

SOC 4410: SOCIOLOGY OF GLOBALIZATION

CRN 21731 Fall 2013

MWF 10:30-11:20AM

Instructor: Dr. Marjukka Ollilainen

Office hours: M/W 11:30 AM - 12:15 PM;

Phone: (801) 626-6238

T/H 9-10 AM or by appointment

E-mail: mollilainen@weber.edu

Course Description

This course examines globalization – a set of financial, political and cultural processes that have been shaping the world throughout history, but that have intensified rapidly in the post-industrial/post-modern era. Globalization has brought about unprecedented interdependence and integration – but also discord and conflict – among states, peoples, and organizations. It is therefore one of the most important phenomena to understand in our contemporary lives. In this course, we examine the history and origins of globalization, its various interconnected processes, and the key players in global markets, politics, and cultures. We will also study the ways in which globalization has transformed the U.S. economy and society and how it is influencing the lives of Americans. Our discussion topics include the impact of globalization on the U.S. labor market, influence of American culture globally, and the global production and consumption of food. At the end of the semester, students will be able to recognize the signs of globalization locally and understand the interconnectedness of nation-states, peoples, and cultures globally.

Required Readings

- (1) Steger, Manfred B. 2013. *Globalization: A Very Short Introduction, 3rd ed.* Oxford University Press.
- (2) Eitzen, Stanley and Maxine Baca Zinn. 2012. *Globalization: The Transformation of Social Worlds, 3rd edition.* Wadsworth.
- (3) Timmerman, Kelsey. 2013. *Where am I Eating? An Adventure through the Global Food Economy.* John Wiley & Sons.
- (4) *The New York Times*, complimentary issues available in the Social Science Building North and East entrances (and various other locations on campus)
- (5) Articles on Canvas or given out in class

Class Objectives

During this course, students will:

- identify the origins and theories of globalization as well as the concepts used in the study of globalization
- apply social theories to analyze the effects of globalization for local places, cultures, and identities
- consider and assess in writing the existing research on economic, political, and cultural globalization
- apply theories and concepts of globalization on current international news and events

Note on Special Needs

Any student requiring accommodations or services due to a disability must contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD). SSD can also arrange to provide course materials (including this syllabus) in alternative formats if necessary.

Course Format

F 10/4	Global media and ideologies <i>Current events reflection paper due</i> Read Cowen (Canvas #4)
M 10/7	Ideologies of globalization Read (S) Ch. 7
W 10/9	Global consumption Read (E&Z) Ch. 6 (20-21)
F 10/11	Will global consumerism unite the world? MIDTERM EXAM GIVEN OUT No reading
M 10/14	Ecological dimensions of globalization Read (S) Ch. 6 and Scaeffler (Canvas #5)
W 10/16	Global food: Introduction to Timmerman's reporting, MIDTERM DUE IN CLASS No reading
F 10/18	Fall Break
M 10/21	Where does my morning coffee come from? Read (T) Part I (Chs. 1-4)
W 10/23	Chocolate for everyone? ISSUE PAPER TOPIC AND SHORT OUTLINE DUE Read (T) Part II (Chs. 5-7)
F 10/25	Going bananas Read (T) Part III (Chs. 8-10)
M 10/28	The red lobster Read (T) Part IV (Chs. 11-13)
W 10/30	Apples to juice Read (T) Part V (Chs. 14-16)
F 11/1	Eating in the USA: Timmerman wrap up, TIMMERMAN DIARY DUE Read (T) Part VI (Chs. 17-20)
M 11/4	Globalization and our social arrangements and gender relationships Read (E&Z) Ch. 7 (Intro and 22-24)
W 11/6	Changing femininities and masculinities Read (E&Z) Ch. 7 (25-26)
F 11/8	Creating global social problems Read (E&Z) Ch. 8 (Intro and choose two chapters from 27-30)
M 11/11	The traveling disease: Soderberg: <i>Contageon</i> No reading
W 11/13	Global disease (cont.) No reading

