

# INTL1100: Introduction to Global Issues

**University of Georgia  
Department of International Affairs**

**Monday/Wednesday/Friday  
Park Hall 0145  
Spring 2018**

Austin Doctor

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Office Hours: 3:30-4:30, Wednesdays [by appointment only]

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES**

This course is designed to help students better understand both historical and contemporary global political issues. Because these issues are connected to our daily lives in a myriad of ways, this course will use a multidisciplinary approach, incorporating elements of history and geography, as well as international relations and comparative politics. The purpose of this course is not simply to memorize important events or to identify key actors but to better understand how and why world politics unfolds the way it does. Toward this end, this class is built around the reading of academic theories of various global issues as well as primary sources. A secondary objective of the course is to introduce students to social science research. While this course is intended to prepare students for further studies in international affairs, the knowledge and skills acquired will be of general use to any student wishing to improve his or her understanding of today's increasingly globalized world.

We will begin the semester by properly defining and identifying "globalization". After this introduction, the class will be divided into four broad themes: (1) The International System; (2) Peace, Conflict, and Security; (3) The Global Economy; and (4) Additional Important Topics.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING**

### Class Attendance and Participation (20%)

The study of human behavior, foreign policy, trade, and other global issues is complex and often confusing. This class only works if we all have completed the readings for each class period and are willing to discuss these readings. As such, I will take attendance every day and will record whether you are willing and able to participate in the course discussion and answer questions about the readings. As a guidance principle, you should come to class with answers to the following questions:

1. What is the author's main point or argument?
2. What evidence do they use to support their argument?

3. Is there contradicting evidence?
4. How does the author's argument relate to the other readings from the course?

Each student will be allotted 2 course absences without penalty for your participation grade. Any additional unexcused absences will result in a 2-point deduction from your final grade (per absence). All excused absences require documentation and prior notice.

#### Pop Quizzes (10%)

Throughout the semester, I will give quizzes on the content of a given day's assigned reading.

#### "Blog" Post (10%)

I have created a "blog" space on the course eLC webpage. For each class session, two students will discuss the topic of the day in separate posts. The blog post will be due before the class session begins. No late posts will be accepted. The assignment will require the students to incorporate the day's assigned readings into their discussion of the topic. Of course, students are welcome to reference additional sources not listed in the syllabus [**300 words**].

In the blog post, the following points should be addressed:

- (1) Set the Stage—a brief synopsis of the current status of the selected topic.
- (2) Name the Players—who are the main global actors involved?
- (3) Put It In Context—an explanation of why it matters.

#### Midterm Exam (30%)

The midterm exam will be **taken in class on February 23, 2018**. The exam will test students' knowledge on all course material covered prior to the exam date. More information will be provided as the semester progresses. We will have a review session in class on February 21, 2018. The review session is meant to clarify last-minute questions; it alone will not be sufficient to pass the exam.

#### Policy Brief (10%)

Throughout the semester, teams of two students will provide a single **7-8 minute presentation** on a current event or issue of interest. Academics are often expected to speak to a broader audience, including journalists, military leaders, and policy makers. This presentation should be oriented toward such audiences, incorporating the ideas and theories we discuss in class to present an accessible, thorough analysis.

The policy brief should contain information on the background and history of the event/issue, a description of the event/issue, and the policy implications of the event/issue.

Presenters should also be prepared to accept questions from the class. Presenters will be graded on the quality of their sources, use of time, clarity of their presentation, strength of analysis, and ability to respond to questions. **Some visual aid ought to be included, such as PowerPoint, printed handouts, etc.**

### Final Research Paper (20%)

In lieu of a final exam, students will need to complete a paper that demonstrates their knowledge of a current global issue, their comprehension of the relevant academic literature, and their ability to distill the sea of available information into a succinct analysis [**2,500 words**].

