Group Work – 20%**

On several occasions work will be done in groups during class time, evaluating and critiquing the readings. Peer evaluation will be used in this component of the grade, and details will be explained in the first class.

**Class Debate –13%****Final – 20%**

The final will be a take home essays due on May 5<sup>th</sup>. These essays will integrate class material in your evaluation of how to improve governance of the world economy.

**Unexpected Emergencies:**

Students who have an unexpected emergency and have to miss an exam or turn in an assignment late are encouraged to contact me as soon as possible. Written verification of the emergency is expected.

**Plagiarism:**

Paraphrasing or quoting another's work without citing the source is a form of academic misconduct. Even inadvertent or unintentional misuse or appropriation of another's work (such as relying heavily on source material that is not expressly acknowledged) is considered plagiarism. If you have any questions about using and citing sources, you are expected to ask for clarification. Plagiarism will be dealt with according to departmental and university policies. Papers will be submitted on line and subject to scrutiny using state of the art software to detect plagiarism.

## Lecture and Reading Schedule:

Date	Topic	Reading
Jan 17	Introduction and Criteria	Stiglitz, Chapter 1
Jan 22	Globalization: criteria for evaluation	Sen, Intro, Ch 1 and Ch 2      WebCT
Jan 24	Travels of a T-shirt in the Global Economy	Rivoli, Chs 1-5
Jan 29	Travels continued...	Rivoli, Chs 6-8; Oxfam: Trading Away our Rights, pgs. 1-66
Jan 31	Trade and wages: should we have labor standards?	Rodrik, Chapters 1,2 &3
Feb 5	Trade and wages con't.	Understanding the WTO
Feb 7	Group Project 1: Poster Presentations on the WTO	Prepare for poster presentations
Feb 12	Evaluating the WTO	TBA
Feb 14	Agriculture and the WTO	Oxfam: Rigged Rules and Double Standards
Feb 19	Agricultural trade policies: US and EU market impacts	Aksoy, Chapter 3
Feb 21	West African cotton producers and US cotton subsidies	Sumner                                      WebCT
Feb 26	Group Project #2	Brazil's Complaint Against US Cotton Subsidies
Feb 28	Does trade cause environmental degradation?	Bhagwati, Chapter 11
March 4	The environment continued	TBA
March 6	Group Project #3	
March 10-14	Spring break	
March 18	Intellectual property rights and the WTO	TBA
March 20	The WTO and TRIPS and HIV drugs	Matthews, journal article
March 25	Group Project #4	
March 27	Privatization: concepts and prevalence	Heertz, Ch 9 &10
April 1	Privatization: case study on water-US and developing countries	Gliek et al: Summary, Privatization of Water, Risks of Privatization Shiva, pages 19-39
April 3	Concepts: income inequality, growth Income inequality in the US: extent and causes	UN Census
April 8	Global income inequality	UN Ch 3, page 43-80 & Ch. 5, pages 105-129
April 10	Civil society: its changing role and issues	Jordan and van Tuijl, paper Yamin, journal article
April 15	Immigration: Impacts and Issues	Martin and Widgren pages 1-40
April 17	Immigration	Ratha, pages 135-157
April 22	Guest speaker	
April 24	Preparing for class debates	
April 29	Class Debates	
May 1	Class Debates	

