

SOC3760-80 SOCIOLOGY OF GLOBALIZATION AND INEQUALITY

Department of Sociology

Winter 2012-13

Online Course (12/26/12-1/11/13)

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***UCC Global Awareness and GE non-Western course.**

Course Descriptions:

We are living in a time where we encounter the word “global” on a daily basis. From mass media, consumer products, and food stuff to our family relations, few things in our lives are now without some kinds of global connections. In this course, we will examine some of the *global processes* which affect our everyday lives from the sociological perspectives. We will learn about the economic and cultural globalization, migration, and technology with a focus on their impacts on patterns of inequalities around the world. A number of social inequality issues, such as poverty and hunger, development, migration, gender, and the natural environment, will be reviewed within the global context to understand their transnational impact. Students will understand how local communities are connected to broader global patterns and processes. In addition, we will have a chance to think about what it means to be global citizens.

Prerequisite: Prerequisite for Sociology Majors: SOC1010

Prerequisite for UCC students: UCC Area 4 course

Course Objectives:

The purpose of the course is for students to gain knowledge and understanding of the processes of globalization and their consequences on various societies. Specifically, the courses will help students:

- a. To learn sociological theories on globalization and global systems;
- b. To familiarize students with cross-national data and comparative analysis;
- c. To foster an appreciation for the global dimension of contemporary social issues;
- d. To introduce non-Western sociological views and perspectives;
- e. To examine social inequalities in relation to globalization.

Student Learning Outcomes:

After completion of this course, students will be able to:

- a. Demonstrate knowledge of key sociological theories of globalization and global systems such as Neoliberal theories, World-Systems theory, Cultural theories, and key theoretical concepts including transnational capitalism, McDonaldization, cosmopolitanism, hybridization, and global landscapes. (Meets UCC Area Six SLO 6.a; UCC Program SLO #10);
- b. Analyze global systems and processes of economy, migration, and consumerism by collecting and/or interpreting secondary cross-national/cross-regional data (Meets UCC Area Six SLO 6.b and 6.e; UCC Program SLO #5);
- c. Demonstrate knowledge of economic and social characteristics of countries and regions such as Asia, Africa, and Latin America, and compare them with situations in the U.S. (Meets UCC Area Six SLO 6.b and 6.d; UCC Program SLO #5);
- d. Demonstrate structural understanding of current social issues which are global in their impacts and solutions including food security, gender inequality, migration, and the natural environment (Meets UCC Area Six SLO 6.a; UCC Program SLO #10);

- c. Examine and critique current policies which affect global social problems, and suggest recommendations to improve the conditions of inequality (Meets UCC Area Six SLO 6.c; UCC Program SLO #1 and #3);
- g. Distinguish ethnocentric views and global perspectives, and explain issues of global inequality from global systems perspectives (Meets UCC Area Six SLO 6.a, 6.b and 6.d; UCC Program SLO#6).

Required Texts:

- 1) Scott R. Sernau ed.2008. *Contemporary Readings in Globalization*. Pine Forge.
- 2) Patel, Raj. 2007. *Stuffed and Starved: The Hidden Battle for the World Food System*. Melville House Publishing.
- 3) Supplementary readings will be provided on Blackboard as specified in the Reading and Assignment Calendar in this syllabus. To access provided readings, use “Course Material” menu.

Requirements:

Your grade will be determined by the following requirements.

48% **Six Discussion Board (“DB”) Activities**
(You MUST make a careful note on the deadlines below, since the dates are irregular)
DB 1 due on F. 12/28/2012
DB 2 due on M. 12/31/2012
DB 3 due on R. 1/3/2013
DB 4 due on Sun. 1/6/2013
DB 5 due on T. 1/8/2013
DB 6 due on R.1/10/2013
Due to the short session, all deadlines will be strictly enforced. No exceptions.

30% **Two Exams**
The exams measure your knowledge of class materials, and your ability to apply concepts and theories learned through the readings. Exams consist of multiple-choice and essay questions. You may take the exam ANY TIME BEFORE the due dates. **Both exams will remain open between 1/1/13 and 1/11/13. You may take them anytime before the end of the session, which is 11:30PM on 1/11/2013.**
Exam #1 (Units 1,2,3,4) Must be taken before 11:30PM on 1/11/2013 (Saturday)
Exam #2 (Units 5, 6) Must be taken before 11:30PM on 1/11/2013 (Saturday)
The deadlines for the exams are final. No exceptions.

