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Office Hours: M, W, 3-5

**Sociology 040—Global Sociology
Spring 2008**

“Globalization” is increasingly blamed and celebrated for social ills and achievements. In this course, we will look directly at some of the ways that people and states are linked across the globe, both today and historically, to the benefit of some and the detriment of others. In the process, we will begin to grasp some of the causes and consequences of this long history of unequal connections and be able to think about how we, as global citizens, might respond. Although many different countries will be mentioned in passing, we will focus particularly on the experiences of people in the United States and Latin America and the Caribbean.

Course Website: There is a WebCT site for this course, which you can log onto either at <http://webct.bc.edu:8900/>, or through your Agora account. This site includes a link to online course reserves, a copy of the syllabus, and a site for posting your thought-pieces (see below).

Readings: Most of the readings for this course are available online. They may be accessed through the course WebCT site, or directly from the O’Neill library course reserves website. Readings are listed under Babb.

In addition, we will be reading the following books:

James, *The Black Jacobins: Toussaint L’Ouverture and the San Domingo Revolution*.
Zloniski, *Janitors, Street Vendors, and Activist: The Lives of Mexican Immigrants in Silicon Valley*.
Jaffe, *Brewing Justice: Fair Trade Coffee, Sustainability, and Survival*.

All books are available to purchase at the BC bookstore. In addition, one copy of each book will be available for 3-hour reserve at O’Neill Library.

Grading: Your grade for this class will be based on the following components:

A 5-6 page essay due on February 20	25 points
A 5-6 page essay due on April 16	25 points
10 Thought-pieces @ 2 points each:	20 points
Random attendance checks:	5 points
A cumulative final examination:	25 points
Total:	100 points

Thought-Pieces: This class deals with complex ideas that require regular and thorough **completion of reading**. You are expected to complete all of the readings listed on the syllabus, and to complete **10 thought-pieces on course readings, to be posted on the class website**. Guidelines for thought-pieces are as follows:

- They must be uploaded to the course WebCT site in response to the appropriate assignment. For some (but not all) of the readings, you will be given specific questions to reply to.
- They must be **at least** 300 words in length.
- They are due by **8 a.m. the day they are listed on the syllabus**. Late thought-pieces will not receive credit.
- They must discuss **all the readings** due for that day and respond to the questions posed in the assignment. These writings can be quite informal, but thoughtless or cursory thought-pieces will not receive credit. They must be **in your own words**, and must respond to the **readings**, not reiterate the lectures.
- These responses are worth 20% of your grade. If you complete a full 10 thought-pieces during the semester, you will receive a full 20 points. After that, 2 points per missed thought-piece will be deducted from your grade. There will be **no makeups** available for missed thought-pieces.

Class Attendance: Class attendance is mandatory. Your performance on the final examination depends entirely on attendance and taking good notes. Since later classes build on the groundwork established in earlier classes, you will find it difficult to catch up after missing earlier material. If you miss class due to illness, emergency, or athletic commitments, make sure to get and review the notes immediately from a classmate. Attendance is worth 5 points. Since it takes too long to take attendance every time in a class of 60, I will be conducting **seven random class attendance checks** over the course of the semester. You get two “freebies”—that is to say, you can be absent for two of the random attendance checks without a grade penalty. After that, there will be a penalty of one point per missed class.

Academic Honesty: Students are expected to comply with the standards for academic honesty outlined in the University Catalog (<http://www.bc.edu/integrity>). Any plagiarism or cheating will result in a grade of “0,” and the notification of the academic dean.

COURSE OUTLINE:

Monday, January 14: Introduction.

