Course Content:

The world is never a boring place, whether we are interested in politics, culture, history, security, or art. To understand the world around us, however, we must be engaged citizens of the world. We must try to put ourselves in others’ shoes, to develop a sense of how others perceive the world, what others experience, and to make connections with these differences. The study of international affairs trains us to think more carefully about global issues and encourages us to take action when needed.

This course serves as an introduction to International Affairs, an interdisciplinary program that covers international politics, history, sociology, anthropology, language, and culture. This class is unique in that we will have lectures on a variety of topics, and watch films that enhance your understanding of globalization.

You will be introduced to basic concepts of international affairs, including an introduction to the international system, globalization, and international organizations. We will explore global issues that have become “hot button” issues for policy makers and citizens alike.

Course learning outcomes

By the end of the semester students will be able to:

- Explain globalization and relevant issues through multiple theories, actors, and their interaction.
- Challenge assumptions and values that underlie claims about international affairs.
- Develop practical solutions to complex international problems.
- Think of themselves as active participants in international affairs.

Requirements and Grading Procedures

Completing ALL the required readings and regular attendance will be required of all students. Material covered in class will not always be covered in the readings and vice versa, you will be responsible for all material regardless of where presented. You will be responsible for each week’s
required readings that allow for both broad and more specific examination of the different class themes.

Class participation is an essential component of the requirements for successful completion of this class. Participation consists of being on time for class, having read all assignments prior to the beginning of class, and being an active member in discussion sessions (of course you cannot participate if you are absent).

Class participation will be assessed to the best of my abilities. As long as you are prepared for class and contribute positively to discussion you will receive 100% for participation. It is my goal to provide students with a helpful and meaningful discussion and not to punish non-participation. However, should you be called upon and are unprepared (or absent), you will be marked down accordingly. Students will be called on at random. If you feel apprehensive about the participation policy for any reason, please schedule an appointment to speak with me privately.

Assignments and Quizzes:

1. There will be five unannounced reading/current event quizzes throughout the semester. You may be quizzed either on the readings assigned for that day OR on a current event found in your daily readings of the international sections of major newspapers (see assigned readings below). Failure to read the news is not an excuse! Make it a habit to do this first thing in the morning! These quizzes will be given at the beginning of class, and will be graded pass/fail. If you arrive in class after the quiz has been collected, you will not be permitted to take the quiz and will receive a failing grade. Thus, it is in your best interest to arrive in class on time! There are NO make-up quizzes! I will drop one of the 5 quiz grades.

2. There will be two short writing assignments that will encourage you to try living on 5 dollars a day, and eat non-corn related products. These assignments are designed to allow you to relate course readings to your personal reality and enhance your understanding of poverty and food scarcity related issues (more details below).

Exams:

There will be two exams, which will consist of multiple choice questions, short answer questions and essays. Both exams are non-cumulative. The midterm exam will be on all material, including lectures, readings, and films, covered by that date, while the final exam will be on all material covered after the midterm.

Points will be weighted as follows:

Midterm Exam 23%
Final Exam 23%
Readings/current events quizzes 20% (or 5% each)
Experience Assignments 24% (or 12% each)
Participation 10%
GRADING SCALE

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MAKE-UPS

Make up exams will be granted at my discretion and a valid excuse is required. The make-up exam will always be a take home and always be more comprehensive and more difficult so it is in your best interests to avoid them if at all possible. In case of severe illness a complete doctor’s excuse with a description of the severity and nature of the illness will be required. All other excuses (dog died, sister’s wedding etc.) will be judged on an ad hoc basis at my discretion. In the case of a known/planned absence please see me WELL IN ADVANCE.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Any student who appears to violate the University’s Academic Honesty and Integrity Policy (see [www.osccr.neu.edu/policy.html](http://www.osccr.neu.edu/policy.html)) may be referred to the University’s Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution. If a proven violation involves an exam or course assignment, the student shall receive a failing grade for the assignment in addition to sanctions imposed by the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution. Individual faculty, with the support of the Department, can impose harsher penalties as they deem necessary.