## **COURSE MATERIALS AND REFERENCES**

- Course Materials
  - Globalization101, via SUNY Levin Institute [[www.globalization101.org](http://www.globalization101.org)]
  - World101, via Council on Foreign Relations [<https://world101.cfr.org>]
  - 12-week digital subscription to *The Economist* (\$12 student rate)
  
- Helpful Online Resources
  - Combating Terrorism Center at West Point
  - The Observatory of Economic Complexity
  - Council for Foreign Relations
  - Small Arms Survey
  - Human Rights Watch
  - Amnesty International
  - IPEzone.blogspot.com (blog)
  - Duck of Minerva (blog)
  - Political Violence @ A Glance (blog)
  
- Reliable News Sources
  - World News, via Reuters
  - The Interpreter, via New York Times
  - World News, via BBC
  - The Washington Post
  - VICE News
  - National Geographic
  - The Economist
  - NPR News

## **UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND SERVICES**

### **University Honor Code and Academic Honesty Policy**

Verbatim from <https://curriculumsystems.uga.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus>:

*“As a University of Georgia student, you have agreed to abide by the University's academic honesty policy, A Culture of Honesty, and the Student Honor Code. All academic work must meet the standards described in A Culture of Honesty found at: <https://ovpi.uga.edu/academic-honesty/academic-honesty-policy>. Lack of knowledge of the academic honesty policy is not a reasonable explanation for a violation. Questions related to course assignments and the academic honesty policy should be directed to the instructor.”*

### **Changes to the Syllabus Could Occur**

Verbatim from <https://curriculumssystem.s.uga.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus>:

*“The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.”*

### **Disability Services**

Verbatim from <https://drc.uga.edu/faculty/sample-access-statements>:

*“If you plan to request accommodations for a disability, please register with the Disability Resource Center. They can be reached by visiting Clark Howell Hall, calling 706-542-8719 (voice) or 706-542-8778 (TTY), or by visiting <http://drc.uga.edu>.”*

Verbatim from <https://online.uga.edu/documents/ugasyllabusguidelines.pdf>:

*“Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations in order to participate in course activities or meet course requirements should contact the instructor or designate during regular office hours or by appointment.”*

### **Useful Campus Resources**

There are campus resources that can help you with your academic performance, including the Division of Academic Enhancement and the Writing Center.

Some material in this course contains references to violence. Some of the videos shown in class will contain disturbing themes or images. This is not “light reading.” You are always welcome to excuse yourself during class for any reason and I urge you to take your mental health seriously. There are campus resources to help.

### **Technology in the Classroom**

Note-taking by hand is superior for comprehension and retention to note-taking on any kind of electronic device (Mueller and Oppenheimer 2014). For this reason, cell phones, tablets, and laptops are not permitted during class sessions.

### **Email**

I am available for contact via email from 8am to 8pm. My availability on weekends may be less consistent. If the nature of your email is an emergency, please state this in the email subject line. For useful email guidelines, please consult: <http://www.wikihow.com/Email-a-Professor>.

# CLASS OUTLINE AND WEEKLY READINGS

## Part One: What is Globalization? How Did It Happen? What Now?

Friday: Introduction and Syllabus

- Familiarize yourself with our two class online resources.

Week 1: Globalization

- Monday: What is Globalization?
  - Friedman, Thomas. 2005. "The World Is Flat, After All." *The New York Times Magazine*.
  - *International Monetary Fund*. 2008. "Globalization: A Brief Overview."
- Wednesday: The Benefits and Consequences of Globalization
  - Markovich, Steven. 2014. "The Income Inequality Debate." *Council on Foreign Relations*.
  - Bardhan, Pranab. 2006. "Does Globalization Help or Hurt the World's Poor?: Overview/Globalization and Poverty." *The Scientific American*.
- Friday: Interconnected Markets
  - World101—"How Globalization Affects What's For Lunch."
  - World101—"When Global Becomes Local."
  - World101—"It Takes a Village to Make Your Medicine."

## Part Two: The International Political System

Week 2: Scientific Approaches to Global Politics

- Monday: No Class (MLK Day)
- Wednesday: Theories of International Relations
  - Walt, Stephen. 1998. "One World, Many Theories." *Foreign Policy*.
- Friday: Theory and Practice
  - Walt, Stephen. 2005. "The Relationship Between Theory and Policy in International Relations." *American Review of Political Science*, Vol. 8: 23-48.

