

IN110: Globalization and International Relations

Seminar Leader: Aaron Allen
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Office Hours: By Appointment

Course Description

In the social sciences, globalization is often defined as an increase in the mobility of various factors and actors. This definition includes heightened flows of finance capital, the rise of global production networks in expanding divisions of labor as well as the movement of people and ideas. This course uses standard international relations theories as a starting point to examine how growing networks of exchange and circulation have altered political calculation, economic geographies, and governmental arrangements. A particular focus will be placed on the political processes that have facilitated and increased mobility over time, from the emergence of the interstate system in the late nineteenth century, to the globalization of trade and interdependence in our own historical moment. This course will explore new actor constellations and shifting power arrangements in more detail with regards to transnational environmental issues, asymmetric warfare, and humanitarian interventions. In so doing, this course will consider the ways in which the phenomena and levels of globalization challenge the traditional paradigms of the social sciences and prompt a new formulation of the field of international relations.

Requirements

Readings:

1. Course readings will be available online.
2. Steger, Manfred. 2017. *Globalization. A Very Short Introduction*. 4th Edition. Oxford University Press. (978-0-19-877955-1)
3. Wright, Robert. 2001. *Nonzero: The Logic of Human Destiny*. Vintage Books. (978-0679758945)
4. Taleb, Nassim Nicholas. *The Black Swan: The Impact of the Highly Improbable*. 2nd Edition. (978-0812973815)

Class Preparation:

For each class, please read the assigned texts thoroughly and come prepared to discuss:

- The main arguments put forth by the author(s);
- And how each reading relates to the larger themes of globalization, the respective international relations theories and contemporary world challenges.

Attendance:

Attendance is mandatory. Please know that there will be a sign-in sheet for each session. Up to two absences will not affect one's grade or require documentation. Every additional absence without approved leave will result in the subtraction of one point from the overall final grade. If you need a Leave of Absence, please contact the instructor as soon as possible to make the appropriate arrangements.

Bard College Berlin does not offer credits for any course if a student has missed more than 30% of classes, regardless of the reasons for the absences. Students facing a long-term, serious medical or personal emergency (generally lasting more than two weeks) may request a Leave of Absence, to be approved by the Dean, Associate Dean, Head of Student Life, or Director of Academic Services. The 30% rule applies even in these cases. The full Bard College Berlin attendance policy can be found in the Student Handbook in Section 2.8.

Academic Integrity:

Bard College Berlin maintains the highest standards of academic integrity and expects students to adhere to these standards at all times. Instances in which students fail to meet the expected standards of academic integrity will be dealt with under the Code of Student Conduct, Section 14.3 (Academic Misconduct) in the Student Handbook.

Assignments, Grade Breakdowns and Deadlines:

Written:

Course Paper	45%
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Students are required to analyze a contemporary area of interconnectedness between two countries that exemplifies globalization and then explore if this dynamic challenges or reinforces traditional paradigms in international relations.

Paper Length and Formatting Requirements: word length between 3600 - 4600 words, double-spaced, 1-inch margins, and Chicago style footnotes (no work cited page required).

- Topic: Submit via Google Classroom 2-3 sentences describing your topic for approval. **Due September 15, 2023 at 17:00 CEST.**
- First Draft w/ Group Review: Students will be placed into small groups for a peer review. **Your first draft will be due to your peers by October 29, 2023 at 23:59 CEST.**
- Second Draft: Submit the second draft of your memo via Google Classroom. **Due November 10, 2023 at 17:00 CEST.**
- Third Draft w/ Group Review: Your third draft will be due to your peers by **December 12, 2023 at 12:00 CEST (noon).**
- Final Draft: Submit via Google Classroom on **December 20, 2023 at 12:00 CEST (noon).**

Policy on Late Submission of Papers:

Papers that are up to 24 hours late will be downgraded up to one full grade (from B+ to C+, for example). The instructor will not accept any papers that are more than 24 hours late.

Oral:

Class Participation	30%
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This seminar involves thoughtful and active participation in class discussions, reflections on current affairs, and working groups. The classroom is a protected space and you should feel free to voice your arguments and comments. Your class participation grade will be based on: (1) engagement in course discussions; (2) debates; (3) and working groups.

Group Presentations	15%
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Students will participate in one group presentation on a course topic selected in class. For each presentation, groups must facilitate a class discussion on the topic that explores the phenomenon and its relationship to international relations theories. More detailed information will be provided in class.

Exams:

Midterm Exam	10%
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Students will take an in-class midterm exam on October 18, 2023. More detailed information will be provided in class.