The Academic Honesty and Integrity Policy includes cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, and other types of dishonest activities. Plagiarism is defined broadly as taking ideas, concepts, or actual words of another person and passing them off as your own work. Of particular note in recent years is the increase in cut-and-paste plagiarism, which involves downloading phrases from websites or other Internet sources. Your instructor will clarify specific guidelines on fair use of material for this class, but you should regard this as your official warning.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

If you have a disability that may affect your performance in this class, you should contact the Northeastern University Disability Resource Center (DRC) so that special arrangements can be made to accommodate you. It is your responsibility to do so at the beginning of the semester.

ELECTRONICS AND COURTESY

- Please turn off cell phones, pagers, and “smartphones” during class. Out of courtesy to your classmates and your instructor, please come to class on time and do not leave until
the class ends, unless you obtained prior permission, and do not engage in private conversations in class.

- The use of laptops and tablets is **prohibited** in class except when explicitly permitted by the instructor.
- Use appropriate E-mail etiquette: E-mails to professors should include a polite greeting and a polite personable goodbye at the end, and written in professional language. Never send an e-mail without checking grammar and spelling first.

**REQUIRED TEXTS:**

There is one required text for this course, which you may purchase at the Northeastern Bookstore: Lechner and Boli, eds. 2015. *The Globalization Reader, 5th Edition, Wiley Blackwell.*

Additional required readings will be posted on-line on Blackboard, NU’s online class system. On Blackboard you can keep track of your grades, class assignments, and readings.

In addition, you will be asked to read the international section of a major newspaper for every class. Examples of acceptable sources are: *The New York Times* (free online at [www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com)), *The Wall Street Journal*, *The International Herald Tribune* (free online at [www.iht.com](http://www.iht.com)) or *The Guardian* (free online at [www.guardian.co.uk](http://www.guardian.co.uk)). Other reliable international news sources include *BBC* ([www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk)) and *The Economist* ([www.economist.com](http://www.economist.com)).

***I reserve the right to change this syllabus with due advance notice***

Attendance is required and roll will be taken systematically.
COURSE OUTLINE AND READING ASSIGNMENTS:

F 9/8  Introduction to Globalization and International Affairs  
Read the syllabus.

Section I: Global Politics

T 9/12  Introduction to Concepts: The International System and Globalization  
How do we visualize our place in the world?  
How can we understand world affairs? What are the connections between politics, culture, social issues, economics, and human rights? How is our view of the world affected by our position as members of Western society? As consumers of culture? As consumers of goods? As a man or a woman?

Read:  
- Chapter 7: Sklair, “Sociology of the Global System”  
- Chapter 8: Harvey “A Brief History of Neoliberalism”  
- Chapter 28: Strange “The Declining Authority of States”  
- Keohane and Nye “Realism and Complex Interdependence” (Posted on Blackboard)  
- “Congress pushes nuclear expansion despite accidents at weapons lab.” By Caty Enders, the guardian.com, September 29, 2014. (Online)  
- “The American Way of War in the Twenty-First Century (It’s a $cam!).” By Tom Engelhardt, the huffingtonpost.com, Nov 12, 2015. (Online)  
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/tom-engelhardt/the-american-way-of-war-scam_b_8544748.html

F 9/15  Introduction to Concepts II: International Organizations (IOs), Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Global Citizens

Read:  
- Chapter 42: Boli and Thomas “World Culture in the World Polity: A Century of International Non-Governmental Organizations”  
- Bond “The Backlash Against NGOs” (Posted on Blackboard)

Section II: Global Economics

T 9/19  Global Systems and Global Economics  
How have we come to view the global economy? What are the competing approaches to thinking about class, wealth, and trade?  
Film: “Life and Debt”
Global Systems and Global Economics, Continued

