INTL 100.02:
Introduction to International Studies
Fall 2014
Time: TR 3:05 – 4:20 am
Classroom: Bellsouth Building 308

Instructor: Sarah Wuigk
Office: J.C. Long Building, Room 427
Office Hours: Tuesday 11:00 am – 1:00 pm, and by appointment
Telephone: 843-953-5241
Email: wuigks@cofc.edu

Introduction to International Studies is the core course of the International Studies major. It is meant to introduce students to the variety of approaches to International Studies in the social sciences and the humanities. In this course, students will gain an understanding of the concepts, theories, and analytical skills which are key for understanding the multi-dimensional concerns of our increasingly interconnected world, through the focal points of historical and contemporary globalization and human development. The course is both interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary. Students will understand how different disciplines approach problems and questions, as well as how different disciplines connect with one another, or simply contradict one another when it comes to methods and goals.

In the course of understanding how different disciplines approach international studies, students will also be introduced to the ways in which different areas of the world fit into these disciplinary perspectives, and how the same disciplinary perspective may vary in different regions. Rather than covering each of these in depth, it is meant to expose students to different regions and disciplines so that as they further specialize in their own region and discipline over the course of their college career, they will be familiar with different ways of looking at the world, as well as the ways in which other regions are different from or similar to their own region of more in-depth study.

A. International Studies and Course-Specific Learning Outcomes:

- to demonstrate an ability to think globally from the perspective of multiple disciplines
- to be able to critically examine, contextualize and historicize the
relevant concepts such as progress, modernity or development
• to employ different approaches to study and analyze the global forces (e.g. neo-liberalism, capitalism) and its specific agents
• to be aware of the various forms of inequality that structure our global system as well as the different social formations studied

B. General Education Student Learning Outcomes:

This course meets the following General Education requirements for Humanities:
• Students analyze how ideas are represented, interpreted, or valued in various expressions of human culture.
• Students examine relevant primary source materials as understood by the discipline and interpret the material in writing assignments.

Outcome A and B will be assessed in the paper that replaces the Final Exam.

Required Readings:

All the readings will be available on the class web page on OAKS (no books are required to be purchased for this class). Other readings may be assigned, and handouts and supplements may be distributed later in the semester.

You are required to do the assigned reading in advance and come to class prepared to participate actively. Effective participation is only possible if you do the reading in advance. You will be evaluated for your participation (20% of your grade).

Please Note: This syllabus, including the class schedule, readings, and assigned work and exams, is subject to change as necessary, at the discretion of the Instructor. Changes will be announced in class and by email. It is the responsibility of each student to keep up with all readings and assignments.

Course Requirements and Grading

Class Attendance

Attendance is required and participation is considered in your final grade. For some sessions you will be handed or sent discussion questions about the readings, which you are expected to prepare and be ready to discuss for in-class participation points. Your grade will be lowered by one letter if you have more than 3 unexcused absences. Excessive absences will result in further grade penalties and may include removal from the course roll.

Class Participation

You are expected to read all of the assigned material prior to the class for which it is assigned, and to actively participate in class discussions. I expect you to participate in
class discussions by asking questions and making observations about the readings, and by analyzing the topics critically. I will also frequently put you into small discussion groups in which I will expect the same level of participation as in class discussions.

As noted above, part of your final grade will depend upon your class participation. The grade I assign for your class participation will be based on the quality rather than the frequency of your participation during class meetings. To improve the quality of your participation, finish the assigned readings for the week before coming to class and keep yourself informed of current global events by regularly following the news.

Examinations

You will be held responsible for all of the assigned reading material, as well as for all information, materials, and instructions which may not be addressed in the assigned readings, but which may be disseminated during classes.

There will be two exams in the course of the semester, a mid-term exam and a final exam. The mid-term exam will be taken in class and the final exam will be a take-home exam.

Grading Scheme

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<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-100</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73-76</td>
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<td>C-</td>
<td>70-72</td>
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<td>D+</td>
<td>67-69</td>
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Note: Your grade will be lowered by one letter if you have more than 3 unexcused absences. Papers are due on the dates stated at the beginning of class sessions.
Emailed or late papers will face grade deductions. Every day a paper is late, your grade will be reduced by 5%. To reschedule a make-up exam, you must provide a formal excuse and the respective evidence, such as a doctor’s note routed through the Absence Memo Office.

