Globalization and Society

This course examines major competing theories of globalization and their application to the study of society on a world scale. A major component of this course will be an analysis of the nature, dynamics, and contradictions of globalization at the end of the twentieth and the beginning of the twenty-first centuries, highlighting the process of social change and social transformation in the age of globalization. We will study the social, economic, political, and cultural characteristics of globalization and assess the impact of this process on societies around the world, as well as the responses of people affected by globalization across the globe.

This course satisfies Core Objective 11: Global Contexts.

CO11: Students will apply and evaluate modes of academic inquiry, creative expression, or results of research to problems in historical and contemporary global contexts. Students will articulate connections among local, national, and international contexts and evaluate the ways that historical and contemporary global influences affect their current situations.

SLO #1: Students will identify and understand the nature, dynamics, and contradictions of globalization and global social, economic, and political challenges that confront societies in the 21st century.

SLO #2: Students will critically examine multiple theoretical perspectives on globalization and global social issues that have broader historical and societal implications.

SLO #3: Students will demonstrate an appreciation of the history, geography, cultural diversity and social complexities of societies across the globe that are an integral part of the globalization process.

SLO #4: Students will analyze and interpret the impact of globalization and global social, economic, and political processes on societies in the third world, as well as other societies affected by these processes.

How will the student learning outcomes related to Core Objective 11 be assessed?

Assessment of SLO #1: Percent correct/acceptable performance on essay exams requiring students to examine complex social, economic, and political issues and problems. The exams will be supplemented by student oral presentations and group discussion on globalization.

Assessment of SLO #2: Percent correct/acceptable performance on essay exams requiring students to understand competing theories of globalization and develop a critical analysis of the claims made by each of these theories.
Assessment of SLO #3: Acceptable performance on student oral presentations based on a set of assigned readings on the history, geography, cultural diversity, and social complexities of societies across the globe. Such presentations will be based on a detailed written outline as specified in the course syllabus.

Assessment of SLO #4: Percent correct/acceptable performance on essay exams requiring students to demonstrate substantive knowledge of the impact of globalization on societies around the world. The assessment based on the exams will be supplemented by other forms of evaluation specified in the course outline.

Structure of the Course:
The course will primarily consist of lectures, but films, video documentaries, guest lectures, group discussions, and student presentations will provide added dimensions to the course. The provision of a combination of these methods through a multi-media approach is intended to enhance the learning process.

Attendance:
Attendance is required and will count as 20% of your course grade. It is recommended that you attend classes on a regular basis, as each class that is missed will count as minus 1.5% of your course grade. Those who arrive more than 10 minutes after class starts or leave before the class ends will not receive attendance points. There will be no excused absences, except for extreme cases of medical emergencies, such as hospitalization, with official documentation.

Exams:
There will be two essay exams in this course: a midterm exam and a final exam. Both exams will include questions on the lectures, readings, group discussions, films, video, and other materials presented in class. You will be graded on both the content and quality of the answers you provide on the exams. Except for documented emergencies, such as hospitalization, no make-up exams will be given in this course.

Study Guides:
A study guide will be distributed in class one week prior to the midterm and final exams. Questions on each exam will be drawn from the topics and issues highlighted in the study guide as related to the readings, lectures, and other material presented in class.

Presentations:
At the beginning of the semester students will sign up for a presentation based on a set of assigned readings. Successful presentations will require that students: (1) do the reading carefully and analyze the points being made; (2) demonstrate a clear understanding of the central point(s) of the author; (3) have a grasp of alternative perspectives on the subject; and (4) generate a set of questions posed to the class in order to stimulate discussion on the topic. Grade: 15% of course grade (see the specific guidelines for presentations at the end of this syllabus).
**Group Discussion:**  
Three times during the semester you will be asked to participate in group discussion on a topic relevant to the lectures, films, and readings covered in this course. You will receive 3 points (or 3% of your course grade) for participating in each of the three group discussions, for a total of 10 points (equal to 10% of your course grade), including a one point bonus if you participate in all three.

**Grading:**  
Grading will be based on the following: attendance (20%); a midterm exam (25%); a final exam (30%); presentation (15%); and participation in group discussion (10%). The exams will be in essay format, and will include questions on the lectures, readings, films, video, and other materials presented in class. There will be no make-up exams given in this course.

**Grades:** The grade distribution for this course is as follows:

- 94-100 A
- 90-93 A-
- 87-89 B+
- 83-86 B
- 80-82 B-
- 77-79 C+
- 73-76 C
- 70-72 C-
- 67-69 D+
- 63-66 D
- 60-62 D-
- 59 and below F

**Readings:**
This is an upper-division course designed for juniors and seniors and therefore there will be heavy reading, both in terms of the amount and level of difficulty. Thus, you should stay on schedule and read the material carefully and promptly, as you will be required to refer to the assigned readings in both the midterm and final exams, and be called upon to discuss them in class.

You are expected to read and be examined on the following required books available at the ASUN Bookstore:

- Berch Berberoglu, *Globalization of Capital and the Nation-State*
- James Petras and Henry Veltmeyer, *Globalization Unmasked*
- Berch Berberoglu, *Class and Class Conflict in the Age of Globalization*
- Jeremy Brecher, et. al., *Globalization from Below*

In addition to the books listed above, there will be a dozen articles and book chapters placed on reserve at the Getchell Library and made available through library=s on-line electronic reserve...
system, which you can access through the UNR web page. You are responsible for and will be examined on all of these required readings.

**Cell Phones and Laptops:**
The use of cell phones and laptops in class are strictly prohibited, except for purposes of taking notes from lectures. Cell phones must be turned off when entering the classroom and remain off until class is over. Laptops can be used only during lectures and for purposes of taking notes. No e-mail, video games, or other activities are allowed in class using laptops. Laptops must be turned off and in closed position during the viewing of films. Anyone violating these rules will be asked to leave the classroom and receive no attendance credit for that day.