**Read:**
- Chapter 6: Wallerstein “The Modern World-System as a Capitalist World-Economy”

Globalization, International Institutions and the Ordering of the Economy

**Read:**
- Chapter 33: Vreeland “The International Monetary Fund”
- Chapter 23: Milanovic “Global Income Inequality by the Numbers”
- Chapter 26: Bardhan “The Twin Excesses –Financialization and Globalization-caused the Crash”
- Chapter 27: Stiglitz “Globalism’s Discontents”

Global Poverty & Micro-credit/Micro-finance

**Read:**
- Chapter 45: Roy “Microfinance and the Making of Development”
- Regina Garcia Cuellar and Michael Chu, “Banco Compartamos: Life After the IPO”, July 18, 2008 (Posted on Blackboard)

**Experience Assignment:**
What does it mean to live on less than $5 a day? Can you live without your cellphone, internet connection, public transportation, your Dunkin’ or Starbucks? For two days, try to live on less than $5 a day (DUE in-class FRIDAY 10/27).
Global Social Entrepreneurship

Read:

Also, please visit the following web-sites on social businesses:
LifeStraw, www.lifestraw.com

Section III: Global Society and Culture

F 10/6 Gender and Globalization
What impact do different gender roles have on international affairs? What is the relationship between human rights and “women’s rights”? What steps have international institutions taken to end violence against women?

Read:
-Chapter 39: Berkovitch “The Emergence and Transformation of the International Women’s Movement”
-Chapter 40: Boyle “The Evolution of Debates over Female Genital Cutting”

T 10/10 Globalization and Culture: Consuming Globally and the Role of the Media

Read:
-Chapter 46: Tomlinson “Cultural Imperialism”
-Chapter 13: Bestor “How Sushi Went Global”
-Chapter 15: Levitt “The Transnational Villagers”
-Chapter 60: Taylor “Strategic Inauthenticity”
-Chapter 51: Cowen “Why Hollywood Rules the World, and Whether We Should Care”

F 10/13 Midterm Exam Review Session
Midterm Exam

F 10/20  Multinational Corporations and Globalization: How do they shape the way we see the world?

Read:
Chapter 21: Korzeniewicz “Commodity Chains and Marketing Strategies: Nike and the Global Athletic Footwear Industry”
Film: No Logo

T 10/24  Identities and Global Conflict: Nationalism
What is the link between human rights, global inequalities, nationalism, and other forms of “identity”? Is it possible to create a global system that could relieve these issues? Does “nationalism” affect your life? Why or why not? How far would you be willing to go to protect a particular identity?

Read:
- Chapter 10: Robertson “Globalization as a Problem”
- Chapter 5: Huntington “The Clash of Civilizations?”

F 10/27  Identities and Global Conflict, Continued
AND Religion and Globalization

Read:
- Chapter 5: Huntington “The Clash of Civilizations?”
- Chapter 57: Lechner “Religious Rejections of Globalization”
- Chapter 53: Roy “Globalized Islam: The Search for a New Ummah”
- Chapter 54: Jenkins “The Christian Revolution”

Section IV: Global Issues

T 10/31  Globalization and Population Growth
Is overpopulation the problem we’ve been led to believe that it is? What are the contending approaches to population growth? How has the world changed in order to support its growing population?

F 11/3  Globalization and Food Policy

Read:
- Joel K. Bourne Jr, “The Global Food Crisis: The End of Plenty” in
National Geographic June 2009, (Posted on Blackboard)
-Robert Paarlberg “Attention Whole Foods Shoppers” Foreign Policy 2010.
(Posted on Blackboard)
-Anna Lappe “Don’t Panic, Go Organic”, Foreign Policy on line
(Posted on Blackboard)
-National Geographic: What Do We Really Know About Roundup Weed Killer? By Elizabeth Grossman. Published April 25, 2015. (Online)
http://news.nationalgeographic.com/2015/04/150422-glyphosate-roundup-herbicide-weeds/?sf8762967=1

Experience Assignment:
Is there enough food to go around? How does our reliance on corn products affect our health, our diet, and even our environment? For two days, try not to eat, work with, or support any product that contains corn, corn derivatives or eat any meat from corn-fed animals (DUE in-class TUESDAY 12/5).