22% **Term paper (4-5 pages): DUE ON 1/6/2013**
Critical essay on global food system based on Raj Patel’s book, *Stuffed and Starved: The Hidden Battle for the World Food System*. You must read the book to be able to write this paper.

What Is Expected in a Short Session Intensive Course

As you are already aware, this is a 3-week intensive session. In three weeks, we will cover a semester’s course material. The reading and the requirements will be heavy. The course runs throughout holidays and weekends. You must be ready to work non-stop. You are expected to a) read several chapters a day, b) stay organized and know what is due the next day, and c) be mindful of the due dates that do not coincide, unlike your regular semesters, weekly cycle. Plan ahead and space out your work so that you won’t be overwhelmed by the exams and the paper that are due during the last 6 days of the semester.

Online Learning Environment:

Reading and discussions are the main methods of instruction in this course. I assume that the majority of you already have had an experience with an online class. If you have never taken an online course, I do NOT

recommend you to take this course; it will be a very difficult experience to take a 3-week intensive online course if you are unfamiliar with how online courses work.

Online learning environments require **an active learner**. You will have to be **self-motivated** to thoroughly review all course materials (i.e., text reading, lecture lessons, discussion board discussions, and any additional information, documents, web resources presented), be able to summarize all key concepts in your own words, proactively ask for clarification when you are confused, and come up with critical questions for discussions. In short, you are responsible for the amount of learning you gain out of this course. Discussion board activities are vital to this course.

Organization of the Blackboard Course Shell

The course shell is organized by unit. There are six units total. **You will find a button for each unit on the main menu.** When you click on the button, it will take you to the unit’s main page which contains a short introduction to the unit, the list of readings, and links to online reading (if any), lecture lessons (if any), to films (if any) and to assignments for that unit.

The exams will be posted under the “Exam” menu. Each test will have two links: one for multiple-choice segment, and one for the essay segment. You can open the exams by clicking on the exam links (Instructions will be given with the links). Clicking on “begin” will take you to the questions. Exams can be taken anytime before the deadlines. But remember that, once you open an exam, you must complete it at once. Each exam will close permanently after the deadline.

Discussion Board Policies

Participation in Discussion Board is defined as presenting **substantive and thoughtful** reactions to my discussion questions as well as to your class mates’ postings. Evaluation of your participation will be based on **the quality of your arguments/comments, use of evidences, evidence of thinking, listening to other people’s ideas.** Approximately three paragraphs of substantive comments/answers are expected, unless specified otherwise.

Rubric for Discussion Board Participation

5pts (a “plus”)	The student did beyond the minimum requirements and scored points by making substantial contributions by practicing a) through f) listed below.
3pts (a “check”)	The student met the minimum requirement in making some of the above contributions but not outstanding in making those contributions.
1pt (a “minus”)	The student performed below the expectations—i.e., merely repeating what others have said already, making vague and unclear comments, saying very general things that do not reflect the reading materials, or being merely perfunctory (I agree with so and so; thank you for sharing that information).
Zero point	The student posted no comment at all. Some passages are copied from a source without proper citation.

You will earn points if you:

- a. Initiate thoughtful questions about issues we discuss;
- b. Share observations that are **relevant and documented through the readings**;
- c. Use examples from scholarly literature beyond the assigned readings;
- d. Provide relevant links to current news articles or web links;
- e. Respond thoughtfully to other students’ posts by **summarizing discussions, highlighting points learned, or tying relevant empirical evidences** to the comments of fellow classmates and the literature;
- f. Add **substantive and useful new thoughts** to others’ postings (i.e., showing that the student has carefully read others’ thoughts and has intellectual reactions to them).

You will earn minimal points or no point if you:

- i) do not posting anything by the deadline,

- ii) have less than minimal substantive contents about the topic,
- iii) do not answer the question posted,
- iv) have several factual errors,
- v) do not respond at all to other people's postings,
- vi) copy and paste texts from online sources without properly citing the source(s). Your DB posts are treated as essays. University Academic Integrity policies are applied if you plagiarize your DB posting.

