Introduction to International Studies (IS 200) - Spring 2011
T&R, 10:15-11:30am in 1911 Building, Room 111

Professor: Dr. Seth Murray
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Office hours: Wednesday 10 am–noon & 1:30–3:30 pm. Also by appointment.

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Office hours: Tuesday, noon-2:30

You may contact me by email or in person during my scheduled office hours. Email is the quickest way to contact me, particularly if you have brief questions to ask, as I will usually answer your email on the same day. You may also call me during my office hours if you are unable to come in person, although please note that I do not have voice mail so you cannot leave me a message. If you are unable to visit me during my regular office hours, I am also willing to arrange a meeting with you at a mutually convenient time.

Overview:
As the first course in the International Studies program, this Introduction to International Studies course (IS 200) provides students with a knowledge base and conceptual vocabulary about International Studies. As such, there are no prerequisites for this course. This course serves as a required gateway class for undergraduate students who intend to major or minor in International Studies. This class counts as an Interdisciplinary Perspectives in the General Education Program (GEP) and fulfills the Global Knowledge co-requisite.

This course is an introduction to the evolving interdisciplinary field of International Studies, which draws from a wide range of disciplines such as social anthropology, cultural geography, development studies, political science, area studies, etc. Over the course of the semester, students will examine the evolution of the global political and economic system with a focus on various themes: for example, the emergence of new markets and the construction of a global economy; the economic and cultural impact of eco-tourism; consequences of "development" in the Global South; the elaboration of a global framework of universal human rights; legacies of colonialism in Asia, South America and Africa; transnational agricultural technologies and the transformation of the Green Revolution; contemporary debates over cultural globalization; expanded participation of indigenous and other social movements; the role of non-governmental organizations in international affairs, challenges to global public health; expansion of global media, and the United States’ evolving place in the world.

Course Objectives and Student Learning Outcomes:
The main course objective is to provide students with an interdisciplinary understanding of the intellectual, cultural, political and economic issues that mark the
contemporary processes of globalization. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Define the field of International Studies, describe its relationship and connections to other fields, and distinguish between the distinct approaches of other academic disciplines.
2. Identify and apply authentic connections of different academic disciplines such as Anthropology, Geography, Sociology, History, Political Science, or Economics to the elaboration of the interdisciplinary field of International Studies.
3. Explore, synthesize, and integrate concepts from two or more disciplines into the interdisciplinary field of International Studies in order to compare, analyze and critique journalistic, popular and academic information on international topics.
4. Describe the relationships between political and economic processes of globalization, particularly as they relate to capitalism and trade, and their impacts on economic, cultural, and social activities of different cultures.
5. Relate demographic, social, and cultural attributes to concepts such as migration, ethnicity, cultural identity, and changing gender roles.
6. Link regional and local processes of and economic cultural change to both global agents and their countervailing forces.

Course requirements: (as a % of your total grade)

There is no curve. A minimum of 70% is required of International Studies majors and minors in order to have this course satisfy your degree requirement. All other students must receive a minimum of 60% in the course in order to pass. Final letter grades are based on the following numeric scale:

- 97-100 : A+
- 94-96 : A
- 90-93 : A-
- 87-89 : B+
- 84-86 : B
- 80-83 : B-
- 77-79 : C+
- 74-76 : C
- 70-73 : C-
- 67-69 : D+
- 64-66 : D
- 60-63 : D-
- 0-59 : F

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<th>Attendance : 10%</th>
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Attendance: If you are not present in class, it will not be possible for you to learn from me and your classmates, nor will we be able to learn from you! Thus, attendance is mandatory and the TA for the course will take attendance at the start of each class meeting. Attendance is worth 10% of your overall grade in this course. You will be allowed 2 no-questions-asked absences during the semester to accommodate sickness, family emergencies, travel plans, or other scheduling conflicts that may arise in our busy lives. Your attendance grade will be penalized for every absence beyond two. Beyond this number, each unexcused absence will subtract 10% from your attendance grade (which amounts to 1% of your overall course grade). The only excused absences that I
need to be informed of are those for official university activities, such as trips for varsity sports for example, and documented absences for medical reasons. Students who accumulate more than 8 unexcused absences receive an automatic F in the course. You can access the University’s definitions of excused absences on this website: http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/courses_undergrad/REG02.20.3.php

Participation: This class is designed to be interactive. Students are encouraged and expected to regularly ask questions and participate in discussions with the entire class. After a number of activities aimed at having students feel comfortable speaking with one another, students will also be expected to participate in break-out sessions for small group discussions, as well as debates panels, when students will debate and connect concepts from our course to current events and news provided by the professor. Your participation is worth 15% of your overall grade in this course.

