

**SOCI307: GLOBALIZATION
FALL 2019
MCGILL UNIVERSITY**

Tuesdays and Thursdays; 2:35 PM-3:55 PM; ENGMD 279

Instructor: Mehri Ghazanjani
Office Hours: *TBA*
E-mail: mehri.ghazanjani@mcgill.ca

Teaching Assistant: *TBA*

COURSE OVERVIEW:

The objective of this course is to explore what has come to be known as globalization studies, and in particular, to survey the distinct themes sub-areas that make up the sociology of globalization. These include: globalization studies and theories of globalization; the global economy; globalization and the state; transnational civil society/transnational social movements; globalization and gender; globalization and the environment, transnational migration; etc.

This course will be an eye-opener for those willing to work hard and to think critically. The course attempts to help students develop the critical thinking analytical skills, and the historical perspective necessary, to examine their own deeply held assumptions regarding the social world and to apply sociological inquiry in an attempt to provide explanations for phenomena associated with globalization. If you are prepared to work hard you will come away with greatly enhanced knowledge of the contemporary globalized world and how we go about understanding it.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS:

All of the required readings in this course will be available (or are already posted) on *myCourses*.

EVALUATION

Midterm	20%	Wednesday, February 13, in class
Short Essay	30%	Wednesday, March 19, before class
Final Exam	50%	TBA (during the final exam period)

1) Midterm Exams: There will be one in-class midterm exams. You will be asked to answer **One** out of three essay questions.

The midterm is worth 20% of your grade, and will be on Wednesday, February 13. This exam will focus on the material covered from the beginning of the course until February 13.

*****Important Announcement:** Make-up exam policy for midterm: Students cannot make it up unless they have a legitimate reason recognized by McGill as excusable, such as illness. Students who miss the midterms because of health reasons must submit a note from a doctor (a note from health services will not be accepted). Make-up exams might have a different format than the regular examinations.

2) Short Essay: The essay is due on **March 19** in class and before the lecture begins. You are expected to develop an **analytical** discussion on the particular topic assigned, mentioning the readings for that topic, lectures, videos, discussions, and outside sources.

This is a maximum 5-page paper excluding bibliography (Times New Roman font, double-spaced, 12-font size, 2 cm margins on all sides). Essays going beyond the page limit will be truncated.

*****Late assignments will be marked down one letter grade per day late.**

More information will be posted on *myCourses*. Here will be **a writing workshop on March 17** (during class time).

*****Important Announcement:** extension policy for essay: Students will not be granted an extension unless they have a legitimate reason recognized by McGill as excusable, such as illness. Students who miss the midterms because of health reasons must submit a note from a doctor (a note from health services will not be accepted).

Re-grading policy: Please respect the following procedures concerning any regarding of the assignments/exams in this course.

If your request for a re-grade involves substantive issues, then you must explain in writing the matter for which you are requesting a re-grade. In your written document, you must provide a substantive explanation as to why you believe you deserve more points. This document must be provided to the instructor during office hours or before class. This document must not exceed one double-spaced page.

Please note that any re-grade will entail a re-assessment of the whole exam, which can mean that the grade of the exam may go up or down. Please also note that you must hand in a document requesting a re-grade no later than 10 working days after your exam/assignments have been returned to you.

3) Final Exam: The final exam is cumulative, worth 50% of your grade, and will be held during the exam period. This examination will focus on the material studied from the beginning to the end of the course. You will be asked to answer **THREE** out of six essay questions.

Information on the location and hours of the final exam will be posted on McGill website.

According to Senate regulations, instructors are not permitted to make special arrangements for final exams. Please consult the Calendar, section 4.7.2.1, General University Information and Regulations at www.mcgill.ca.

*****Important Announcement:** there will be no “extra credit” assignments available in this course.

Note: in the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the University’s control, the content and/or evaluation scheme in this course is subject to change.

4) DOCUMENTARY FILM SCREENING SESSIONS:

Throughout the semester, there will be several documentary film screening sessions. While attendance will NOT be taken, the documentaries are absolutely testable. In case you will have to miss one or more of these sessions, it is entirely your responsibility to find and watch the films. The film titles and screening dates will be posted on *myCourses*.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND RIGHTS

McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see <http://www.mcgill.ca/integrity> for more information).

L'université McGill attache une haute importance à l'honnêteté académique. Il incombe par conséquent à tous les étudiants de comprendre ce que l'on entend par tricherie, plagiat et autres infractions académiques, ainsi que les conséquences que peuvent avoir de telles actions, selon le Code de conduite de l'étudiant et des procédures disciplinaires (pour de plus amples renseignements, veuillez consulter le site www.mcgill.ca/integrity).