Each student will participate in a **group presentation project**, which will elaborate on a film watched in class, in combination with the readings of the related weekly themes. In addition to a short presentation in class, each student will write a 500-700 word reflective paper about the film watched as well as the readings related to that topic.

The **in-class mid-term** exam (Oct. 02\(^{nd}\) 2014) will consist of a number of essay questions. The questions will require you to demonstrate your knowledge and comprehension of the readings and issues discussed in class. The 1500-2000 word **final research paper** (which replaces the final exam) evaluates the General Education and the course-specific learning outcomes (see A. and B. above). The specifics about the research paper will be discussed in class on Nov. 06\(^{th}\) 2014. The paper will be due in hard copy on Tuesday Dec. 02\(^{nd}\) 2014, 10:00 am at my office (JC Long, 427). A digital copy needs to be submitted to the final exam drop box on OAKS as well.

**Your final grade will be based on the following:**

- Group project presentation about documentary 10%
- Short Paper (reflecting the documentary and readings for your topic) 15%
- Midterm Exam 25%
- Final Exam/ Research Paper 30%
- Class Participation 20%

**Academic Honesty**

When you enrolled in the College of Charleston, you signed an Honor Code. I expect that you will abide by that Code. I have zero tolerance for academic dishonesty. I reserve the right to prosecute to the fullest any act of academic dishonesty, that is, plagiarism and/or cheating, etc., by reporting it to the Honor Board. Students should be aware of the College’s policies on plagiarism as published in the Student Handbook. If you are unfamiliar with the College’s plagiarism policy please consult your student handbook.

**Students with special circumstances:**

The College will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students should apply at the Center for Disability Services/ SNAP, located on the first floor of the Lightsey Center, Suite 104. Students approved for accommodations are responsible for notifying me as soon as possible and for contacting me at least one week before any accommodation is needed.
Note: Changes of this syllabus are at the discretion of the Instructor

Course schedule:

Part I. Introducing International Studies and Globalization

Week 1: Introduction, International Studies – Other Perspectives on Global Issues

Aug. 19: Introduction and Course Content

Aug. 21: Introduction to the field of International Studies, Group & class discussions about current event from a Political Science, History, Geography, Economy and Anthropology perspective


Week 2: Globalization – Terminological debates

Aug. 26: Globalization


Aug. 28: Terminology


Week 3: Globalization – A Historical Overview


Sep. 04: Documentary & Discussion: The Colour of Money. Racism: A history (see link on OAKS)
Week 4: Political Globalization/ International Organizations


Peter Willetts. Transnational actors and international organizations in global politics, in: Globalization of World Politics, chapter 17.


Week 5: Economic Globalization: Free Market Economy


Sep. 18: Documentary: Let’s Make Money (see Netflix)

Week 6: Economic Globalization II: Inequality


Week 7: Midterm

Sep. 30: Review for Midterm

Oct. 02: In class Midterm Exam

Week 8: Cultural Globalization, Construction and Representation


Oct. 09: Reading: Armadeep Singh. On Edward Said, public lecture manuscript

Documentary: Edward Said on Orientalism (see link on OAKS)
Part II: Applying Different Perspectives to Global Issues

Week 9: Nationalism, Political Violence, War


Week 10: Migration


Oct. 23: Documentary: Which Way Home (see Netflix)

Week 11: The Environment/ Natural Resources


Shiva, Vandana. Ecological balance in an era of globalization


Oct. 30: Documentary: Blue Gold: World Water Wars (see link on OAKS)

Week 12: Responses, Resistance and Social Movements

Nov. 04: Election Day/ Fall Break


Distribution of prompt for research paper/ final exam

Week 13: Humanitarian Aid and Politics of Humanitarian Conscience


Nov. 13: Readings: Bystrom, Kerry. On “Humanitarian” Adoption (Madonna in Malawi)

**Week 14: Gender Relations**


Nov. 20: Documentary: Half the Sky, extracts (see Netflix)


**Week 15:**

Nov. 25: Discussion of key points discussed in class, review for final paper

Nov. 27: Thanksgiving

**Final Exam:** due on Tuesday Dec. 02, 10:00 am

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Center for Student Learning: I encourage you to utilize the Center for Student Learning’s (CSL) academic support services for assistance in study strategies and course content. They offer tutoring, Supplemental Instruction, study skills appointments, and workshops. Students of all abilities have become more successful using these programs throughout their academic career and the services are available to you at no additional cost. For more information regarding these services please visit the CSL website at [http://csl.cofc.edu](http://csl.cofc.edu) or call (843)953-5635.