Part I—Globalization in Historical Perspective

Emergence and Dynamics of Capitalism

Wednesday, January 16: **Thought-piece #1 on 3 chapters from Adam Smith “Of the Division of Labor,” “Of the Principle that Gives Rise to the Division of Labor,” and “That the Division of Labor is Limited by the Extent of the Market,” and Marx, “Wage Labor and Capital” due by 8 a.m.**

Friday, January 18:

Monday, January 21: ***Holiday--Martin Luther King Day***

Wednesday, January 23: **Thought piece on #2 on Polanyi, “Societies and Economic Systems,” and “Self Regulating Market and the Fictitious Commodities” due by 8 a.m.**

Friday, January 25: **Essay topic #1 handed in at the beginning of class.**

Monday, January 28

The Modern Nation-State

Wednesday, January 30: **Thought-piece #3 on Hobsbawm, “The Nation as Invented Tradition” and Anderson, “Imagined Communities” due by 8 a.m.**

Friday, February 1: **Essay #1 due at the beginning of class.**

Monday, February 4: **Thought-piece #4 on Tilly, “Where do Rights Come From,” “The Declaration of Independence” and King, “I Have a Dream” due by 8 a.m.**

Wednesday, February 6

Friday, February 8: **Thought-piece #5 on Dreier, “The United States in Comparative Perspective,” and Galbraith, excerpts from *American Capitalism* due by 8 a.m.**

Monday, February 11

Wednesday, February 13: **Thought piece #6 on Friedman, excerpt from *Free to Choose* and Roosevelt and Reagan inaugural addresses due by 8 a.m.**

Colonialism and the Rise of the Third World

Friday, February 15

Monday, February 18: **Thought-piece #7 on James, *The Black Jacobins*, pp. 1-162 due by 8 a.m.**

Wednesday, February 20

Friday, February 22: **Thought-piece #8 on United Nations, “Problems and General Concepts” and Guevara, “Create One, Two, Three, Many Vietnams” due by 8 a.m.**

Monday, February 25

Part II—Globalization: Contemporary Issues

Inequality within Countries

Wednesday, February 27: **Thought-piece #9 on Stein, “You Can Complain, or You Can Make Money” and Rubin, “Social Change in the Twentieth Century” and “From Industrial Economy to Flexible Economy” due by 8 a.m.**

Friday, February 29

*****SPRING BREAK*****

Monday, March 10: **Thought-piece #10 due on Krugman, “The Great Divergence” and “The Politics of Inequality.”

Wednesday, March 12

Friday, March 14

Inequality between Countries

Monday, March 17

Wednesday, March 19: **Thought-piece #11 on Secor, “Mind the Gap” and Gapminder website due by 8 a.m.**

*****HOLY WEEK BREAK*****

Wednesday, March 26

Friday, March 28

Monday, March 31: **Thought-piece #12 on Norberg, “In Defense of Global Capitalism” and Stiglitz, “Free to Choose?” due by 8 a.m.**

Wednesday, April 2

Friday, April 4: In-class debate.

Immigration

Monday, April 7: **Essay Topic #2 handed out in class.**

Wednesday, April 9: **Thought-piece #13 on Zloniski, *Janitors, Street Vendors and Activists*, Chapters 1-4 due by 8 a.m.**

Friday, April 11

Monday, April 14: **Thought-piece #14 on Zloniski, Chapter 5 and Conclusion; excerpt from Chomsky, *They Take Our Jobs*; and Macedo, “The Moral Dilemma of U.S. Immigration Policy” due by 8 a.m.**

Wednesday, April 16: **Essay #2 due in class** In-class debate.

Resistance and Transformation

Friday, April 18: **Thought-piece #15 on Bhagwati, “Anti-Globalization: A Trilogy of Discontents,” Cavanagh, “What is the Global Justice Movement,” and Jaffee, *Brewing Justice*, Introduction, Chapter 1 due by 8 a.m.**

Monday, April 21: *****Holiday—Patriot’s Day.*****

Wednesday, April 23

Friday, April 25: **Thought-piece #16 on Jaffee, *Brewing Justice*, Chapters 2 and 4-9 due by 8 a.m.**

Monday, April 28

Wednesday, April 30: Review Session.