T 11/7
Globalization and Food Policy, Continued

Read:
-Vikas Bajaj. As Grain Piles Up, India’s Poor Still Go Hungry. Published: June 7, 2012 NYTIMES. (Online)
-“Genetically Engineered Salmon Approved for Consumption” found at http://www.nytimes.com/2015/11/20/business/genetically-engineered-salmon-approved-for-consumption.html (Online)
Film: The Future of Food

F 11/10
Globalization and Disease: The problem with universal healthcare provision
Review the WHO Global Burden of Disease website: http://www.who.int/healthinfo/global_burden_disease/en/#content

Read:
Chapter 37: Dodgson “Global Health Governance”
-“Globalization of Disease” reading (Posted on Blackboard)
-Wolfgang Hein and Ilona Kickbusch. "Global Health, Aid Effectiveness and the Changing Role of the WHO” (Posted on Blackboard)
T 11/14

Crime, Migration and Trafficking in Arms

Read:
- Chapter 29: Mittelman, “Global Organized Crime”
- Peter Landesman, “Arms and the Man” (Online)
- C. J. Chivers, “How Many Guns Did the U.S. Lose Track of in Iraq and Afghanistan? Hundreds of Thousands” found at
- “Somali Militants Mixing Business and Terror” found at
  http://www.nytimes.com/2013/10/01/world/africa/officials-struggle-with-tangled-web-of-financing-for-somali-militants.html?ref=world&_r=0 (Online)

F 11/17

Trafficking in Persons: Globalization of the Labor Force

Review the Not For Sale website: http://www.notforsalecampaign.org/

Read:
- “A World Enslaved” by E. Benjamin Skinner, Foreign Policy March/April 2008 (Posted on Blackboard)
- “If It Isn’t Slavery, What Is It?” found at
- AP: “Global supermarkets selling shrimp peeled by slaves” found at
  http://bigstory.ap.org/article/8f64fb25931242a985bc30e3f5a9a0b2/ap-global-supermarkets-selling-shrimp-peeled-slaves (Online)
- “Revealed: trafficked migrant workers abused in Irish fishing industry,” found at

Film: Running Guns (aka Devil’s Bargain)

T 11/21

Globalization and the Environment

Read:
Chapter 67: Chasek et al. “Ozone Depletion”
Chapter 65: Keck and Sikkink “Environmental Advocacy Networks
“Naomi Klein: the hypocrisy behind the big business climate change battle” found at
  http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2014/sep/13/greenwashing-sticky-business-naomi-klein (Online)
F 11/24  No Class: Thanksgiving Recess

T 11/28  Globalization and the Environment, Continued

Read:
Chapter 65: Keck and Sikkink “Environmental Advocacy Networks

F 12/1  Resources and Security
Film: Blue Gold

T 12/5  Final Exam Review Session [2nd Experience Assignment Due]

Final Exam: TBD during finals week

GUIDELINES FOR EXPERIENCE ASSIGNMENTS

THE CONTENT
You will be asked to write two short research papers. Each paper should be between 1,200 and 1,500 words (4-5 pages long) typewritten (12p times new roman), double-spaced, with 1 inch margins.

➢ As seen above, there are two assignments due in the course of the semester. I suggest you keep a journal of your experiences and the difficulties you face trying to fulfill that task.
➢ You will then use these difficulties (and journal), to relate your experiences to class readings specific to each of the assignments. This means drawing on your experience to validate/critique/comment on ideas and arguments found in class readings.
➢ The assignments suggest that you try to fulfill each assignment. No penalty for failure, or for not following the requirements to the fullest. The assignment is all about trying what other people experience in their daily lives.
➢ The first paper is due in class in hardcopy on October 27.
➢ The second paper is due class in hardcopy on December 5.

