



## **GLBS 2503 Global Studies**

Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities and Social Sciences

CRN 20625 Section 201

Spring 2019, MWF 9-9:50AM, PY 209

Instructor: Dr. Rebekah Dowd

Office: O'Donohoe Hall 204

Office hours: WF 2-3:30pm, TR 11am-12noon

Office phone: (940) 397-4341

E-mail: [rebekah.dowd@msutexas.edu](mailto:rebekah.dowd@msutexas.edu))

### **Course Description**

This course introduces students to current issues in international politics and the global community. We will look at the impact that international interdependence has created within the political, economic, social, and environmental issue arenas. It is assumed students have limited prior knowledge of the topics, therefore this course allows students to develop an operational understanding of common world problems, and policies that have been created to address these issues. The first part of the semester sets the foundation by explaining the structure of the international stage and its key actors. The second part of the semester delves into the international economy, international law, and human rights. The third part of the semester completes the picture by analyzing some of today's emerging challenges, including environmental problems and changing political conditions. **The syllabus provides a general plan for the course; changes may be necessary. Any changes made will be announced in class and posted to D2L.**

### **Learning Objectives:**

- Identify key components of the contemporary international system.
- Discuss state sovereignty in the international system.
- Explain the existence and utility of international law, including identification of international judicial bodies and their functions.
- Understand the main organs of the United Nations and their functions.
- Identify at least one major regional IGO (EU, AU, OAS, ASEAN, etc.) in the international system and explain its goals and current status towards achieving those goals.
- Describe what an NGO is and identify the goals of major NGOs.
- Explain what a weapon of mass destruction is, present differing perspectives on policies and international treaties and regimes aimed at preventing the proliferation of such weapons, and articulate the position of those states that are trying to acquire such weapons.
- Define terrorism, present differing arguments seeking to explain the motivation of terrorists, and distinguish between terrorism and other forms of non-conventional warfare.
- Articulate the concept of human rights, including the history of the growth of human rights, and the major international treaties and conventions relating to human rights.
- Discuss the major environmental issues facing the international system, as well as efforts made to deal with these issues, and the positions and controversies surrounding environmental issues.

- Describe the flow of finances and technology in the international system, including the main characteristics of international trade, and the impact of such trade on economic development and standards of living.
- Explain multinational corporations and their operations in developing countries.

### Required Textbook & Instructional Materials:

1. Realizeit Adaptive Learning Courseware—this courseware embeds a text (Snarr and Snarr, “Introducing Global Issues”), the RCII, and other learning materials.  
Realizeit subscription information:
  - a. If you are enrolled in the course in D2L, you are *automatically enrolled* into Realizeit, which is integrated into D2L.
  - b. You have **two weeks** from the start of the course to purchase access from Realizeit. Go to <https://realizeit.myshopify.com/products/msu-texas-global-issues-pols2401>
  - c. to purchase access (your access in D2L will automatically continue, but keep the confirmation email for your records). **You must purchase the access code for the online courseware by January 31.**
  - d. If you fail to purchase the access code within two weeks, your Realizeit access will be disabled. The system will retain your work. Once you complete the purchase, your access will be reenabled within 8 business hours. Please contact Realizeit if you drop the course, prior to **January 31**. There will be no refunds for the courseware after **January 31**.
  - e. Questions concerning the Realizeit courseware should be directed to: **888-210-6097** and [gsusupport@realizeitlearning.com](mailto:gsusupport@realizeitlearning.com). This is 24/7 support.
  - f. Questions specific to the RCII should be directed to [rcii@gsu.edu](mailto:rcii@gsu.edu) and **404-413-7129**.
2. Readings/materials posted on D2L
3. Students are also expected to follow international news through such sources as The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, The Financial Times, Current History, Foreign Affairs, and Foreign Policy.