We will watch a number of documentary films in class throughout the semester. I believe that it is important for us to hone our critical thinking in response to visual images as well as written texts, since images often conjure powerful emotional responses. These films are integral components of the course materials and as such, we will be critically examining and discussing these films, which will also be incorporated into questions on your exams. If you are absent the day that a film is screened, it is your own responsibility to watch this film as soon as possible. Most (although not all) of the films are available at D.H. Hill Library and it is your responsibility to watch them on your own if you miss class.

All viewpoints are welcome, but students must treat others and their views with respect. The norms of courteous academic debate and exchange must be followed. Our class is not a forum for personal attacks or a TV talk show. This means that opposing points of view should be heard patiently, and that no gratuitous or insulting remarks are permitted or tolerated. Please concentrate in class on the topics under discussion and refrain from any behavior that disturbs your and other people’s concentration: no doing homework that you forgot to do last night for other classes, no eating unless you bring enough food to share with everyone, no reading the Technician, no text-messaging, no Sudoku, turn off all cell phones, no Twitter, and do not update your Facebook profile. You get the idea: when you are in class, pay attention to what we are doing in class!

Students will be asked to complete two written self-evaluations of their own participation in class discussions during the semester. Your preparation for and participation in class will be evaluated using the following criteria:

A = you are well prepared, often with written notes, and participate actively in small group activities and with the whole class; you are attentive, respond when called upon and volunteer often with pertinent questions and comments.
B = you are usually prepared, sometimes with written notes, and always respond when called on; you volunteer on occasion and participate in small group activities.
C = you show evidence of being unprepared; you have some trouble when called on and do not volunteer often, either in group activities and with the whole class.
D = you rarely participate in class activities; you are unprepared and/or inattentive; you never volunteer.
F = you exhibit a lack of concern for the class; you sleep in class; your behavior may have a negative effect on the class.

Discussion facilitation questions: Twice during the semester, students will be responsible for posting one or more discussion questions and/or reflections on the readings assigned
for a class period. A sheet will be circulated during the 2nd week of classes for students to sign-up as discussion facilitators for two dates during the semester. Typically, 3-4 students will be responsible for submitting questions/comments for a single given class, and although these questions/comments may be submitted individually, students are encouraged to consult and work together. Questions/comments should be posted on the Moodle site for our course by 5 pm the day before the class period. Please proofread your questions carefully since these will be shared with other students in the class.

Your questions/comments should engage with the readings and will serve as points of departure for our in-class discussion. There is no such thing as a dumb or bad question, but some questions are more useful than others. Questions that demonstrate your serious reflection on that week’s readings, questions that build on other students’ previously posed questions or comments, and questions that make connections between readings from prior weeks’ readings/discussions are particularly welcome. Even if you are absent, you can still submit your discussion questions/comments to your professor. The discussion facilitation questions are worth 10% of your overall grade in this course.

Media project: This entails a review of current events related to globalization that requires students to use information sources from three different nations, then compare and contrast how each source differently represents an issue or topic in current international affairs. The topic for your media project must be chosen from a list of possible subjects that will be circulated or posted during the 2nd week of classes. Topics for media projects not on this list will only be accepted if they have been pre-approved by your professor. Additional guidelines, examples and explanations of the media project will be provided to you. All papers should be 4-5 pages in length, double-spaced, 12-point font, with one-inch margins. The media project is worth 15% of your overall grade in this course.

