SOC 320: Sociology of Globalization

Spring 2020, March 30-June 7, 2020

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Course Description
This course is an introduction to the Sociology of Globalization. During this course, we will look at differing perspectives on globalization by exploring the effects of migration, capitalism, technology, poverty, and global inequalities as they relate to politics, economics, and culture. Students will engage with key theories, questions, and debates relating to globalization through readings, online discussions, online lectures, reflective writings, and an in-depth topic paper.

Course Goals
Upon completing the Sociology of Globalization course, you should be able to:
- Identify and describe key issues and theories pertaining to the sociology of globalization.
- Synthesize, assess, and critique current debates and discussions on globalization.
- Reflect and explore your role in current issues on globalization.
- Examine and evaluate key issues in globalization aside from those discussed in class.

Important Dates:
April 12, 2020 – last day to drop without course recorded as a “W”
April 26, 2020 – last day of refund period
May 17, 2020 – last day to make changes in grading option; last day to withdraw from a class

See PSU 2019-2020 Academic Calendar for details.

Class policies
Respect in the Online Classroom
I see the online classroom as a safe environment to explore new or difficult ideas and expand on our existing knowledge. I learn from you as you learn from me. Thus, I require the utmost of respect for opinions and ideas expressed in the online classroom. Keep in mind that everyone has a different background and comes from perspectives or experiences that may be different than yours. You do not have to always agree with one another, but you must always be respectful.

Attendance
Since this is an online course, attendance is not a factor. However, participation in activities is expected (see Assignments).

If you have a personal emergency or issue that will prevent you from meeting assignment deadlines, please email me as soon as possible.
Participation
Since this is an online class, it is very important you do the readings/videos and actively participate in discussion responses. A common mistake students make is assuming an online class is “easier” or that participation is not necessary. It is important for your success in this class to be present, engaging, and participatory.

Student Code of Conduct
Students in this course will be expected to comply with the Portland State University’s Student Code of Conduct. Any student suspected of violating this obligation for any reason during the semester will be required to participate in the procedural process.

Plagiarism
Plagiarism is a very serious offense, and Portland State University considers it academic misconduct. It is your responsibility to ensure proper citations in your papers (I do not care which “method” of citation you use for this class – APA, MLA, ASA, etc. – as long as you are consistent).

Email Policy:
Each student is issued a University e-mail address (username@pdx.edu) upon admittance. This e-mail address may be used by the University for official communication with students. Students are expected to read e-mail sent to this account on a regular basis. Failure to read and react to University communications in a timely manner does not absolve the student from knowing and complying with the content of the communications.

Special Accommodations
If you require special accommodations, you need to notify both the instructor and the Disability Resource Center. You may be asked to provide documentation of your disability to determine the appropriateness of accommodations. You can apply for accommodations at the DRC website.

Additional resources you may find useful:
Writing Center: https://www.pdx.edu/writing-center/
Learning Center: https://www.pdx.edu/tutoring/home

Course Materials
There are no required textbooks for this course. I rely on articles, videos, power point presentations with voice over and active participation on the discussion board.

Grading Scale
Assignments and participation add up to a total of 240 points. Grades are not curved or rounded up or down. The grading scale is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>97-100%</td>
<td>233-240</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>93-96%</td>
<td>223-232</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>89-92%</td>
<td>214-222</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>87-88%</td>
<td>209-213</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>84-86%</td>
<td>202-208</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>80-83%</td>
<td>192-201</td>
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Assignments and Descriptions
A week for this course runs from Monday 12:00 am – Sunday 11:59 pm. Most assignments are due Saturdays by 11:59 pm, except where noted.

This course relies heavily on readings, reflections, films, and online discussions. Assignments are designed to help you think critically about what you are reading, watching, and class discussions.

