

# **Globalization and National Sovereignty**

Political Science 4404G/9713B

Jan-April 2015

**Thursdays 1:30- 3:30- SSC 4105**

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**SSC 4096- office hours Wednesday 2:30-3:30**

**(or by appointment)**

## **Course Overview:**

This course explores the complex interplay between the exercise of (national) sovereignty and the dynamics of the various forces we call “globalization.” Broadly speaking, we will examine the impact of global interactions on the ability of the state to enact sovereign power in multiple ways. As such, we will survey the global flows of capital, goods, services, technology, migration, and communications and assess their effects on the capacity of state governments to exercise traditional instruments of policy. We will also critically assess the extent to which these developments provoke a reconsideration of conventional theoretical perspectives on the state and global politics.

## **Learning Objectives:**

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate familiarity with the dynamics and forces that we call “globalization.”
- Demonstrate understanding of the ways in which state sovereignty is simultaneously challenged and reinforced by globalization.
- Demonstrate concrete knowledge and critical engagement with significant topics and issues pertaining to globalization and state sovereignty.

## **Required Texts:**

- All assigned readings are available through the library’s access to academic journals and/or on the class OWL webpage.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND STUDENT ASSESSMENT**

*(Further details will be discussed in class and posted on OWL)*

- **General participation: 20%**
- **Think Piece: 20% (DUE FEB 26th)**
- **Discussion Lead: 10%**
- **Reading Reflections: 10%**
- **Final Research Paper: 40% (DUE APR 2nd)**

**Course Format:**

This is an upper-level seminar course based on the “flipped classroom” model. This means that **students come to class already having completed the readings each week and armed with relevant questions and ideas in order to participate actively in class discussions.** Students are expected to attend every week and participate in assigned classroom activities and general discussion and debate. In general, classes will begin with an introduction to the topic of the day by me, and a brief discussion of relevant items. Following this, I expect that our seminar discussions for the day will critically engage the main points of the required readings and raise provocative and engaging questions for discussion relating to the themes of the week and the broader themes of the course. I will often raise questions for general discussion, or I may ask you to engage with specific points drawn from the readings to facilitate an active level of participation. Seminars only work when participants are prepared, willing to share their ideas, and willing to learn from one another.

**Success in this course:**

This is not an “easy” course. There is a lot of material to cover, and the subject matter is a combination of theory, case studies and analysis. I have high (but not unreasonable) expectations for my students because I believe that you deserve that respect. Importantly, the seminars, assigned readings and class participation activities are *all* components of the course, and are instrumental in your learning. Material covered in one component may not be covered in another. If you **attend the classes, read the assigned material, and participate in discussions and class activities** you will be well equipped to achieve the learning objectives of the course. The key however, is to stay on top of things. You need to hit the ground running. Do not put off the readings and do get a head start on whatever work you can. Utilize your resources. Familiarize yourself with the course content on OWL. Contact me if you have questions about the material or about assignments.

## Schedule of Topics and Reading Assignments Winter Term 2015

(Please note that topics, order of topics, and assigned readings are subject to change particularly in case of illness or inclement weather. If any changes do occur, students will be given appropriate notice)

January 08: **1. Introduction to the Course**

January 15: **2. Theorizing “Globalization”**

What is “globalization”? We will explore and discuss “globalization” as a contested concept. We will examine the ways in which “globalization” is understood and how it is wielded in political discourses.

- Kellner, Douglas (2002) Theorizing globalization *Sociological theory* 20, no. 3: 285-305.
- Hirst and Thompson (2002) The Future of Globalization *Cooperation and Conflict: Journal of Nordic International Studies Association* 37(3): 247-265
- Appadurai, Arjun (1990) Disjuncture and Difference in the Global Cultural Economy *Theory, Culture and Society* 7(2): 295-310

January 22: **3. Theorizing “Sovereignty”**

What is “Sovereignty”? We will look at “sovereignty” as a concept connected to the traditional exercise of power and policy by state governments. We will also examine “sovereign power” as a mode of governmentality and explore the ways in which “sovereign power” is exercised in less obvious ways than traditional state policy.

- Connolly, William E. (2004) “The Complexity of Sovereignty” in Jenny Edkins, Véronique Pin-Fat and Michael J. Shapiro (eds), *Sovereign Lives: Power in Global Politics* New York: Routledge: 23-40
- Agamben, Giorgio (1996) “Beyond Human Rights” in Paolo Virno and Michael Hardt (eds), *Radical Thought in Italy: A Potential Politics* . Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1996: 159-165
- Arendt, Hannah (1951), ‘The Decline of the Nation-State and the End of the Rights of Man’, in her *Imperialism*, Part II of *The Origins of Totalitarianism* New York: Harvest: 147-182.

January 29: **4. Economic aspects of globalization: Trade flows and finance**

How does economic globalization affect the state? How does economic globalization affect people? This week, we look at the economic aspects of globalization, focusing on the impact of trade and financial flows, and the attendant movement of goods, services and capital that





- Shapiro, M. J. (2005). Every move you make: Bodies, surveillance, and media. *Social Text*, 23(2 83), 21-34.

*March 19:*    **10. Globalization and new technologies II: social communication, Big Data, (pre)mediation**

This week we will examine the myriad political and economic implications of rapid communication modalities including social networks, mediated visuality and democratized access to massive amounts of information.

- Rahimi, B. (2011). The agonistic social media: cyberspace in the formation of dissent and consolidation of state power in postelection Iran. *The Communication Review*, 14(3), 158-178.
- Coleman, Gabriella (2011)"Hacker Politics and Publics." *Public Culture* 23, no. 3 65: 511-516
- Grusin, R. A. (2004). Premediation. *Criticism*, 46(1), 17-39.