Paper: A paper where students will analyze the relationship between tourism and study abroad. For this analysis, students will situate themselves as student who must complete a study abroad experience in order to complete their degree, and discussing how study abroad and tourism fits in to the student’s understanding of globalization. All papers should be 3-4 pages in length, double-spaced, 12-point font, with one-inch margins. This paper is worth 10% of your overall grade in this course.

Exams: Three exams will assess students’ grasp of the basic concepts in this International Studies course. Your two mid-terms and the final exam will include both multiple choice questions and several short essay questions. Students are responsible for all of the material covered in the assigned readings as well as what we do in class, which includes lectures, discussions, and films. Only the final exam will be comprehensive. Each mid-term exam is worth 10% of your overall grade in this course, whereas the final exam is worth 20% of your grade.

Learning Management System:
This course uses Moodle, an online system that allows for asynchronous teaching and learning, where you will find a copy of this syllabus and schedule of assignments, supplemental articles that we will read, a discussion forum for follow-up questions and comments to class discussions, as well as an announcement page that you should consult at least once a week.
Policy on Incomplete grades or late assignments:
Late assignments will not be accepted, nor will incomplete grades for the course be permitted. Exceptions may be assignments submitted late because of absences excused according to class attendance policy outlined in this syllabus. Other rare exceptions may be made at the professor’s discretion.

Information for students with disabilities:
Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with verifiable disabilities. In order to take advantage of available accommodations, students must register with Disability Services for Students at 1900 Student Health Center, Campus Box 7509, 515-7653. For more information on NC State's policy on working with students with disabilities, please see the Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities Regulation (REG02.20.1)

Statement of online privacy:
Students may be required to disclose personally identifiable information to other students in the course, via electronic tools like email or web-postings, where relevant to the course. Examples include online discussions of class topics, and posting of student coursework. All students are expected to respect the privacy of each other by not sharing or using such information outside the course.
Electronically-hosted components: moodlepilot.ncsu.edu

Policy on discrimination:
The role of all employees and students is to create and maintain a supportive and harassment-free working environment for all members of the campus community. All faculty, staff and students are responsible for understanding and complying with harassment policies; these policies can be viewed at: http://www.ncsu.edu/equal_op. Also, all faculty, staff and students are responsible for knowing where to obtain assistance for resolving concerns. Members of the campus community are encouraged and should feel free to seek assistance, information, and guidance from their department head, supervisor, the Office for Equal Opportunity (513-3148), Human Resources (515-4300) or the Office for Student Conduct (515-2963). All harassment of any person (either in the form of quid pro quo or creation of a hostile environment) based on race, color, religion, creed, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status or sexual orientation also is a violation of state, federal law and/or NC State University policy and will not be tolerated. Retaliation against any person who complains about discrimination is also prohibited. NC State’s policies and regulations covering discrimination, harassment, and retaliation may be accessed at http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/campus_environ or http://ncsu.edu/equal_op. Any person who feels that he or she has been the subject of prohibited discrimination, harassment, or retaliation should contact the Office for Equal Opportunity (OEO) at 919-515-3148.

Online Course Evaluations:
Students will be able to complete online course evaluations during the last two weeks of class. You will receive an email message directing you to a website where they can login and complete evaluations. These evaluations are completely confidential and I will not have access to the evaluations until after the end of the semester, when your final course grades have been submitted to Records & Registration.
**Code of Student Conduct:**
North Carolina State University’s Code of Student Conduct, as for all NC State courses, applies to this class. It is posted here:  

It plainly states that “plagiarism and cheating are attacks on the very foundation of academic life, and cannot be tolerated within universities” (see sections 7-13 for the most pertinent aspects). It is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct to use your textbook materials or notes during an exam. It is also a violation of the Code of Student Conduct to have anyone check your written work before handing it in, or to copy any portion of another student’s work or other printed or electronic materials. This is particularly a concern in today’s information environment with our ubiquitous access to Wikipedia and other forms of digital media. *All tests or assignments must be completed while adhering to the Code of Student Conduct, and the student's signature on any test means that the student neither gave nor received unauthorized aid.* The bottom line is that ALL work must be your own. Do you still have questions? Talk to me or consult the NCSU Office of Student Conduct website: [http://www.ncsu.edu/student_conduct](http://www.ncsu.edu/student_conduct)

