

ITS 201B: Introduction to International Studies

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Office Hours: MW 02:00–03:00 p.m.

Class Hours: MW 10:05–11:25 a.m.

Office: 9 MacMillan Hall

Class Room: 262 Upham

Course Description

Globalization was once thought to be inevitable. Now writers are proclaiming globalization's death. Motivated by these trends, this course introduces students to the study of global affairs by providing an interdisciplinary approach that draws on texts in the social sciences and humanities. The course begins with a debate on the current state of globalization. It then provides students with an overview of international studies as a discipline and the significance of an interdisciplinary approach. Next, the course shows how different disciplines in the social sciences and humanities contribute to our understanding of global phenomena. The last part of the course highlights some major issues of global concern, such as democratization, development, terrorism, migration, population growth, and the spread of "disinformation." Students will leave the course with a recognition of how global forces affect everyday life.

Course Objectives

1. Survey cross-disciplinary contributions to knowledge of global topics
2. Introduce topics relevant to contemporary life around the world
3. Build a foundation for interpreting social information

Required Readings

Anderson, Sheldon, Mark Allen Peterson, and Stanley W. Toops (2018). *International studies: an interdisciplinary approach to global issues*. Routledge.

Grading

- 5% Event Attendance
- 15% Class Participation and Attendance
- 20% Online Section Assignments (2)
- 30% Midterm Exam
- 30% Final Exam

Grading Scale

Grade	Minimum %	Grade	Minimum %
A+	97%	C	73%
A	93%	C-	70%
A-	90%	D+	67%
B+	87%	D	63%
B	83%	D-	60%
B-	80%	F	0%
C+	77%		

Course Policies

Class Communications and Lecture Policies

- Lectures and PowerPoints will be posted online, but these slides should be considered an outline of lectures. It is the student's responsibility to take notes.
- Feedback will not be provided on assignments before assignment due date unless otherwise noted.
- Course communications will be sent via Canvas. It is your responsibility to check your Canvas messages to stay updated on announcements, assignments, grades, feedback, and other instructor communications.
- Any concerns with grades should be discussed with the instructor in person during office hours rather than through email.
- Mute all electronic devices and avoid using cell phones during class.
- Studies show that students retain more information when taking notes by hand (e.g. [Mueller and Oppenheimer 2014](#)). Nevertheless, laptops may be used in class but only for the purposes of taking notes and other class-related exercises.
- Written and typed work submitted as attachments on Canvas or in emails can be submitted in any of the following file formats: .pdf, .doc, or .docx. Other file formats will not be accepted.

Attendance Policies

- Attendance is expected and will be taken randomly throughout the semester. Attendance comprises a portion of the Class Participation/Attendance grade.
- Two unexcused absences are allowed per student without penalty.
- Students are responsible for making up any missed work, regardless of the reason for their absence. It is also the absentee's responsibility to gather missing notes or materials.
- Students wishing to excuse any absences must let the instructor know the reason for their absence. The instructor reserves the right to accept or deny requests for absence excusals. Permissions granting excused absences include but are not limited to death in the family, serious illness, and religious observances. Other requests for excused absences will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Late Work Submission

- Unexcused late work will receive a deduction of a letter grade for every 24 hours after the deadline.
- In some circumstances, determined by the instructor, late work may be accepted without penalty. Please email the instructor with a reason for requesting no penalty on a late submission of work.
- Students concerned about their academic performance or university experience are encouraged to contact the [Student Success Center](#).

Disabilities

- If you have a physical, learning, medical and/or psychiatric disability and feel that you may need a reasonable accommodation to fulfill the essential functions of the course that are listed in this syllabus, you are encouraged to contact the Miller Center for [Student Disability Services](#) at 529-1541 (V/TTY), located in the Shriver Center, Room 304.

Mental Health

- If you are experiencing mental or emotional distress, you are encouraged to call [Student Counseling Service](#) (513-529-4634). For emergencies outside of business hours, the Community and Counseling and Crisis Center (844-427-4747) has a 24-hour hotline.

Academic Integrity

- Academic integrity is an important component to education and professionalization. Therefore, cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, unauthorized collaboration, misrepresentation, and gaining an unfair advantage on coursework will not be tolerated. Please review Miami University's [Student Code of Conduct](#). You may also see Chapter 5 of the Student Handbook for a list of penalties students face for academic dishonesty.
- Course materials provided to you, including presentations, tests, outlines, and similar materials, are copyright protected. You may make copies of course materials solely for your own use. You may not copy, reproduce, or electronically transmit any course materials to any person or company for commercial or other purposes without the faculty member's express permission. Violation of this prohibition may subject the student to discipline/suspension/dismissal under the Miami's Code of Student Conduct or Academic Integrity Policy.

Graded Materials

Event Attendance and Report (5%)

Students are required to attend one university event (e.g., guest speakers and lectures) and submit a one-page report about that event. A list of events that students may attend and write about for credit will be listed on Canvas under the *Assignments* tab.