Schedule

Week/ Beginning	Monday	Wednesday
Week 1 September 4	<p>Course Introduction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Wheelan, "Trade and Globalization: The Good News About Asian Sweatshops" 	<p>Globalization and the Logic of Human History Part I:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Wright, "Nonzero: The Logic of Human Destiny" (pp. 3-106)
Week 2 September 11	<p>Globalization and the Logic of Human History Part II:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Wright, "Nonzero: The Logic of Human Destiny" (pp. 107-239) 	<p>What is Globalization? Pt I- Economics and Markets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Steger, "Globalization: A Very Short Introduction (Ch. 3)" ● Ohmae, "The End of the Nation - State"

Week 3
September 18

What is Globalization? Pt II - Identity, Culture and Ideas:

- Lieber and Weisberg, "Globalization, Culture, and Identities in Crisis"
- Steger, "Globalization: A Very Short Introduction (Ch. 5)"

What is Globalization? Pt III - Politics and International Institutions:

- Coglianese, "Globalization and the Design of International Institutions"
- Steger, "Globalization: A Very Short Introduction (Ch. 4)"
- Blair, "The European Union (Ch. 2 and 3)"

Week 4
September 25

Realism and Neorealism:

- Morgenthau, "Politics Among Nations"
- Waltz, "Anarchic Orders"
- Rose, "Neoclassical Realism"

Liberal Internationalism:

- Doyle, "Liberalism and World Politics"
- Ikenberry, "Liberal Internationalism"

Week 5
October 2

Constructivism:

- Wendt, "Anarchy is What States Make of It"
- Tannenwald, "The Nuclear Taboo: The United States and the Normative Basis of Nuclear Non-Use"

Case Study I: The Rise of China:

- Kim, "China and Globalization: Confronting Myriad Challenges and Opportunities"

Week 6
October 9

Case Study II: Terrorism and Non-State Actors:

- Cooper, "Terrorism and Globalization"

Case Study III: Genocide in Rwanda:

- Powers, "Bystanders to Genocide"

Week 7
October 16

Case Study IV: Germany's Role in the Eurozone Debt Crisis

- Laffan, "The Eurozone Crisis: Core-Periphery Dynamics"

Midterm

October 23- 29

*****Fall Break*****

*****Fall Break*****

Week 8
October 30

**Contestation of Globalization Part I:
The Black Swan**

Taleb, “The Black Swan: The Impact of the Highly Improbable”

Course Paper Peer Review #1

Week 9
November 6

Contestation of Globalization Part II: Film Screening

Critiques of the Neoliberal World Order:

- Wimmer, “Why Nationalism Works and Why It Isn’t Going Away”
- Judis, “The Populist Explosion, (Ch. 2)”

Week 10
November 13

The Populist Backlash Pt I - Brexit:

- Calhoun, “Populism, Nationalism and Brexit”
- Kenealy, Peterson and Corbett, “The European Union: How does it Work? (Ch. 10)”
- Watch: [Deplorables: Trump, Brexit and the Demonised Masses](#)

The Populist Backlash Pt II - US 2016 Election- The Trump Phenomenon:

- Conley, “Donald Trump and American Populism (Ch. 3 and 4)”
- Prolet and Williams, “International Theory and the New Right”

Week 11
November 20

The Populist Backlash Pt III - The New US Left: Bernie Sanders 2016 Campaign

- Dorrien, “American Democratic Socialism: History, Politics, Religion, and Theory (Ch. 8)”
- Nagel, “The Left Case Against Open Borders”

The Populist Backlash Pt IV - Alternative for Deutschland:

- Alternative for Germany, “[2017 Party Platform](#)”
- Yoder, “Revenge of the East: The AfD's Appeal in Eastern Germany and Mainstream Parties’ Responses”
- Watch: [The Rise of the Right: Populism in Germany](#)

Week 12 November 27	Global Problems I: Climate Change <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vogler, "Environmental Issues"	Global Problems II: Refugees and Forces Migration <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Estevez, "Refugees and forces migration"• Buonanno, "The European Migration Crisis"
Week 13 December 4	Global Problems III: Russia-Ukraine Conflict <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Matthews, "Overreach: The Inside Story of Putin and Russia's War Against Ukraine (Ch. 5-7)"	Revisit: Globalization and IR Theories: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mearsheimer, "Bound to Fail"• Brown, "The Promise and Record of International Institutions"• Palan, "Constructivism and Globalisation: From Units to Encounters in International Affairs"
Week 14 December 11	Great Debate: Does Globalization Challenge Prevailing IR Theories and Notions of Progress?	Course Paper Peer Review #2