In accord with McGill University’s Charter of Students’ Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Students are expected to attend all classes, to arrive on time and to conduct themselves respectfully. Students who miss class are responsible for all announcements made during class, including slight changes to the course syllabus.

COURSE OUTLINE:

Week 1 (January 07): Introduction to Sociology of Globalization

- ✓ Introduction, No Reading

Week 2 (January 14 & 16): Theories/Discourses of the Global System

- ✓ Therborn, Göran. “Globalizations: Dimensions, Historical Waves, Regional Effects, Normative Governance”
- ✓ Robinson, William. “Theories of Globalization”
- ✓ Sen, Amartya. “How to Judge Globalism.”

Week 3 (January 20 & 22): Global Economy I

- ✓ Lilley, Sasha. 2006. “On Neoliberalism: Interview with David Harvey”
- ✓ Stiglitz, Joseph . “The Promise of Global Institutions.”
- ✓ Michael Mann: Neoliberalism-in globalization
- ✓ Neolib and recession—Mann

Of interest (not mandatory):

- ❖ Arrighi, G. (2009) ‘The Winding Paths of Capital: Interview by David Harvey’, *New Left Review* 56: 61-94. (e-journal)
- ❖ Van der Zwan, N. (2014). Making sense of financialization. *Socio-Economic Review* 12 (1): 99-129 (e-journal).
- ❖ Lapavistas, C. (2013). *Profiting without Producing: How Finance Exploits Us All*. London and New York: Verso.

Week 4 (January 28 & 30): Global Economy II

- ✓ Hirst, Paul et al. “Multinational Companies and the Internationalization of Business Activity.”
- ✓ Gereffi, Gary. “The Global Economy Organization, Governance, and Development.”
- ✓ Korzeniewicz, Miguel. “Commodity Chains and Marketing Strategies: Nike and the Global Athletic Footwear Industry.”

Week 5 (February 4 & 8): Politics, the State and Globalization: The End of the Nation-state and Social Democracy?

- ✓ Martell, Luke. “Politics, the Nation State, and Globalization: the End of the Nation-state and Social Democracy?”
- ✓ Held, David. “Regulating Globalization? The Reinvention of Politics.”
- ✓ Ripsman, N. M. and Paul T. V. “Globalization and the National Security State: A Framework for Analysis.”
- ✓ Milner, H. V. and Mukherjee, B. “Democratization and Economic Globalization.”

Of interest (not mandatory):

- ❖ Polillo, S. and Guillén M.F. (2005). Globalization pressures and the state: the worldwide spread of central bank independence. *American Journal of Sociology* 110 (6): 1764–1802.

Week 6 (February 11 & 13): Midterm

- Monday February 11- Review
- **Wednesday February 13- In-class Midterm**

Week 7 (February 18 & 20): Global Inequality: Is Globalization a Solution to World Poverty?

- ✓ Milanovic, Branko. “Global Income Inequality by the Numbers: In History and Now An Overview.”
- ✓ Davis, Mike. 2004. “Planet of Slums” pp. 1-49

Week 8 (February 25 & 27): Global Migration

- ✓ Selected pages from Castles et al.’s (2014) “The Age of Migration,” -- to be posted on *myCourses*
- ✓ Robinson, William. “Global Capitalism Immigrant Labor and the Struggle for Justice.”

Week 9: March 3 & 5 Reading Week

Week 10 (March 9 & 11): Anti-globalization and Global Justice Movements

- ✓ Naomi Klein. “Reclaiming the Commons.”

- ✓ Evans, Peter. “Fighting Marginalization with Transnational Networks: Counter-Hegemonic Globalization.”
- ✓ Bello, Walden. “The Global South: The WTO and Deglobalization.”
- ✓ Khasnabish, Alex. “Zapatismo beyond Borders: New Imaginations of Political Possibility.” (chapter 4)

Week 11 (March 17 & 19): Workshop and Essay

- Monday March 17: Essay Writing Workshop
- **Wednesday March 19: Essay Due before Class**

Week 11 (March 24 and 26): The Future World Order

- Monday March 24: The Decline of American Power and the Rise of China?
 - ✓ Nye, Joseph S. “Is the American Century Over?” Selected pages.
 - ✓ Buzan, Barry. “A World Order Without Superpowers: Decentred Globalism.”
- Wednesday March 26: Globalization in the Age of Trump: Trade War
 - ✓ Readings to be posted.

Week 13 (April 7 and 9): Review

- No Reading
- Review and Q&A sessions for Final Exam