

SPANISH 694 / INTERNATIONAL STUDIES 694

Spring 2005

GLOBALIZATION AND LATIN AMERICA: MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES

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Office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:30 to 12:30 or by appointment.

DESCRIPTION

Despite the trendiness of the term and the opulent bibliography on the topic, which grows exponentially day after day, there is a great deal of confusion about the meanings of globalization. Such confusion is understandable indeed, given the contested status of a term that finds itself at the center of complex political struggles and ideological mystifications that pit globalphilics and hyperglobalizers against globaliphobics and skeptics, not to mention the myriad of transformationalists or third way globalists, for the control of a global imaginary that, according to German philosopher Peter Sloterdijk, serves as a sort of negative ideology for these cynical postmodern times in which we live. What do we mean when we talk about *globalization* today? Is "transnational" equivalent to "international" or "multinational"? Is globalization a synonym for "postmodernity," or "New World Order," or "the information age," or "late capitalism," or a multiplicity of "scapes," or the ultimate "Empire"? Is there a "global culture"? And what does it mean? Is it a synonym for "cultural globalization" or "the globalization of cultures"? What is the role that culture plays in current global processes? Does culture have the same function in central economies and peripheral ones?

This course explores some of the current debates on globalization in Latin America and recent and interrelated transformations in the economies, politics, and cultures of the region. Several issues will be examined from different disciplinary perspectives: the impact of global pop culture, the informal economy, the culture of narco-trafficking, the rise of ethnic and social movements, transnational migrancy, and the supposed dissolution of the nation-state. Students will be encouraged to address topics relevant to their major(s) in an interdisciplinary manner. The course incorporates a series of guest lectures by experts in their fields (academics from OSU and other Universities).

TEXTS

Fischer, William F. & Thomas Ponniah, eds. *Another World is Possible. Popular Alternatives to Globalization at the World Social Forum*. New York: Zed Books, 2003.

Hoogvelt, Ankie. *Globalization and the Postcolonial World. The New Political Economy of Development*. Baltimore: John Hopkins UP, 1997.

- Hopenhayn, Martin. *No Apocalypse, No Integration: Modernism and Postmodernism in Latin America*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2001
- Petras, James. *The New Development Politics. The Age of Empire Building and New Social Movements*. Burlington, VT: Ashgate, 2003
- Rifkin, Jeremy. *The Age of Access. The New Culture of Hypercapitalism, Where All Life Is a Paid for Experience*. New York: Penguin/Putnam, 2000
- Sklair, Leslie. *Globalization. Capitalism & Its Alternatives*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2002

Articles in WebCT

GRADING

Class participation	20%
Research report	20%
Draft Research paper	20%
Final Research paper	40%

These grading criteria are applicable to both undergraduate and graduate students. However, graduate students are expected to produce a more substantial research paper, both in extension (10-15 pages for undergraduates; 15-20 pages for graduate and professional students) and theoretical/critical content. The topics will be determined during the first week of classes according to the students' interests and the class schedule. Students could choose an interdisciplinary methodology, or a more specifically economic, political, social, or cultural approach.

Academic Misconduct

"All copying, cheating, plagiarism, fraud, deceit, and other unacceptable forms of academic conduct are strictly prohibited and all cases or suspicions of such activity will be reported to the Office of Academic Misconduct without exception and per university policy. All work in class is expected to be the student's own; this is especially true regarding exams and papers. Students are encouraged to study together and to discuss the concepts and/or readings together. Regardless, each student must turn in his or her own work for any and all assignments, including homework."

Students with disabilities

"Anyone who requires an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. At the appointment we can discuss the course format, anticipate special needs and explore potential accommodations. I rely on the Office for Disability Services for assistance in verifying the need for accommodation strategies. If you have not previously contacted that office, I encourage you to do so."