***Note, for this course students must have adequate online access to complete the adaptive learning lessons in Realizeit as well as other coursework. Technical excuses for being unable to successfully do the coursework will not be accepted. You must complete all coursework between the specified times/dates listed in the weekly course outline below.***

### Student Handbook

Refer to: [2019-2020 MSU Student Handbook](#)

### Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures:

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individuals to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

[Office of Student Conduct](#)

### Electronic Devices:

Laptop computers and other technology are not to be used in this classroom, unless given express permission for a particular in-class assignment that day. Cellphones, tablets, and other electronic devices should be stored away from sight. Cell phones should be placed on silent (Not vibrate) and only emergency calls should be answered. Text messaging is also a serious violation. No use or

wearing of headphones/earbuds/Airpods is permitted. Students that are caught using any of these devices during class will be asked to leave the class for the remaining time period. Students will also be marked absent for the class if an in-class activity or quiz has been completed.

### **Office Hours:**

I encourage you to attend my office hours as they are a useful forum for additional interaction with the material as well as the instructor. While not required, it is recommended for both students that are struggling or those successfully engaging with the material. For those that are lacking in full comprehension of the materials, I am here for you to engage and bring better understanding. For those that have a mastery of the subject matter, I am also here for you to discuss the deeper issues and implications of the material covered in the course. If these hours are inconvenient, do not hesitate to contact me and make an appointment.

### **Contacting Me:**

The best way to reach is by email or by stopping by my office hours. I will make all attempts to answer emails within 48 business hours unless it is over a holiday break. Office hours are walk-in, no appointment necessary. If you cannot come to my open office hours due to a schedule conflict, email me to ask about a separate appointment time.

### **Attendance Policy:**

You should attend class. Students who do not attend class often have difficulty with the course and receive lower grades. Attendance will be taken at each class meeting and will be applied to your grade in Attendance and Participation. Each student gets **two un-excused absences** without penalty to your attendance grade. After that, it will be marked against your attendance grade. The only excused absences allowed after the two “free” days will be those as follows: illness with a doctor’s note covering the date(s) absent from class, death in the family, legal proceedings occurring during class period, university-approved absences such as travel as member of an MSU sports team, or emergency situation as determined by the instructor.

### **Disability Accommodations:**

Any student having an education disability plan on file with the university needs to inform me within the first week of the class so I can make the appropriate arrangements to accommodate your situation. In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Clark Student Center, Room 168, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

### **Clery Act Notification:**

Sexual misconduct includes sexual harassment, sexual assault, and any other nonconsensual behavior of a sexual nature; sex or gender discrimination violate University policies. Any person experiencing such behavior may receive confidential support from the Counseling Center. Counseling Center staff will hold what you share in strict confidence. If you disclose sexual misconduct, domestic violence, dating violence, or sex or gender discrimination occurring on campus, in a University-sponsored program, or involving a campus visitor or University student or employee (whether current or former)

to me, I as the instructor of this course am required to forward such information to the MSU Title IX office. This should not prevent you from speaking to me should you wish to do so, but know that what you tell me in this area cannot be held confidential, but must be shared with the Title IX office.

## Grading

<i>Assignments</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Participation and attendance	15%
Exam 1	15%
Exam 2	15%
Exam 3	15%
Reading Quizzes (in Realizeit)	20%
Map Quizzes (in Realizeit)	10%
RCII Quizzes (in Realizeit)	10%
TOTAL	100%

## Grading Scale:

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	Less than 60

## Class Attendance and Participation (15%):

Class meets three times a week, for approximately 36 class dates. Participation is based on attendance AND participation in discussion in class. I expect you to talk during class, engaging with me as the instructor, and your fellow students. Science has shown we learn best by asking and discussing our questions about issues. I encourage questions, dialogue, and open debate, just do not monopolize class discussions.

## Exams (3, 15% each)

These are a mix of multiple choice and open answer, essay-based questions. The content is based on lecture content and readings (the textbook readings and additional readings posted on D2L). Each exam will feature material introduced since the last exam only. Anything I say in in the lectures, along with anything in the assigned readings could be used for the exams.