## Readings:

- Elliott, K.A. 1999. "International Labor Standards and Trade: What Should Be Done?" Chapter 10 in J.J. Schott, ed., *Launching New Global Trade Talks: An Action Agenda*. Special Report 12, September 1998, Institute for International Economics, Washington, DC.
- Glecik, P.H., G. Wolff, E.L. Chalecki, and R. Reyes. 2002. "The New Economy of Water: The Risks and Benefits of Globalization and Privatization of Fresh Water." Pacific Institute for Studies in Development, Environment, and Security, Oakland, CA. Available at [http://www.pacinst.org/reports/new\\_economy\\_of\\_water/new\\_economy\\_of\\_water\\_ES.pdf](http://www.pacinst.org/reports/new_economy_of_water/new_economy_of_water_ES.pdf).
- Hertz, N. 2001. *The Silent Takeover: Global Capitalism and the Death of Democracy*. The Free Press, New York, NY.
- Jordan, L. and P. van Tuijl. 1998. "Political Responsibility in NGO Advocacy: Exploring Emerging Shapes of Global Democracy." Europe's Forum on International Cooperation (EUFORIC), Maastricht, The Netherlands, April. Available at <http://www.euforic.org/novib/novib1.htm>.
- Martin, Philip and Jonas Widgren, 2002. "International Migration: facing the Challenge." Population Bulletin, Vol 57, No. 1 March.
- Matthews, D. 2004. "WTO Decision on Implementation of Paragraph 6 of the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health: A Solution to the Access to Essential Medicines Problem?" *Journal of International Economic Law* 7(1):73-107.
- Oxfam. 2002. "Summary." In *Rigged Rules and Double Standards: Trade, Globalisation, and the Fight Against Poverty*. Available at [http://www.maketrade-fair.com/assets/english/report\\_summary.pdf](http://www.maketrade-fair.com/assets/english/report_summary.pdf).
- Oxfam. 2002. "Market Access and Agricultural Trade: The Double Standards of Rich Countries." Chapter 4 in *Rigged Rules and Double Standards: Trade, Globalisation, and the Fight Against Poverty*. Available at <http://www.maketrade-fair.com/assets/english/report%20chapter%204%20english.pdf>.
- Oxfam. 2005. "Trading Away Our Rights: Women in Global Supply Chains." Available at: [http://www.oxfam.org.uk/what\\_we\\_do/issues/trade/downloads/trading\\_rights.pdf](http://www.oxfam.org.uk/what_we_do/issues/trade/downloads/trading_rights.pdf)
- Ratha, Dilip. 2006. "Reducing Remittance Fees," in *Global Economic Prospects*, The World Bank.
- Rodrik, D. 1997. *Has Globalization Gone Too Far?* Institute for International Economics, Washington, DC.
- Sen, A. 2000, *Development as Freedom*, Anchor Books, New York, NY.
- Stiglitz, J.E. 2003. "Democratizing the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank: Governance and Accountability." *Governance: An International Journal of Policy, Administration, and Institutions*, Vol. 16, No. 1, pp. 111-139. Available from MSU libraries, E-Publications, E-Journal Finder (type in *Governance*).
- Stiglitz, J.E. 2002. *Globalization and Its Discontents*. W.W. Norton and Company, New York, NY and London, UK.

- Sumner, Daniel A. 2005. "Boxed In: Conflicts between U.S. Farm Policies and WTO Obligations." CATO Institute, Trade Policy Analysis Number 32. Available at <http://www.freetrade.org/pubs/pas/tpa-032es.html>
- UNCTAD-ICTSD. 2003. "Overview." *UNCTAD-ICTSD Project on IPRs and Sustainable Development*. Policy paper, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD), Geneva, Switzerland. Available at [http://www.ictsd.org/pubs/ictsd\\_series/iprs/PP/PP\\_2OV.pdf](http://www.ictsd.org/pubs/ictsd_series/iprs/PP/PP_2OV.pdf).
- von Braun, J., A. Gulati, and D. Orden. 2004. "Making Agricultural Trade Liberalization Work for the Poor." Address delivered at the WTO Public Symposium "Multilateralism at a Crossroads," Geneva, May 25. Available at <http://www.ifpri.org/pubs/speeches/20040525vonbraun.pdf>.
- World Trade Organization (WTO). 2003. "Understanding the WTO." Geneva, Switzerland. Available at [http://www.wto.org/english/thewto\\_e/whatis\\_e/tif\\_e/tif\\_e.htm](http://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/tif_e.htm).
- Yamin, F. 2001. "NGOs and International Environmental Law: A Critical Evaluation of Their Roles and Responsibilities." *Review of European Community & International Environmental Law*, Volume 10, Number 2, pp. 149-162. Available at [http://www.field.org.uk/files/0110\\_Yamin.pdf](http://www.field.org.uk/files/0110_Yamin.pdf).