Week 3: The Nation-State

- Monday: What is a Nation? What is a State?
  - Morris, Christopher W. 2004. "The Modern State." In *The Handbook of Political Theory*.
- Wednesday: State Building. What Does It Mean to Build a State?
  - Wesley, Michael. 2008. "The State of the Art on the Art of State Building." *Global Governance*, 14(3), 369-385.
  - "How To Build a Country from Scratch," *New York Times* [film].
- Friday: Nationalism and "Imagined Communities"
  - Anderson, Benedict. 1983. "Chapter Four: Imagined Communities". In *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*. London: Verso.
  - Schnurer, Eric. 2013. "Who Even Needs the Nation-State in the 21st Century?" *The Atlantic*.

#### Week 4: Intergovernmental Organizations and Regional Integration

- Monday: The United Nations
  - *Council on Foreign Relations*. 2017. “The Role of the UN General Assembly.”
  - Shendruk, Amanda. 2017. “Funding the United Nations: What Impact Do U.S. Contributions Have on UN Agencies and Programs?” *Council on Foreign Relations*.
- Wednesday: The European Union
  - Cameron, Fraser, 2010. “The European Union as a Model for Regional Integration.” *Council on Foreign Relations*.
  - McBride, James. 2017. “What Brexit Means.” *Council on Foreign Relations*.
- Friday: The African Union
  - *Council on Foreign Relations*. 2017. “The African Union.”
  - Rettig, Michael. 2016. “The Evolution of African Peacekeeping.” *The Africa Center for Strategic Studies*.

### **Part Three: Peace, Conflict, and Security**

#### Week 5: Interstate War

- Monday: Why Do Countries Go To War?
  - Levy, Jack. 1998. “The Causes of War and the Conditions of Peace”. *Annual Review of Political Science*, Vol. 1: 139-165.
- Wednesday: The Democratic Peace
  - Ray, James Lee. 1998. “Does Democracy Cause Peace? *Annual Review of Political Science*, 1(1): 27-46.
- Friday: The Future of Interstate War
  - Sokolosky, Johnny. 2016. “The Future of War How Globalization is Changing the Security Paradigm.” *Military Review*.
  - Cohen, Michael. 2014. “The Future of War: Less is More.” *War on the Rocks*.

#### Week 6: Civil War

- Monday: The Causes of Civil War
  - Jones, Seth. 2017. “Starting Insurgencies.” In *Waging Insurgent Warfare: Lessons from the Vietcong to the Islamic State*. Oxford UP: 16-34.
- Wednesday: Conflict Resources
  - Kishi, Roudabesh. 2014. “Resource-Related Conflict in Africa.” *ACLED*.
  - Humphreys, Macartan. 2005. “Natural Resources, Conflict, and Conflict Resolution.” *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 49(4): 508 – 537.
- Friday: “Firestone and the Warlord.” *PBS Frontline* [film].

#### Week 7: Terrorism

- Monday: The Definition of Terrorism
  - Hoffman, Bruce. 2006. “Defining Terrorism” (Chapter 1). In *Inside Terrorism*. Columbia University Press, 1-41.
- Wednesday: The Logic of Terrorism

- Kydd, Andrew and Barbara Walter. 2006. “The Strategies of Terrorism.” *International Security*, 31(1): 49-80.
- Friday: Class Exercise
  - Byman, Daniel. 2017. “Nine Questions to Ask After a Terrorist Attack.” *Brookings Institution*.