**Students with Disabilities:**
Any student with a documented disability needing academic assistance or accommodation is requested to see me or contact the Disability Resource Center in Thompson Student Services Room 107 as soon as possible to arrange for appropriate accommodations.

**Cheating and Plagiarism:**
Any student engaged in cheating or plagiarism will automatically receive an “F” for the course and will be reported to the appropriate academic dishonesty office for immediate disciplinary action. For information regarding what constitutes academic dishonesty, please consult the UNR web.

**Statement on Audio and Video Recording:** "Surreptitious or covert video-taping of class or unauthorized audio recording of class is prohibited by law and by Board of Regents policy. This class may be videotaped or audio recorded only with the written permission of the instructor. In order to accommodate students with disabilities, some students may be given permission to record class lectures and discussions. Therefore, students should understand that their comments during class may be recorded."

**Course Outline**

**Aug 24: Introduction**
Petras and Veltmeyer, *Globalization Unmasked*, Intro., Ch. 1.
Berberoglu, *Class and Class Conflict in the Age of Globalization*, Intro., Ch. 1, 2.

Harvey, “Time-Space Compression and the Postmodern Condition,” (R* on-line).

**Sept 7: Labor Day (no class)**

**Sept 14: Theories of Globalization**
Berberoglu, *Globalization of Capital and the Nation-State*, Ch. 1, 2.
Sept 21:  Globalization in Historical Perspective
Petras and Veltmeyer, *Globalization Unmasked*, Ch. 2.
McMichael, “Globalization: Myths and Realities,” (R* on-line).

Sept 28:  Globalization and Transnational Corporations

Oct 5:  Globalization and the Role of the State
Berberoglu, “The Crisis of the Imperial State” in *Globalization and Change*, Ch. 5
(R* on-line).

Oct 12:  Globalization and Its Racial and Gender Dimensions
Berberoglu, *Class and Class Conflict in the Age of Globalization*, Ch. 8.
Moghadam, “Gender and the Global Economy” (R* on-line).

Oct 19:  Midterm Exam

Oct 26:  Impact of Globalization on the Third World, I
Rothenberg, *Beyond Borders*, Part 5: Ch. 2, 10, 11; Part 6: Ch. 4, 5, 6, 8 (R* on-line).
Berberoglu, *Class and Class Conflict in the Age of Globalization*, Ch. 4.

Nov 2:  Impact of Globalization on the Third World, II
Petras and Veltmeyer, *Globalization Unmasked*, Ch. 9, 10.
Rothenberg, *Beyond Borders*, Part 7: Ch. 6, 9, 18, 20 (R* on-line).

Nov 9:  Impact of Globalization on the Advanced Capitalist Countries, I
Berberoglu, *Class and Class Conflict in the Age of Globalization*, Ch. 3.

Nov 16:  Impact of Globalization on the Advanced Capitalist Countries, II
Berberoglu, *Class and Class Conflict in the Age of Globalization*, Ch. 5
Katz-Fishman, “Global Capitalism…” in *Globalization and Change*, Ch. 8 (R* on-line)

Nov 23:  Globalization and Its Social and Political Impact
Berberoglu, *Class and Class Conflict in the Age of Globalization*, Ch. 6, 7.
Brecher et al., *Globalization from Below*, Intro. and Ch. 1, 2.
Nov 30: Anti-Globalization Movements
Orr, “The Struggle Against …” in Globalization and Change, Ch. 7 (R* on-line)
Brecher et al., Globalization from Below, Ch. 3, 4, 5.
Berberoglu, Class and Class Conflict in the Age of Globalization, Ch. 9.

Dec 7: Globalization and the Prospects for Change
Brecher, et al., Globalization from Below, Ch. 6, 7, 8, 9, and Conclusion.
Rothenberg, Beyond Borders, Part 8: Ch. 2, 3 (R* on-line).
Petras and Veltmeyer, Globalization Unmasked, Chap. 11.

Final Exam: Dec 14 (12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m.)

Notes:
(R*) = These required readings are available on-line through the library’s electronic reserve system on the UNR web.

*All things on this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

Guidelines for Presentations

You must comply with the following guidelines to receive appropriate credit for your in-class presentation, which counts as 15 percent of your course grade — consisting of the presentation (10%) and a detailed 2-page outline and summary of the presentation (5%).

(1) all presentations must be based on the assigned readings for the topic(s) under consideration, as listed in the course syllabus;

(2) everyone in class is responsible for all the required readings on a weekly basis; you may be called upon to participate in class discussions at the end of each presentation;

(3) presentations shall be 10 to 15 minutes in length, followed by a question-and-answer period; points will be deducted from presentations that are less than 10 or are more than 20 minutes long;

(4) you must provide a 2-page detailed outline including a half page summary of your presentation one week prior to your presentation. Late submission will be subject to a one point (or 1% of your course grade) deduction each day it is late;

(5) you must show your outline and summary in class through a transparency, computer text file, power point, e-mail, or in printed form so students in class can follow your presentation;
(6) no credit will be given for your presentation if an outline and summary is not turned in by the date of your presentation;

(7) you are not to read your outline or notes to the class; you must present your topic to the class (however, you can occasionally refer to your notes or the outline to refresh your memory, as the need arises). Those who read their presentations in class, directly from either their notes or their outline, will receive no credit for 10% of their course grade;

(8) you can use a multi-media approach in your presentation (with power point, overheads, video clips, charts, graphs, handouts, etc.), if you wish to do so;

(9) you will be graded on the quality, substance, and analytical strength of your presentation, not on its length, per se, except as indicated above regarding the required minimum and maximum length of presentations.