CLASS SCHEDULE

March
29 Introduction

31 **Globalization: The last stage of capitalism, a new civilization, or a cultural revolution?**

- Hoogvelt, *Globalization and the Postcolonial World* (chapters 1, 2, 3)
- Sklair, *Globalization* (chapter 3, 4)

April

5 **The New Economic Order: The globalization of poverty**

- Hoogvelt, *Globalization and the Postcolonial World* (chapters 4, 5, 6, 7)
- Sklair, *Globalization* (chapters 5, 6)

7 **Latin America in the New World Order**

- WebCT: Monsiváis, "Will Nationalism be Bilingual?", from McAnany
- WebCT: García Canclini, "North Americans or Latin Americans?", from McAnany
- WebCT: Mosco, "Free Trade in Communication: Building a World Business Order", from *Beyond National Sovereignty*
- Fischer & Ponniah, eds. *Another World is Possible* (selections)

Guest speaker

12 **Informal economy and social marginality**

- WebCT: Rakowski, from *Contrapunto. The Informal Sector Debate*
- WebCT: Tokman, "The informal sector", from *Beyond Regulation*
- Fischer & Ponniah, eds. *Another World is Possible* (selections)

Guest speaker

14 **The spinning vortex of disintegrating integration**

- Hopenhayn, *No Apocalypse, No Integration*
- Fischer & Ponniah, eds. *Another World is Possible*. (Part II, selections)
- WebCT: Bauman, *Globalization. The Human Consequences* (excerpts)

19 **Whose sovereignty is this? The nation-state in the global order**

- Fischer & Ponniah, eds. *Another World is Possible* (selections)
- Petras, *The New Development Politics* (selections)

Guest speaker

21 **Transnational Narco-trafficking and global geopolitics**

- WebCT: Bellone, "The Cocaine commodity chain", from *Latin America in the World-Economy*

- WebCT: Mayer, "Coca as Commodity: Local Use and Global Abuse" (*The Articulated Peasant*, chapter 6).

26 **Narco-trafficking, social violence and crisis of the nation-state**

- *NACLA Report on the Americas 35.1. Widening Destruction. Durg War in the Americas* (July/August 2001)
- WebCT: UNESCO 1998, Jelin, "Cities, culture and globalization"

28 **Social and Indigenous Movements**

- Petras, *The New Development Politics* (selections)

Guest speaker

May
3

Social and Indigenous Movements: Bolivia

- WebCT: UNESCO 2000, Arizpe et al, "Cultural Diversity, conflict and pluralism"
- WebCT: Albó, "And from Kataristas to MNRistas? The Surprising and Bold Alliance Between Aymaras and Neoliberals in Bolivia" (Van Cott 1994)
- WebCT: Albó, "Bolivia: From Indian and Campesino" (Sieder, ch 3)
- WebCT: Jelin, "Emergent Citizenship or Exclusion?" (Smith & Korzeniowicz, ch 5).

5 **Social and Indigenous Movements: The World Social Forum**

- Fischer & Ponniah, eds. *Another World is Possible*. (selections)

10 **Transnational Migrancy**

- *NACLA Report on the Americas 35.2* (October 2001)
- Fischer & Ponniah, eds. *Another World is Possible*. (Part III, chapter 20)

Guest speaker

12 **Transnational Migrancy**

- Huntington, "The Hispanic Challenge" <http://www.foreignpolicy.com/>

17 **Globalized nations**

19 **The centrality of culture**

- WebCT: Hall, "The centrality of culture: notes on the cultural revolutions of our time," in Thompson, *Media and Cultural Regulation*

24 **The New Culture of Capitalism**

- Rifkin, Jeremy. *The Age of Access* (chapters 1, 5, 6, 8)

26 **Cultural consumption and social identity**

- Sklair, *Globalization* (chapter 7)
- WebCT: Lee, *Consumer culture reborn* (chapter

31 **The Global Imaginary and Global Pop Culture: The Global Synopticon**

- Rifkin, Jeremy. *The Age of Access* (chapter 11)
- WebCT: Tomlinson, Internationalism, "Globalization and Cultural Imperialism," in Thompson, *Media and Cultural Regulation*
- WebCT: UNESCO 1998, del Corral et al, "Cultural and economic development through copyright in the information society"
- WebCT: Oliveira, "Brazilian Soaps outshine Hollywood", from *Beyond National Sovereignty*
- WebCT: UNESCO 1998, Throsby, "The role of music in international trade and economic development"

June
2

Is another world possible (and desirable)?

- Sklair, *Globalization* (chapter 12)
- Fischer & Ponniah, eds. *Another World is Possible*. (selections)

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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