Week 8: Counterinsurgency and Counterterrorism

- Monday: “The War Against Boko Haram.” *VICE News* [film].
- Wednesday: Counterinsurgency and Counterterrorism
  - Berman, Eli and Aila M. Matanock. August 14, 2015. “What Do We Know, and Need to Know, About Successful Counterinsurgency?” *Political Violence at a Glance*.
  - Day, Christopher R. and William S. Reno. 2014. “In Harm’s Way: African Counter-Insurgency and Patronage Politics.” *Civil Wars*, 16(2): 105-126.
- Friday: Drone Strikes
  - Byman, Daniel. 2013. “Why Drones Work: The Case for Washington’s Weapon of Choice.” *Brookings Institution*.
  - McCain, Miles and Sarah Kreps. 2017. “Congress Keeps Quiet on U.S. Drone Policy — And That’s A Big Problem.” *The Monkey Cage*.

Week 9: TEST WEEK

- Monday: TBD
- Wednesday: In-class review session
- Friday: Midterm exam

**Part Four: The Global Economy**

Week 10: SPRING BREAK

Week 11: International Trade

- Monday: The Basics of International Trade
  - Walter, Andrew, Gautam Sen, and Benjamin J. Cohen. 2009. “Chapter Two: The Emergence of a Multilateral Trading System”. In *Analyzing the Global Political Economy*. New York: Princeton University Press [eBook].
  - G101—“Primer 1: The Economics of International Trade.”
- Wednesday: The Global Oil Market
  - CSIS Staff. 2017. “U.S. Oil in the Global Economy.” *Center for Strategic and International Studies*.
  - Reed, Stanley. 2017. “Saudi Arabia Drives OPEC to Extend Oil Production Cuts.” *New York Times*.
- Friday: Why Are Some Countries Rich and Others Poor?
  - Solman, Paul. 2013. “The Three Reasons Countries Get Rich: Location, Location, Location.” *PBS News Hour*.
  - Wolla, Scott A. 2017. “Why Are Some Countries Rich and Others Poor?” *St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank*.

#### Week 12: Economic Development, Investment, and Aid

- Monday: Economic Development
  - Guest Lecture
- Wednesday: Foreign Direct Investment
  - Masters, Jonathan and James McBride. 2016. “Foreign Investment and U.S. National Security.” *Council on Foreign Relations*.
  - G101—“Investment.”
- Friday: Foreign Aid
  - Briggs, Ryan. 2017. “Development Aid Isn’t Reaching the Poorest. Here’s What That Means.” *The Monkey Cage*.
  - Take a look at the “Foreign Aid Explorer”, an online platform by US AID.

#### Week 13: Illicit Trade and Organized Crime

- Monday: Arms Trafficking
  - Schroeder, Matt & Guy Lamb. (2006). *The Illicit Arms Trade in Africa: A Global Enterprise*. Federation of American Scientists.
  - Muggah, H.C.R. 2001. “Globalization and Insecurity: The Direct and Indirect Effects of Small Arms Availability.” *IDS Bulletin*, 32(2): 70-78.
- Wednesday: Narcotics
  - *VICE News*. 2016. “The Golden Age of Drug Trafficking: How Meth, Cocaine, and Heroin Move Around the World.”
  - G101—“Case Study: Illicit Drugs and Globalization.”
- Friday: Human Trafficking
  - Feingold, David (2005). “Human Trafficking.” *Foreign Policy*.
  - G101—“Issues in Depth: Human Trafficking”

### **Part Five: Additional Topics in Global Politics**

#### Week 14: Human Rights

- Monday: What Are Human Rights?
  - United Nations. 1948. “Universal Declaration of Human Rights.”
- Wednesday: Improving Human Rights Practices
  - Guest Lecture
- Friday: Displacement and Conflict Refugees
  - Beauchamp, Zach. 2017. “9 Maps and Charts That Explain the Global Refugee Crisis.” *Vox News*.
  - Adhikari, Prakash. 2012. “Conflict-Induced Displacement, Understanding the Causes of Flight.” *American Journal of Political Science*, 57(1): 82-89.

#### Week 15: The Resurgence of Far Right Politics

- Monday: Populism, Nativism, and Nationalism
  - Child, David. 2017. “Austria, Europe and the far right: A Q&A with Cas Mudde.” *Al-Jazeera*
  - Sheehy, Audrey. 2017. “The Rise of the Far Right.” *Harvard Political Review*.
- Wednesday: Wrapping It Up