_All assignments should be submitted with the subject heading: Last Name_First Name for ease of grading._

Some helpful tips for this course:
- **Contacting me:** The best way to get a hold of me is via my email: zook@pdx.edu. Please do not use the email function in D2L – I may not see it right away. I try to respond to all emails within 24 hours.
- **Struggling students:** If you are struggling or falling behind, the best thing you can do is _contact_ me right away. I am happy to work with students who are struggling, but I can’t help if I don’t know what’s happening. The keyword is: Communication!
- **Late assignment policy:** I don’t have a late assignment policy. I have designed this course so that students should have enough time to complete all assignments. Assignments will lock at the due date/time, and no late assignments will be permitted. That said, I understand that life sometimes happens, and that each student is dealing with a unique set of circumstances outside of the classroom. If you are struggling, make sure to contact me. I care about you both personally and academically.
- **Page/word length:** Where I note a page or word length, use as a guideline only. I do not mark down for more/less page/words. I am more interested in the content you are writing than meeting a certain page length.

_Disclaimer:_ This syllabus, along with course assignments and due dates, are subject to change. It is the student’s responsibility to check D2L for corrections or updates to the syllabus. Any changes will be clearly noted in course announcements.

### Assignment Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intro Indicator</td>
<td>5 points</td>
<td>4/4/20 by 11:59 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Introductions</td>
<td>5 points</td>
<td>4/4/20 by 11:59 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Weekly Discussion Post (5 points each)  
- Respond to instructor posted discussion question weekly  
| 50 points | Due by 11:59 pm each Saturday, see “Timetable”, below, for exact dates. |

Weekly Discussion Response (2 points each, max of 4 points per week)  
- Respond to 2 group mates’ posts weekly  
| 40 points | Due by 11:59 pm each Saturday, see “Timetable”, below, for exact dates. |

Personal Reflections (20 points each)  
| 40 points | Reflection 1 due 4/18/20 by 11:59 pm  
Reflection 2 due 5/16/20 by 11:59 pm |

Topic Paper  
| 50 points | Due 6/5/20 by 11:59 pm  
5 bonus points if turned in by 5/29/20 by 11:59 pm |

Final Exam  
| 50 points | Open from 6/8/20 at 8:00 am until 6/12/20 at 11:59 pm |

Total  
| 240 points |

Intro Indicator – 5 points  
*Due: 4/4/20 by 11:59 pm*

The Intro Indicator is a very brief, easy, series of questions to indicate that you have read the syllabus, watched the Course Intro lecture, and know where you can find answers to questions for this course. These are the easiest points you will earn in this class.

Watch the Course Intro lecture for a link to the Intro Indicator.

Group Introductions – 5 points  
*Due: 4/4/20 by 11:59 pm*

I have randomly assigned you into a group of 9-10 students to promote small group discussion throughout the term. See “Discussion Post” and “Discussion Response” assignments, below.

For this assignment, introduce yourself to your group. At a minimum, include:

- Your name  
- Year in school  
- What you hope to learn or gain from this course  
- One fun fact about yourself

Discussion Post – 5 points each (50 points total)  
*Due: Every Saturday by 11:59 pm for 10 weeks of the course. See Discussion Response/Post Timetable, below, for exact dates.*

Discussion question/s will be available on Sundays (time may vary) for the week ahead. Students have been randomly assigned to groups of 9 or 10, to promote small group discussion. Your posts should appear in these groups.
Discussion Posts should be relatively short – about 2-3 paragraphs (~250-350 words) and should respond to the discussion questions. Use course readings, previous class discussions, or videos from class to help answer the question(s). Outside articles are also permitted but cite your sources. The response should address all parts of the question posed, in a professional and academic manner.

In addition to answering the questions, you may want to critique elements you found troubling or disturbing, points where you disagree (be sure to include why you disagree), or questions you have regarding the material. These responses are intended to help you think critically about the material you encounter. You will be graded on writing style (typos, grammar, tone), as well as content.

Tip: Copy your posts into Word and save on your computer just in case. If something disappears from D2L, you will still have a record of your work and can still earn credit.

Where to post:
- Open D2L
- Click on “Activities”
- Click on “Discussions”
- Click the appropriate week and post your response

Discussion Response – 2 points each (max 4 points per week, 40 points total)
Due: Every Saturday by 11:59 pm for 10 weeks of the course. See Discussion Response/Post Timetable, below, for exact dates.