Extra credit may also be earned by attending and submitting reports about select university events beyond the required amount. Attendance and reports about each additional university event beyond the first one earns students half of the previous value's potential amount. In other words, the possible value of the first extra credit event attendance (and report) is worth half of the required one. The second extra credit submission is worth half of the first one. Given that the required assignment is worth up to 5 percent of a student's total grade, extra credit earnings are as follows:

- Extra Credit Event Attendance and Report 1: 2.5%
- Extra Credit Event Attendance and Report 2: 1.25%
- Extra Credit Event Attendance and Report 3: 0.625%

...and so on.

Class Participation and Attendance (15%)

Students are encouraged to participate in class and have many opportunities to do so. Students may answer questions posed by the instructor, ask questions during lectures, and actively participate during in-class activities, all of which will contribute to their total participation and attendance grade. Random checks of student attendance will also be used to assess the class participation and attendance grade.

Online Section Assignments (20%)

Although students will complete three online section assignments, only the two highest assignment scores will be recorded. Each assignment will be worth 10 percent of the total course grade. These assignments will allow students to demonstrate their knowledge of materials from the following three sections: 1) Foundations of International Studies; 2) Disciplinary Approaches; and 3) Issue Areas. Students will complete and submit these assignments on Canvas either by the end or immediately following the end of a course section. Deadlines for submitting these assignments can be found below in the class schedule.

Midterm and Final (60%)

Students will also be evaluated with midterm and final exams. Each exam will equate to 30 percent of the total course grade. The exams may include a combination of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. They will test student comprehension of the readings, knowledge of important concepts, and use of course materials to support an argument.

Class Schedule

Students are expected to come to class having completed the readings assigned for that day. Many of the assigned course readings are found in the textbook, *Introduction to International Studies, Ed. 5* by Sheldon Anderson, Mark Allen Peterson, and Stanley W. Toops. Any other readings will be hyperlinked from in the below schedule or made available in the Canvas site's *Files* section. The course schedule and readings are subject to change. Any such changes will be announced in class and/or through email.

Foundations of International Studies

Week 01, 08/26 - 08/30: Course Introduction and Globalization

Monday, August 26: What is International Studies?

Wednesday, August 28: The Globalization Debate

- Dueling Globalizations: A Debate Between Thomas L. Friedman and Ignacio Ramonet. *Foreign Policy*. 110–127. (1999)
 - Available on Canvas

Week 02, 09/02 - 09/06: Globalization

Monday, September 2: LABOR DAY (NO CLASS)

Wednesday, September 4: Is Globalization Dead or Alive?

- Saval, Nikil. “Globalisation: the rise and fall of an idea that swept the world.” *The Guardian*. (2017)
– theguardian.com/world/2017/jul/14/globalisation-the-rise-and-fall-of-an-idea-that-swept-the-world
- Baldwin, Richard. “Globalization is close to its ‘holy cow’ moment.” *Chicago Booth Review*. (2018)
– review.chicagobooth.edu/economics/2018/article/globalization-close-its-holy-cow-moment
- Beinart, Peter. “An Illusion for our Time.” *The New Republic*. (1997)
– newrepublic.com/article/73909/illusion-our-time
- In-Class Activity

Week 03, 09/09 - 09/13: Studying International Studies

Monday, September 9: The International Studies Framework

- APT: Introduction
- Juergensmeyer, Mark. Preface in *Thinking Globally: A Global Studies Reader*. (2014)
– Available on Canvas

Wednesday, September 11: Interdisciplinary Thought

- Repko, Allen F. and Rick Szostak. Chapter 1 in *Interdisciplinary Research: Process and Theory*. (2017)
– Available on Canvas

Disciplinary Approaches

Week 04, 09/16 - 09/20: History

Monday, September 16: History as a Discipline

- APT: Chapter 1
- Online Section Assignment 1 due by Midnight

Wednesday, September 18: The History of Populism in South Africa

- Hart, Gillian. Chapter 1 in *Rethinking the South African Crisis: Nationalism, Populism, and Hegemony*. The University of Georgia Press. (2013)
– Available on Canvas

Week 05, 09/23 - 09/27: Geography

Monday, September 23: Geography as a Discipline

- APT: Chapter 2

Wednesday, September 25: The Geography of Populism in Recent Elections

- Rodriguez-Pose, Andres. “The revenge of the places that don’t matter.” *VoxEU.org*. (2018)
– voxeu.org/article/revenge-places-dont-matter
- Lulle, Aija. “Welcome to the geography of populism: The diaspora vote in the UK during the 2018 Latvian elections.” *EUROPP Blog*. (2018)
– blogs.lse.ac.uk/europpblog/2018/10/10/welcome-to-the-geography-of-populism-the-diaspora-vote-in-the-uk-during-the-2018-latvian-elections/

Week 06, 09/30 - 10/04: Anthropology

Monday, September 30: Anthropology as a Discipline

- APT: Chapter 3

Wednesday, October 2: The Anthropology of Populism in Bolivia

- Postero, Nancy Chapter 1 in *The indigenous state : race, politics, and performance in plurinational Bolivia*. University of California Press. (2017)
 - Available on Canvas