Exam	Date
1	Monday, February 24, 9 AM
2	Wednesday, April 8, 9 AM
3	Monday, May 11, <b>8-10 AM</b>

## Realizeit Materials - Reading Quizzes, Map Quizzes, RCII Quizzes- (40%):

Forty percent of final grade will be determined by your completion of 12 modules (11 content modules and 3 map quizzes counted as a separate module). You will work on these modules through the Realizeit courseware (accessible through D2L by going through the various “sections”). The purpose of providing you with this courseware is to provide an integrated system through which you will be

encouraged to do the readings and test your knowledge and understanding of the various content chapters. The set-up of the courseware is as follows:

- **Readings:** Through D2L, you will click on the relevant section and it will immediately take you to the Realizeit site where you can access the various chapters assigned for your reading material (see full schedule below); read the text carefully; take notes, make annotations, underline important parts; jot down any questions you may have and ask them in class; you should spend on average 1 ½ to 2 hours per week going through the readings; these readings are the foundation for the reading quizzes (see below) as well as for the exams
- **Reading Quizzes:** There is a specific schedule listed below telling you when quizzes become available and by when you must have completed them. For each quiz, you will have a short window within which the quiz must be completed. Each quiz will deal with questions related to specific chapters in the text so make sure you have done the reading, then enter the assessment through D2L (you may want to have two tabs open now, one for the reading and one for the assessment BUT you will not have enough time to check for answers in the reading if you have not actually yet done the reading); for each reading quiz, you will have 12 minutes within which to answer 12 multiple choice, matching or multi-select questions. You will have two attempts for each reading quiz and the highest score will be counted (but note that the questions are randomly chosen so your second quiz can have different questions from the first one.
- **RCII Quizzes:** The Robinson Country Intelligence Index (RCII) is designed to help you become more familiar with political and economic data and to this end, the courseware integrates the RCII and specific quizzes designed to test your familiarity with the index. You will click on the relevant RCII assessment in D2L and it will open up a quiz in Realizeit that will ask you specific questions the answer of which you can only find by going through the RCII index (this tool will open in a separate window and you will have to finish specific steps in order to be able to answer RCII quiz questions). You will have one-week windows within which to complete the quizzes (see schedule below) but unlike the reading quizzes, we want to see you use the index so there is no time limit on the RCII quizzes **AS LONG AS** you complete them within specific dates (typically one week). Make sure you read all the introductions to questions carefully as this will give you the exact instructions to follow on the index to be able to answer the questions. The very first two RCII quizzes are actually based on tutorials on how to use the index so these are simple but necessary starting points to learn how to navigate the RCII.
- **Map quizzes.** There will be three map quizzes that will open in week three and have to be completed by **May 6**. The three short map quizzes (*10-minute limit, 2 attempts*) each cover two regions of the world: A) Middle East/Former Soviet Union B) Asia/Latin America C) Africa/Europe. Knowing the basic geography of the places we're covering is central to getting the most out of this course. The map quizzes open the **third week of the course (02/03/20) and all three must be completed by the last week of classes (05/06/20)**. You will have two attempts per map quiz and you should make sure that you prepare yourself for the map quizzes by utilizing the map function in the RCII and/or consult an atlas. You will get more details on what each region covers as we get to week three.

### **Policy on Missed Work**

Makeup for the exams will only be given in cases of legitimate and documented emergencies (medical excuse, death in family, sports/off site event required by your degree program). These makeup exams must be completed within 7 days of the regular exam window. If you miss the time window for a make-up test, I assume that you do not want to take it. My recommendation is that you avoid having to make-up exams as much as possible and if you have special circumstances, contact me immediately!

### **Last Day to drop with a grade of “W:”**

Please note, the semester’s midpoint is **March 30. This is the last Day for “W”**. Students can **withdraw from the class up to this point and** receive a W for the class. However, there is a limited number of W’s a student can receive over their academic career. **Drops after this date will receive grades of “F.”** If you intend to withdraw from a course, you must do so yourself. If you are still on the roll when I have to assign grades and you haven’t done any passing work, then you will fail. So, if you intend to drop, please make sure you do so in time. Also note, I have to report to the university whether students have attended class, and how regularly you attend. If you have never attended this class when I have to submit my report to the university, or you have stopped attending, it is possible that the university will drop you from the course, potentially impacting your academic record and financial assistance.

Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

### **Desire-to-Learn (D2L)**

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a required part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact <https://msutexas.edu/distance/oprs.php> to submit a D2L help request. **While I do not post most of my PowerPoint notes to D2L, I will post a few key slides to the site just prior to each exam. These copies will serve as your study guide for the exams.**

### **Class Behavior Policies**

In order to make this a successful class, it is important that we create an environment where everyone has an opportunity to learn. **This includes in-person and online classes.** During class periods, no laptops, cellphones, or other electronic devices are allowed. Please put away all headphones/earbuds/Airpods as well. You should know that the university policy on disruptive behavior in class applies. Disruptive class behavior for this purpose is defined by the instructor. Such behavior includes, but is not limited to, verbal or physical threats, repeated obscenities, unreasonable interference with class discussion, making/receiving personal phone calls or pages (text messaging) during class, leaving and entering class frequently in the absence of notice to instructor of illness or other extenuating circumstances, and persisting in disruptive personal conversations with other class members. For purposes of this policy, it may also be considered disruptive behavior for a student to exhibit threatening, intimidating, or other inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates outside of class. If your behavior is disruptive to other students or the instructor, this will violate University guidelines, and you will be reported to administrative authorities.

### **Change of Schedule**

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

### **Refund and Repayment Policy**

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. HOWEVER, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be



returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exist in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

### **College Policies**

#### **Campus Carry Rules/Policies**

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

#### **Smoking/Tobacco Policy**

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

#### **Alcohol and Drug Policy**

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibit the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

#### **Grade Appeal Process**

Update as needed. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [Undergraduate Catalog](#)

#### **Course Schedule:**

You are expected to complete all readings BEFORE the class date listed. All reading quizzes are due at the beginning of the class period of the due date. *See next page for schedule.*

## Course Schedule

	Chapter Title	Module reading quiz opens (all quizzes become available at 9am)	Quiz closes (by this point you need to have completed all the listed quizzes for a particular chapter; all quizzes close at 9 AM)
Section 1	Our Globalized World	1/20/20	1/31/20
	Key Actors on the Global Stage	2/03/20	2/10/20
	Global Security: Old Issues, New Realities	2/10/20	2/17/20
	Global Security Challenges: Weapons Proliferation	2/17/20	2/24/20
Section 2	Quest for Human Rights	2/26/20	3/6/20
	Global Political Economy	3/9/20	3/23/20
	Free Trade Debate	3/23/20	3/30/20
	Dimensions and Strategies of Development	3/30/20	4/8/20
Section 3	Challenges of Population Growth and Migration	4/13/20	4/20/20
	Confronting Climate Change	4/20/20	4/27/20
	Achieving Sustainable Development	4/27/20	5/4/20
Map Quizzes	1. Middle East / former Soviet Union 2. Asia / Latin America 3. Africa and Europe	2/03/20 2/03/20 2/03/20	All map quizzes have to be completed by 05/06/20 (you have 10 mins for each map quiz once started; 2 attempts and each map quiz has to be passed 100%)

Dates	Reading Assignments/Exams	Due Dates
<b>Week 1- Course Introduction</b> Mon, Jan 20	MLK Day – no classes	
Wed, Jan 22	Course Introduction; Lecture: Intro to System of International States	Begin module “Our Globalized World”
Fri, Jan 24	Tracking International News Focus	
<b>Week 2 –</b> Mon, Jan 27	Lecture: Waves of Globalization	
Wed, Jan 29	Lecture: Nationalism and Identity	
Fri, Jan 31	Israeli and Palestinian nationalism	Our Globalized World module ends 9 AM.
<b>Week 3 –</b> Mon, Feb 3	Lecture: Non-State Actors	Begin module “Key Actors on the World Stage”
Wed, Feb 5	Lecture: United Nations	
Fri, Feb 7	International News Focus – Non-State Actors; introduce map quizzes	
<b>Week 4 –</b> Mon, Feb 10	Lecture: State-initiated war	Key Actors module ends 9 AM; Begin module “Global Security: Old Issues, New Realities”
Wed, Feb 12	Lecture: Non-state actors and political violence	
Fri, Feb 14	Case: Isis and War in Syria	
<b>Week 5 –</b> Mon, Feb 17	Lecture: NATO	Global Security: Old Issues, New Realities ends 9 AM; Begin module, “Global Security Challenges: Weapons Proliferation”
Wed, Feb 19	Lecture: Technology of War	
Fri, Feb 21	Exam 1 Review	