This assignment is designed to promote interaction within your group and critical thinking skills. Post a response to two different members each week (you may post more than that but will not receive additional points).

Responses may be in agreement or disagreement (but keep it professional – name calling/bullying will NOT be tolerated), ask clarifying questions, “muse” about other options, etc. Have fun with engaging with your classmates and building relationships/rapport.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Your discussion response/post must be posted by:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>4/4/20 by 11:59 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>4/11/20 by 11:59 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>4/18/20 by 11:59 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>4/25/20 by 11:59 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>5/2/20 by 11:59 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>5/9/20 by 11:59 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>5/16/20 by 11:59 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Personal Reflections – 20 points each (40 points total)
Due: Reflection 1 due by 4/18/20 at 11:59 pm; Reflection 2 due by 5/16/20 at 11:59 pm

In 2 double-spaced typed pages, you will respond to a prompt, which will be posted at the latest the Sunday before they are due.

Guidelines for each reflection:
- The prompt will be rather vague intentionally. This is your opportunity to explore, in writing, where you fit into our discussions on globalization, what the future of the topic or issues looks like, and/or what should be done about it.
- These are meant to be informal papers. Writing in the first person is ok, and outside resources are not required. If you do use resources, remember to properly cite.
- Though reflections are informal, I will still be looking for correct grammar usage/typos and professional language.

Tip: A good personal reflection may require some vulnerability on your part. What is your role in the topic/issue asked about? Do you have privilege, and if so, can you identify it? How can we use our positions of power or privilege to address the topic at hand? Note: These are not prompts that should be included in the reflection, just tips to help you get writing.

Where to post:
- Open D2L
- Click on “Activities”
- Click on “Assignments”
- Click the appropriate reflection and post your response

Topic Paper – 50 points
Due: 6/5/20 by 11:59 pm
Bonus: 5 bonus points if turned in by 5/29/20 by 11:59 pm

In 5-6 double-spaced typed pages, you will delve further into a topic of your choice surrounding globalization. Pick a topic that interests you – it may be something we’ve discussed in class that you go further in-depth on, or you may pick something not covered in class that falls under the general heading of sociology of globalization.

- Introduce your topic and tell why it is important to think about. Make sure you clearly state what the issue is.
- Briefly explain the key ideas/theories/beliefs surrounding this topic. Is it a new phenomenon or has the issue been around for a while? Where is it an issue and for whom?
- Is there disagreement over this topic/issue? What are these disagreements? Who says what?
- What does the future look like for this topic/issue? What are people doing about it now? What are your thoughts on it and what, should be done about it?
Three outside resources are required from academic sources (journal articles/books). You will be graded on writing style (typos, grammar, tone), as well as content. Make sure you cite properly (any style is acceptable, just be consistent), include a bibliography, and do not plagiarize (see plagiarism policy, above). You should make connections to class readings, lectures, and discussions throughout the paper to demonstrate your depth of knowledge of key issues in the sociology of globalization.

**Tip:** The best papers are those that pick a small piece of a larger topic. For example, “global migration” is a very broad topic. It’s difficult to write an effective paper without narrowing it down. An example of a narrowed down topic might be “global migration of women in Honduras during the 2000s”.

Where to post:
- Open D2L
- Click on “Activities”
- Click on “Assignments”
- Click on “Topic Paper” and post your paper

**Final Exam – 50 points total**

*Final exam will be open from 6/8/20 at 8:00 am until 6/12/20 at 11:59 pm*

The final exam will be multiple choice, matching, or fill-in-the-blank, consisting of 50 questions worth 1 point each, plus 2 or 3 bonus questions. You will have 75 minutes to complete this exam. You may use your notes on the exam but are required to work individually.

Where it’s located:
- Open D2L
- Click on “Quizzes”
- Click on the available quiz

**Extra Credit**
There will be extra credit opportunities throughout the course – please watch the announcements section.