**Required Textbooks:**


All other reading materials will be available through Electronic Reserves at D.H. Hill Library or as PDF files on the Moodle site for our course.
Schedule of assignments:

Tuesday January 11: Getting organized

Thursday January 13: What is the interdisciplinary field of International Studies?
Readings: Anderson et al. pp. 1-10

Tuesday January 18: What is globalization?
Readings: Steger ch. 1; Bestor 2000

Thursday January 20: Globalization, or Us vs. Them?
Readings: Appiah 2006; Veseth 2005
Film: Life and Debt (2001)

Tuesday January 25: International Studies as World history
Readings: Anderson et al. 33-52

Thursday January 27: Colonial connections
Readings: Steger ch. 2
Film: The Scramble for Africa (1986)

Tuesday February 1: Colonial connections (continued)
Readings: Mamdani 2001

Thursday February 3: Globalization and Ethnicity
Readings: Anderson et al. pp. 387-392
Film: Forsaken Cries (1996)

Tuesday February 8: Globalization and Cultural Identities
Readings: Weitz 2003
Film: Identities: Culture and Nationality in Europe Today (2007);
Living in the Hyphen (2006)

Thursday February 10: Mid-term exam #1

Tuesday February 15: Principle aspects of the Global Economy
Readings: Anderson et al. pp. 75-102; Steger ch. 3

Thursday February 17: Expansion of Global Institutions
Readings: Steger ch. 4
Assignment: Conduct in-class self-evaluation of your participation

Tuesday February 22: Social Movements and Globalization
Readings: Anderson et al. 219-254
Film: The Money Lenders (2000)

Thursday February 24: Women and Globalization
Readings: Anderson et al. pp. 381-386; Liebowitz 2008
Film: Ladies First: Rwandan women help heal their nation (2004)
Tuesday March 1: Ecology, Globalization and Conflict
Readings: Anderson et al. pp. 373-380

Thursday March 3: Ecology, Globalization and Conflict (continued)
Readings: Shiva 2000

Tuesday March 8: NO CLASS (Spring Break)
Thursday March 10: NO CLASS (Spring Break)

Tuesday March 15: Cultural Globalization (& NCSU study abroad presentation)
Readings: Anderson et al. pp. 103-130; Steger ch. 5

Thursday March 17: Media, Technological diffusion and Globalization
Readings: Cowen 2002; Tyrell 1999

Tuesday March 22: Mid-term exam #2

Thursday March 24: Modernization and the ideological dimensions of globalization
Readings: Steger ch. 6

Tuesday March 29: Democracy and Globalization
Readings: Zakaria 1997
Assignment: Conduct in-class self-evaluation of your participation

Thursday March 31: Human Rights and Globalization
Readings: Donnelly 2007
Film: Women's rights (2009)

Tuesday April 5: Westernization or cultural imperialism?
Readings: Barber 1995; Watson 2000
Assignment: Paper (on study abroad) due

Thursday April 7: Neo-fundamentalism and globalization
Film: Fundamentalist Fervor (2009)

Tuesday April 12: Globalization and Migration
Readings: Anderson et al. pp. 179-217; Freeland 2011

Thursday April 14: Globalization and Migration (continued)
Readings: Chuang 2006
Film: Sold: Fighting the new global slave trade (2009)

Tuesday April 19: Global connections
Assignment: Media project due
Film: *Darwin’s Nightmare* (2004)

**Thursday April 21: NO CLASS (Easter break)**

**Tuesday April 26: Limitations and Possibilities of International Studies**  
Readings: Steger ch. 7; Weber *et al.* 2007  
Film: *What are we doing here? Why Western aid hasn’t helped Africa* (2008)

**Thursday April 28: The Future of Globalization**  
Readings: Anderson *et al.* pp. 393-406; Bhagwati 2004; Steger ch. 8

**May 12, 8-11 am: FINAL EXAM** (in our normal classroom)

**Reading list:**