Papers that are late will be penalized 10 points per day.
Formatting and other expectations appear below, and papers failing to meet them will lose points.

- Papers must have a separate cover page with your name, the paper title, course number, and date; this is the only place where your name should appear. DO NOT use headers/footers with your name in them. (up to 10 pts. off)
- The paper’s pages must be numbered. DO NOT number the cover page; p. 1 is the first page of text, not the cover page. (10 pts. off if no page numbers) Foot/endnotes, bibliography, charts, appendices, etc., do not count against the page limit.
- Pick one style of citation (e.g. APA, MLA, Chicago) and follow it throughout your paper. Follow the style when it comes to references inside the text or in footnotes, as well as for the bibliography. Long quotations are unacceptable. Citation and quotation issues, up to 10 pts. off.
- Gross failure to proofread and correct obvious errors: up to 10 pts. off.
- Persistent grammar and similar errors: up to 5 pts. off per class of error
- Lateness: 10 pts. off per day late
- Your bibliography should contain at least 2 references. Up to 5 pts. off.
- Failure to meet page limit, font, spacing, margins. Up to 5 pts. off per error.
- Failure to follow directions (here and elsewhere in this syllabus). Up to 10 pts. off.
- Failure to have a bibliography page: 10 pts. Off’
- A paper that relies primarily on basic reference sources (Wikipedia, CIA World Factbook, Encyclopedia Britannica, etc.) for anything but statistics, election returns, and similar data will not earn a grade higher than a C. If you are unsure about whether a source fits in this category, all you have to do is ask me or your section leader.

Plagiarism
You are plagiarizing if you do the following:
1) Incomplete paraphrasing. If you use substantive words, phrases, or rhetorical structures from your source without documentation, you are plagiarizing. Whether you "kidnap" one or two words or a whole page, you are plagiarizing.
2) Missing citation. If you use any ideas that are clearly NOT common knowledge without citing your source, you are plagiarizing. It does not matter whether you've expressed the ideas in your own language.
3) Copying. If you simply copy from any source without quotation marks or attribution, you are plagiarizing.

Among the practices which constitute plagiarism are: using in their entirety or even in part recycled papers or papers from another course or teacher or papers written by someone else, either by a student or a person publishing a paper in an academic journal or book.

The best advice is to cite all sources as clearly as possible in all matters except shared common knowledge.

(This is excerpted from the Susquehanna College English Department statement on plagiarism. See http://www.susqu.edu/ac_depts/arts_sci/english/handbook/plagiar.htm).
Title IX

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 protects individuals from sex or gender-based discrimination, including discrimination based on gender-identity, in educational programs and activities that receive federal financial assistance.

Northeastern’s Title IX Policy prohibits Prohibited Offenses, which are defined as sexual harassment, sexual assault, relationship or domestic violence, and stalking. The Title IX Policy applies to the entire community, including male, female, transgender students, and faculty and staff.

If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, confidential support and guidance can be found through University Health and Counseling Services staff (http://www.northeastern.edu/uhcs/) and the Center for Spiritual Dialogue and Service clergy members (http://www.northeastern.edu/spirituallife/). By law, those employees are not required to report allegations of sex or gender-based discrimination to the University.

Alleged violations can be reported non-confidentially to the Title IX Coordinator within The Office for Gender Equity and Compliance at: titleix@northeastern.edu and/or through NUPD (Emergency 617.373.3333; Non-Emergency 617.373.2121). Reporting Prohibited Offenses to NUPD does NOT commit the victim/affected party to future legal action.

Faculty members are considered “responsible employees” at Northeastern University, meaning they are required to report all allegations of sex or gender-based discrimination to the Title IX Coordinator.

In case of an emergency, call 911.

Please visit www.northeastern.edu/titleix for a complete list of reporting options and resources both on- and off-campus.