<b>Dates</b>	<b>Reading Assignments/Exams</b>	<b>Due Dates</b>
<b>Week 6 –</b> Mon, Feb 24	<b>Exam 1</b>	Global Security Challenges: Weapons of Proliferation module ends 9 AM
Wed, Feb 26	Lecture: What is international law?	Begin module, “Quest for Human Rights”
Fri, Feb 28	Case: Russian orphans	
<b>Week 7 –</b> Mon, Mar 2	Lecture: Human Rights	
Wed, Mar 4	Lecture: NGOs	
Fri, Mar 6	Case: Refugee Crises	Quest for Human Rights module ends, 9 AM.
<b>Week 8 –</b> Mon, Mar 9	Lecture: Political Economy, Part I	Begin module, “Global Political Economy”
Wed, Mar 11	Lecture: Political Economy, Part II	
Fri, Mar 13	International News Focus: Changing Power in Financial System- Digital Currency	
Mon, Mar 16	<i>SPRING BREAK</i>	
Wed, Mar 18	<i>SPRING BREAK</i>	
Fri, Mar 20	<i>SPRING BREAK</i>	
Mon, Mar 23	Lecture: Trade and Globalization, Pt. I	Global Political Economy module ends; Begin module, “Free Trade Debate”
Weds, Mar 25	<i>No class – Dr. Dowd at conference – Watch video online, the case of Singapore, Pt II - <a href="https://youtu.be/xRvbrzlyV9E">https://youtu.be/xRvbrzlyV9E</a></i>	
Fri, Mar 27	<i>No class – Dr. Dowd at conference Watch video online, the case of Singapore, Pt II - <a href="https://youtu.be/xRvbrzlyV9E">https://youtu.be/xRvbrzlyV9E</a> Discussion board post required on D2L</i>	
Mon, Mar 30	Lecture: Trade and Globalization, Pt. II	Free Trade Debate module ends; Begin module, “Dimensions and Strategies of Development”
Weds, Apr 1	Lecture: Development Strategies	
Fri, Apr 3	Case: 2008 Global Financial Crisis	
Mon, Apr 6	Exam 2 review	
Weds, Apr 8	<b>Exam 2</b>	Dimensions and Strategies of Development module ends 11:59PM.
Fri, Apr 10	<i>HOLIDAY BREAK – No Classes</i>	
Mon, Apr 13	Lecture: Poverty and Inequality	Begin module, “Challenges of Population Growth and Migration”
Weds, Apr 15	Lecture: Population Growth and Migration	
Fri, Apr 17	Lecture: Diverse Strategies to Eliminate Poverty	
Mon, Apr 20	Lecture: Conflict over Natural Resources	Challenges of Population Growth and Migration module ends, 9 AM - Begin module “Confronting Climate Change”
Weds, Apr 22	Lecture: Barriers to Environmental Collaboration	
Fri, Apr 24	Case: The Resource Curse of Oil - <a href="https://youtu.be/yGDWAVBrM18">https://youtu.be/yGDWAVBrM18</a> BBC Four Documentary	
Mon, Apr 27	Lecture: Millennium Development Goals and Sustainable Development Goals	Confronting Climate Change module ends 9 AM; Begin

Dates	Reading Assignments/Exams	Due Dates
		module "Achieving Sustainable Development"
Weds, Apr 29	Lecture: Global Compact and CSR	
Fri, May 1	Case: The Greta Effect - <a href="https://youtu.be/oCVQdr9QFwY">https://youtu.be/oCVQdr9QFwY</a> Documentary	
Mon, May 4	Lecture Terrorism: A Domestic or International	Deadline for all Modules and Realizeit RCII quizzes
Weds, May 6	Problem Lecture: Shifting Power Balances	Deadline for Map Quizzes
Fri, May 8	Final exam review	Deadline - Extra Credit Papers
Mon, May 11	<b>Exam 3/Final: 8-10 am</b>	

*Final course grade will be posted to D2L once all work has been assessed.*