HON 415: Globalization: Currents of Change and Challenge  Spring 2012

Catalog Description: Prerequisite: acceptance to the University Honors Program, or consent of instructor. A seminar-style, reading and discussion-based, intensive course that interrogates practices associated with globalization, and presents conceptual tools to understand them. Situates globalization, both in theory and practice, in historical time and in the context of political narratives of progress, democracy, justice, and human rights, and obstacles to their realization. (Offered as needed.) 3 credits.

Course Objectives:
(1) develop a more complex, interdisciplinary understanding of globalization and north-south divergence, both conceptually and in practice;
(2) identify significant effects of globalization on the United States and on regimes of work worldwide;
(3) comprehend the challenges globalization poses for democratic liberalization;
(4) enhance their ability to reason and evaluate materials critically, and to communicate their thoughts both orally and in writing.

Honors Program Learning Outcomes:
Upon completing a course in the University Honors Program students will have:

a. Obtained a starting point for integrative exploration of the development of cultures and intellectual achievements through a variety of disciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives;

b. Sharpened their ability to critically analyze and synthesize a broad range of knowledge through the study of primary texts and through engagement in active learning with fellow students, faculty, and texts (broadly understood);

c. Understood how to apply more integrative and interdisciplinary forms of understanding in the advancement of knowledge and in addressing complex challenges shaping the world;

d. Developed effective communication skills, specifically in the areas of written and oral exposition and analysis.

Content:
Students in this course will learn about contemporary globalization and some of the myriad issues it poses to the world’s peoples. This course presents students with an overview of global political economy and neo-liberalism with a special focus of attention on the North-South and rich vs. poor divides; the effects of globalization of the United States and on the regime of work; and, traditional political theory topics such as democratic accountability in the context of both state and non-state global actors. Through students’ individual research projects to be shared with the class, topics to be covered include globalization as an American or Western phenomenon; neo-liberalism in theory and practice; the global human rights regime and enhancing it; cosmopolitan political theory; global
environmental hazards; cultural pluralism and protectionism; and, the continuing relevance, or lack thereof, of states as opposed to regions and cities.

**Current required texts:** 5 Required Texts, from among the following:

- Also: select essays and book chapters are also required reading, and will be provided to the students via our Blackboard site.

**Instructional Strategies**

Instructional strategies include lecture, in-class discussion, and student presentations. The responsibility for learning and mastering course materials rests with each student.

**Methods of Evaluation**

Exams are composed of two parts, a short matching exercise and a longer essay part in which the student chooses which essay charges to respond to (e.g., select 3 out of 5), writing an essay of no less than one page per charge. Students are to write a 10-12-page review essay on an engaging book provided by the Instructor. Student participation in in-class discussion should reflect an understanding and appreciation for the questions involved. Students are expected to attend each class session and to complete the reading assignments, as well as to participate in class discussion.

**Grading**

3 exams – two midterms and a final, each worth 20 points; the review essay is worth 20 points; in-class participation is worth 20 points.

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<th>Total points: 100</th>
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<tr>
<td>A = 95-100</td>
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<tr>
<td>A- = 91-94</td>
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<td>B+ = 86-90</td>
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<td>B = 80-85</td>
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<td>B- = 76-79</td>
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<td>D = 55-60</td>
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<td>F = 0 – 55</td>
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**Chapman University Academic Integrity Policy:**
The course syllabus should include the following statement:
Chapman University is a community of scholars which emphasizes the mutual responsibility of all members to seek knowledge honestly and in good faith. Students are responsible for doing their own work, and academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated anywhere in the university.

Students with Disabilities Policy:
The course syllabus should include the following statement:

Bibliography of Supplemental Readings.

This Bibliography lists some works in Dr. Babst’s possession that treat important aspects of globalization, as well as the concept itself. Some of these works are quite sophisticated, while others are more accessible to the general reader. Several of these works have become famous defenses or critiques of globalization, while others probe deeply into the economic, political, or environmental issues that frequently surround discussions of globalization. Still other works will challenge the reader to think critically about global social justice, and how to incorporate the perspectives of others and educated reflection on important global issues into our thinking.


Prepared by: Gordon Babst, Spring 2011
Revised by: Gordon Babst, Interterm 2012