*March 26:*    **11. TBA**

*April 02:* <<<<<<< **FINAL ANALYTICAL RESEARCH ESSAY DUE** >>>>>>

**12. Globalization and National Sovereignty: Whither the state**

This week we will wrap-up the course by reflecting on what globalization can tell us about sovereignty, and what sovereignty can tell us about globalization. Where does the state fare in an increasingly globalized world? Is this even the correct question?

**APPENDIX TO UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINES  
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE**

**Prerequisite checking - the student's responsibility**

"Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites."

**Essay course requirements**

With the exception of 1000-level courses, most courses in the Department of Political Science are essay courses. Total written assignments (excluding examinations) will be at least 3,000 words in Politics 1020E, at least 5,000 words in a full course numbered 2000 or above, and at least 2,500 words in a half course numbered 2000 or above.

**Use of Personal Response Systems ("Clickers")**

"Personal Response Systems ("clickers") may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else's clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence,
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence."

**Security and Confidentiality of Student Work** (refer to current *Western Academic Calendar* (<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/>))

**"Submitting or Returning Student Assignments, Tests and Exams** - All student assignments, tests and exams will be handled in a secure and confidential manner. Particularly in this respect, leaving student work unattended in public areas for pickup is not permitted."

**Duplication of work**

Undergraduate students who submit similar assignments on closely related topics in two different courses must obtain the consent of both instructors prior to the submission of the assignment. If prior approval is not obtained, each instructor reserves the right not to accept the assignment.

**Grade adjustments**

In order to ensure that comparable standards are applied in political science courses, the Department may require instructors to adjust final marks to conform to Departmental guidelines.

**Academic Offences**

"Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholoff.pdf>."

### **Submission of Course Requirements**

**ESSAYS, ASSIGNMENTS, TAKE-HOME EXAMS MUST BE SUBMITTED ACCORDING TO PROCEDURES SPECIFIED BY YOUR INSTRUCTOR (I.E., IN CLASS, DURING OFFICE HOURS, TA'S OFFICE HOURS) OR UNDER THE INSTRUCTOR'S OFFICE DOOR. THE MAIN OFFICE DOES NOT DATE-STAMP OR ACCEPT ANY OF THE ABOVE.**

Note: Information excerpted and quoted above are Senate regulations from the Handbook of Scholarship and Academic Policy. <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/>

**Students registered in Social Science should refer to <http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/> <http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/havingproblems.asp> for information on Medical Policy, Term Tests, Final Examinations, Late Assignments, Short Absences, Extended Absences, Documentation and other Academic Concerns. Non-Social Science students should refer to their home faculty's academic counselling office.**

## **Plagiarism**

"Plagiarism: Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence." (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

**Plagiarism Checking:** "All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com ( <http://www.turnitin.com> )."

**Multiple-choice tests/exams:** "Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating."

Note: Information excerpted and quoted above are Senate regulations from the Handbook of Scholarship and Academic Policy. <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/>

### **PLAGIARISM\***

In writing scholarly papers, you must keep firmly in mind the need to avoid plagiarism. Plagiarism is the unacknowledged borrowing of another writer's words or ideas. Different forms of writing require different types of acknowledgement. The following rules pertain to the acknowledgements necessary in academic papers.

#### **A. In using another writer's words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer.**

You are plagiarizing if you use a sequence of words, a sentence or a paragraph taken from other writers without acknowledging them to be theirs. Acknowledgement is indicated either by (1) mentioning the author and work from which the words are borrowed in the



text of your paper; or by (2) placing a footnote number at the end of the quotation in your text, and including a correspondingly numbered footnote at the bottom of the page (or in a separate reference section at the end of your essay). This footnote should indicate author, title of the work, place and date of publication, and page number.

Method (2) given above is usually preferable for academic essays because it provides the reader with more information about your sources and leaves your text uncluttered with parenthetical and tangential references. In either case words taken from another author must be enclosed in quotation marks or set off from your text by single spacing and indentation in such a way that they cannot be mistaken for your own words. Note that you cannot avoid indicating quotation simply by changing a word or phrase in a sentence or paragraph which is not your own.

**B. In adopting other writers' ideas, you must acknowledge that they are theirs.**

You are plagiarizing if you adopt, summarize, or paraphrase other writers' trains of argument, ideas or sequences of ideas without acknowledging their authorship according to the method of acknowledgement given in 'A' above. Since the words are your own, they need not be enclosed in quotation marks. Be certain, however, that the words you use are entirely your own; where you must use words or phrases from your source, these should be enclosed in quotation marks, as in 'A' above.

Clearly, it is possible for you to formulate arguments or ideas independently of another writer who has expounded the same ideas, and whom you have not read. Where you got your ideas is the important consideration here. Do not be afraid to present an argument or idea without acknowledgement to another writer, if you have arrived at it entirely independently. Acknowledge it if you have derived it from a source outside your own thinking on the subject.

In short, use of acknowledgements and, when necessary, quotation marks is necessary to distinguish clearly between what is yours and what is not. Since the rules have been explained to you, if you fail to make this distinction your instructor very likely will do so for you, and they will be forced to regard your omission as intentional literary theft. Plagiarism is a serious offence which may result in a student's receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases in their suspension from the University.

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**Accessibility at Western**

Please contact [poliscie@uwo.ca](mailto:poliscie@uwo.ca) if you require any information in plain text format, or if any other accommodation can make the course material and/or physical space accessible to you.