Academic Integrity Policies

University Academic Integrity Policies on cheating and plagiarism will be enforced. For general university attendance policies, academic integrity policies, and grade grievance policies, see the Student Handbook for information about various policies and support services. Here is the link to the document: http://www.wpunj.edu/enrolled/pdf/WPUNJ_Student_Handbook_2010-11.pdf

Due Dates and Test Policies

Due dates will be strictly enforced. Exams are usually open throughout the session. You must take the exam before the end of the day on the due dates. Each exam has time-limits (e.g., 2 hours, or 3 hours). The exams are programmed as "forced completion" which means that you must finish and save the exam once you open it (You cannot leave and come back to the exam). Plan very carefully and be fully aware of the instructions before you open your exam.

Grade Scale:

100-92% =A; 91.9-90% =A-; 89.9-87% =B+; 86.9-82% =B; 81.9-80% =B-
79.9-77% =C+; 76.9-72% =C; 71.9-70% =C-; 69.9-67% =D+; 66.9-62% =D
61.9-60% =D-; < 60% =F

Pay Attention to Announcements

Though I plan a well-structured course, unexpected things happen, and we will sometimes come across a need to make adjustments to our course schedules. I will use the Announcement page to post announcements. It is your responsibility to pay close attention to announcements and changes.

Course Schedule (12/26/2012-1/11/2013)

TOPIC	READINGS AND/OR SHORT FILM	ASSIGNMENTS AND DEADLINES
<p><u>UNIT 1</u></p> <p>Experiencing the Global: Economic and Cultural Connections</p>	<p>1) Sernau Ch. 2 and Ch. 4</p> <p>2) Bestor, "How Sushi Went Global" (Blackboard course document)</p> <p>3) Film "Cappuccino Trail: The Global Economy in a Cup" (50 Min) on FMG On Demand (Click this link to view the film). http://digital.films.com/play/KGSMYN</p>	<p>DB 1 12/28</p>
<p><u>UNIT 2</u></p> <p>The Rise of the non-West</p>	<p>1) Sernau, Ch. 1</p> <p>2) Watson "McDonald's in Hong Kong" (Blackboard)</p> <p>3) Tyrrell "Bollywood versus Hollywood: Battle of the Dream Factories" (Blackboard)</p>	<p>DB 2 12/31</p>
<p><u>UNIT 3</u></p> <p>Theoretical Perspectives On Globalization</p>	<p>1) Friedman "The New System" (Blackboard)</p> <p>2) Sklair "Sociology of the Global System" (Blackboard)</p> <p>3) Ritzer pp 268-276 in Contemporary Social Theory (Blackboard)</p> <p>4) Professor Park's Notes (Blackboard)</p>	<p>DB 3 1/3</p>
<p><u>UNIT 4</u></p> <p>Global Issues: Migration Conflicts</p>	<p>1) Schaeffer "The Age of Migration" in <i>Understanding Globalization</i> (Blackboard)</p> <p>2) Sernau Ch 15, 17, 19</p>	<p>DB 4 1/6</p> <p>Term Paper Due on 1/6/2013</p>
<p><u>UNIT 5</u></p> <p>Global Issues: Poverty and Gender Inequality</p>	<p>1) Sernau Ch. 7 , 8, 6</p> <p>2) "Saving the World's Women" (NYT magazine story August 17th, 2009) Click below link. http://www.nytimes.com/2009/08/23/magazine/23Women-t.html?pagewanted=2&_r=1&ref=global-home#</p>	<p>DB 5 1/8</p>

<p><u>UNIT 6</u></p> <p>Case Studies: Mexico and Japan</p>	<p><u>On Mexico:</u> 1) Schneider and Silverman Chapter on Mexico (Ch. 2)</p> <p>2) Film “Mexico City: The Largest City” (26 Min.): http://digital.films.com/play/EUUFZD</p> <p><u>On Japan:</u> 3) Schneider and Silverman Chapter on Japan (Blackboard)</p> <p>2) Film: Tokyo: The Neon City (26 Min.) http://digital.films.com/play/WXVTMZ</p>	<p>DB 6 1/10</p>
<p><u>EXAM 1</u></p>	<p>UNIT 1, 2, 3, and 4</p>	<p>This exam can be taken anytime between 1/1/2013 and 1/11/2013. The exam will close at 11:30PM on 1/11/2013. No extension will be given for any reason; no exceptions.</p>
<p><u>EXAM 2</u></p>	<p>UNIT 5 and 6</p>	<p>This exam can be taken anytime between 1/1/2013 and 1/11/2013. The exam will close at 11:30PM on 1/11/2013. No extension will be given for any reason; no exceptions.</p>