

Sc 530 International Studies Senior Seminar
Dr. Paul S. Gray

Fall, 2006
Monday 12-2:30 p.m.
McGuinn 415

My office is 507 McGuinn. Office Hours: Mon 2:30-3:30 p.m. and Wed 1-2 p.m., or by appointment. Phone ext. 24140. E-mail : <gray@bc.edu>

COURSE OVERVIEW

This seminar is designed primarily for seniors majoring or minoring in International Studies. During the semester, I hope the course will accomplish four goals:

- 1) to provide the group with a common vocabulary for analyzing the current international environment - politically, economically and socially;
- 2) to encourage participants to think about future global relationships in an informed and constructive way;
- 3) to prepare students to write their Senior Papers or Theses on topics of their choice relating to International Studies; and
- 4) to exchange views, debate, question, research - all in an atmosphere of mutual respect and trust.

Toward these ends I have structured the first part of the semester, drawing on the readings posted in Web CT, as well as *Jihad vs. MacWorld*, by Benjamin Barber. After this initial phase, we shall be meeting to discuss each other's ongoing work in progress. Student input is vital, both to the content and organization of the seminar! Please share your concerns in the group, with me individually, or in both settings. I encourage you to become keenly interested in current events during this semester, and to bring into the seminar each week a discussion of real life events that may be explored using the framework we are developing.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Please print out and read the assigned readings for the day they are due, so that we may have a complete discussion with maximum participation each week. Class participation counts 20% of your grade.

There are but two writing assignments: First, a 10 pp. paper (due November 6th) in which I will ask you to answer some questions relating to the readings. This paper counts 20% of your grade. Second, your Senior Paper or Proposal for a Thesis in International Studies, which is *due by 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 13, 2006 in my mailbox, Room 426 McGuinn*. We shall be conferring about topics and lengths of these papers.

READINGS

Paul S, Gray *et al.*, International Studies Senior Seminar ON WEB CT <<https://webct.bc.edu/>>
Benjamin Barber, *Jihad vs. MacWorld*

CALENDAR

Mon 9/11 Course Overview

Discussion of Senior Project Topics - setting up appointments

- Mon 9/18 Decisions on Project Topics
Colonialism, Neo-Colonialism, Post-Modernism
Readings: Polanyi, Wood
- Mon 9/25 Alternative Theories
Readings: Rostow, McClelland, Dos Santos, Abramovitz
- Mon 10/2 Comparative Methods
Research – Using O’Neill
Components of a Research Paper and Thesis
Readings: Maddison *et al.*; Przeworski & Limongi,
- V A C A T I O N
- Mon 10/16 Development
Readings: Easterly, Population Division, Kuznets, Olson, Hou
- Mon 10/23 Culture Clash
Readings: Barber, esp. pp. xi – 32; 73-87; 268-292; Huntington
Distribute paper assignment
- Mon 10/30 Globalization
Readings: Friedman (World Is Flat); Greider, Burfisher *et al.*;
Summers, Feenstra, Bernanke
- Mon 11/6 Re-cap of assignment.
Legitimacy and the Fragility of the State
Readings: Fukuyama, Fuller, Robinson
Paper is due.
- Mon 11/13 Ethicality and Realism in International Affairs
Organizing student input for final seminars
Readings: IMF Fiscal Affairs; Escobar, Muller & Seligson,
Moghadam, Ong
- Mon 11/20 Neo-Liberal Models at Home and Abroad
Readings: Lamy; Bacevich, Bruyn chs. 3, 4, 9
- Mon 11/27 Student project presentations
- Mon 12/4 Student project presentations
First Drafts of Projects or Thesis Proposals are due.
- Wed 12/13 **Final Drafts of Senior Projects or Thesis Proposals are due in my mailbox, 426 McGuinn by 4 p.m.**