Week 07, 10/07 - 10/11: Economics

Monday, October 7: Economics as a Discipline

- APT: Chapter 4

Wednesday, October 9: The Economics of Populism in Thailand

- Phongpaichit, Pasuk. “‘Business Populism’ in Thailand.” *Journal of Democracy*. (2005)
 - Available on Canvas

Week 08, 10/14 - 10/18: Political Science

Monday, October 14: Political Science as a Discipline

- APT: Chapter 5

Wednesday, October 16: The Political Science of Populism in Europe

- Goodwin, Matthew. “The end of trust in our political class” *New Statesman*. (2019)
 - [newstatesman.com/politics/uk/2019/05/end-trust-our-political-class](https://www.newstatesman.com/politics/uk/2019/05/end-trust-our-political-class)
- Gramlich, John and Katie Simmons. “5 key takeaways about populism and the political landscape in Western Europe.” *Pew*. (2018)
 - [pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2018/07/12/5-key-takeaways-about-populism-and-the-political-landscape-in-western-europe/](https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2018/07/12/5-key-takeaways-about-populism-and-the-political-landscape-in-western-europe/)
- Online Section Assignment 2 due by Midnight

Issue Areas

Week 09, 10/21 - 10/25: Midterm and Democratization

Monday, October 21: MIDTERM

Wednesday, October 23: Regime Types and Transitions

- Clark, William Roberts, Matt Golder, and Sona Nadenichek Golder. Chapter 5 in *Principles of Comparative Politics*.
 - Available on Canvas

Week 10, 10/28 - 11/01: Democratization

Monday, October 28 & Wednesday, October 30: Democratization Worldwide

- APT:
 - N. America: 147–151

- Europe: 173–189
- East Asia: 203–212; 215–219
- South/Central Asia: 239–248; 249–251
- Sub-Saharan Africa: 272–283
- Middle East & N. Africa: 313–328; 334–344
- Latin America: 354–363; 372–375

Week 11, 11/04 - 11/08: Development

Monday, November 4: The Development Process

- Easterly, William. Chapter 1 in *The Elusive Quest for Growth: Economists' Adventures and Misadventures in the Tropics*. (2002)
 - Available on Canvas
- Claar, Victor V. “The Romer Nobel cheers human potential.” *Acton Commentary*. (2018)
 - acton.org/pub/commentary/2018/10/10/romer-nobel-cheers-human-potential

Wednesday, November 6: Poverty Trap

- Collier, Paul. Chapter 1 in *The Bottom Billion: Why the Poorest Countries are Failing and What Can Be Done About It*. Oxford University Press. (2007)
 - Available on Canvas
- Frank, Andre Gunder. “The Development of Underdevelopment.” *Monthly Review*
 - Available on Canvas

Week 12, 11/11 - 11/15: Development

Monday, November 11 & Wednesday, November 13: Development Around the World

- APT:
 - N. America: 152–161
 - Europe: 189–191
 - East Asia: 214–215 & 220–230
 - South/Central Asia: 248–249; 251–253
 - Sub-Saharan Africa: 284–305
 - Middle East & N. Africa: 229–333
 - Latin America: 363–371

Week 13, 11/18 - 11/22: Migration

Monday, November 18: History of Migration

- APT: Chapter 14
- Foreman, Nicholas. “The history of the United States’ first refugee crisis.” *Smithsonian*. (2016)
 - smithsonianmag.com/history/history-united-states-first-refugee-crisis-180957717/

Wednesday, November 20: Global Migration Patterns

- Hindy, Lily. “Germany’s Syrian refugee integration experiment.” *The Century Foundation*. (2018)
 - tcf.org/content/report/germanys-syrian-refugee-integration-experiment/

Week 14, 11/25 - 11/29: THANKSGIVING BREAK (NO CLASS)

Week 15, 12/02 - 12/06: Overpopulation and Fake News

Monday, December 2: Population Pessimists and Optimists

- APT: Chapter 17
- Malthus, Thomas. Chapter 1 in *An Essay on the Principle of Population*. (1798)
 - Available on Canvas
- Engels, Friedrich. Selections from “Outlines of a Critique of Political Economy.” *Deutsch-Französische Jahrbücher*. (1843)
 - Available on Canvas

Wednesday, December 4: Fake News

- Young, Kevin “Moon Shot: Race, A Hoax, and the Birth of Fake News.” *The New Yorker*. (2017)
 - [newyorker.com/books/page-turner/moon-shot-race-a-hoax-and-the-birth-of-fake-news](https://www.newyorker.com/books/page-turner/moon-shot-race-a-hoax-and-the-birth-of-fake-news)
- United States Department of State. “Soviet ‘Active Measures’: Forgery, Disinformation, Political Operations.” (1981).
 - Available on Canvas
- Mackintosh, Eliza. “Finland is winning the war on fake news. What it’s learned may be crucial to Western democracy.” *CNN*. (2019)
 - edition.cnn.com/interactive/2019/05/europe/finland-fake-news-intl/
- In-Class Film: *Operation InfeKtion*
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tR_6dibpDfo
- Online Section Assignment 3 due by Midnight

Week 16, 12/09 - 12/13: Final Exam Week

Wednesday, December 11 at 10:15 AM: FINAL EXAM