



GLBS 2503 Global Studies

Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities and Social Sciences

CRN 20625 Section X20

Spring 2022, Fully Online

Instructor: Dr. Rebekah Dowd

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Office hours: Virtually Mon 11am-1pm; Tues/Thurs.10:50am-12:20pm

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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 section sets the foundation by explaining the structure of the international stage and its key actors. The second section delves into the international economy, international law, and human rights. The third section 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 are sometimes necessary. Any changes may be announced in class and/or posted to D2L.** The instructor reserves the right to reduce the number of assignments, and will readjust the grade calculations, which may result in assignments increasing in value.

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.
- 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.

Required Textbook & Instructional Materials:

1. Introducing Global Issues, 7th edition, edited by Snarr and Snarr, Lynne Reinner Publishers, ISBN: 978-1626379671. This may be purchased at the MSU Bookstore, as well as through Amazon and major online book retailers.
2. Additional readings/materials posted on D2L in the Additional Readings folder

Note, for this course students must have adequate online access to D2L and material posted on it. Technical excuses for being unable to successfully do the coursework will not be accepted. You must complete all online course assignments using D2L between the specified times/dates listed in the weekly course outline.

Student Handbook

Refer to: [2021 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). Plagiarism also includes using content you have produced for other classes or assignments, without prior approval from all instructors involved to “recycle” this material in this Global Studies class. Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct. [MSU Student Conduct](#)

Electronic Devices:

All assignments in this course will be conducted in D2L. Tests and exams utilize the Respondus Lockdown Browser and Respondus Monitor for testing. In order to install these programs, you will need the following:

- A desktop computer or laptop other than a Chromebook. NOTE: Chromebooks DO NOT WORK with the Respondus Lockdown Browser and Monitor.
- Apple iPads may be used for quizzes and exams, but these are not advised for any assignment with a written component. Please notify me if you plan on using an iPad for your tests.
- Mobile phones and similar devices are not compatible with the required programs.
- A working webcam on the computing device used for the exam.
- Microsoft Office or a compatible program for written assignments. Access to Microsoft Office 365 available through the Office 365 for Students on the Microsoft website.

Please note: a limited number of webcams and laptops with cameras are available for check-out through the MSU Texas Moffett Library. If you do not have access to your own computer for completion of online assignments and tests, make sure you make any necessary arrangements to use publicly available computers on campus.

Office Hours:

Office hours are an open invitation to walk into my office without appointment and discuss with me anything of concern related to the course. Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, I will have virtual office hours during this term, unless special arrangements are made. See the top of the syllabus for the times in which I am “virtually” in my office. To speak with me during the posted times, just click the office hours link on D2L. If this time presents a conflict with your schedule, send me an email using the address at the top of this syllabus and I will schedule a virtual Zoom appointment with you.

Communication:

The best way to reach me is by the email address at the top of this syllabus. **I will make all attempts to answer emails within 48 business hours unless it is over a holiday break.** You must check your email listed as the primary account in your Banner information, as I will use this address to communicate with you outside of class. I will use D2L for posting syllabi, course communication, course schedule and changes, and the

gradebook. There may be some online office hours announced through D2L, if they vary from the office hours posted above. You should regularly check D2L and the email hosted via D2L for important course information.

When sending an email to me, please include ALL of the following information:

- Your first and last names (Ex: Taylor Smith)
- Your MSU ID# (Ex: M#2223045667)
- Your class name, and section # (ex: GLBS 2503 Global Studies, Section 201- online)
- An appropriate greeting (ex: Dear Dr. Dowd, I have a question about....)

If you do not include all of the above, answers to your email may be delayed, or even unanswered, because I will not be able to locate the information I need to address your concern. Remember I teach many classes, and because I will not meet you in person with this online class, I need the above information to identify you from other students.

“Attendance” Policy:

I am required by the university to report “failure to attend”, which, for an online class, is measured in failure to login to D2L and complete assignments. I monitor the D2L work submitted on a regular basis. If you are no longer logging in and completing work by the due dates, nor have you provided a legal or medical excuse for non-participation, your attendance grade will be marked as non-participating and I will be required to report this to the registrar’s office, which could have damaging effects to your GPA and to future access to financial aid. See the grading policy and breakdown of your grade calculations for more details.

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 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>	%
Online Discussion Boards	20
Exams 1, 2, 3	10 each
Written Paper	20
Reading Quizzes	20

<i>Assignments</i>	<i>%</i>
Map Quizzes	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

Participation/Discussion Boards (20%):

Discussion boards will replace the interaction that normally takes place during an in-person class setting. Please be respectful, but feel free to comment or respond to others' posts. There is usually one response expected per week, with a few exceptions (see schedule).

Exams (3, 10% each):

These are a mix of multiple choice and open answer, essay-based questions, through D2L. The exam content is based on lecture content and readings (the textbook readings and additional readings posted on D2L), so make sure you watch the lectures, and take notes while reading the texts. Each exam will feature material introduced since the last exam only. Anything I say in the lectures, along with anything in the assigned readings could be used for the exams. The exams are technically "open book", but will be timed, so you need to study just as you would for an in-person test, because you won't have time to look up answers during the exam.

Exam	Date
1	Friday, February 18-Sunday February 20
2	Friday, April 8- Sunday 10
3/Final	Friday, April 29-Monday, May 2

Written Paper (20%):

You will be asked to choose a topic and/or country to follow with a Google alert for international news. After following this country/topic during the term, you will write a 5-7 page, single-spaced paper about current events related to that country/topic as it relates to what you learned in the course this term. Details on the paper will be posted to D2L in the Research Paper folder. **Paper is due Friday, April 1, at 11:59PM**

Reading Quizzes, Map Quizzes - (30%):

- **Readings:** Each section has assigned content from the Snarr and Snarr text and/or articles posted as PDFs (see full schedule below); read the text carefully; take notes, make annotations, underline important parts; jot down any questions you may have and feel free to mention them in the discussion posts. **You should spend on average 2-3 hours per week going through the readings; these readings are the foundation for the reading quizzes (see below) as well as for the exams. Make sure you read the assigned pages BEFORE taking the associated quizzes.**
- **Reading Quizzes:** There is a specific schedule listed below telling you when quizzes 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 take the quiz. You will have two attempts for each reading quiz and the highest score will be counted. Each quiz must be completed by the due date at 11:59PM. There are no extensions for these, since they are open for several days.
- **Map quizzes.** There will be three map quizzes that have to be completed by **Friday, April 15**. The three short map quizzes each cover two regions of the world: A) Middle East/Former Soviet Union; B)

Asia/Latin America; and C) Africa/Europe. Knowing the basic geography of the places we're covering is central to getting the most out of this course. You will have two attempts per map quiz and you should make sure that you prepare yourself for the map quizzes.

Policy on Missed Work

There is no makeup allowed for reading quizzes or the research paper, because these can be completed over several days. Makeup for the exams will only be given in cases of legitimate and documented emergencies (medical excuse, death in family, event required by your degree program). You must request to makeup exams within 5 days of the regular exam window. For Exam 3, there is no extension or makeup because I am required to submit grades to the registrar's office shortly after the exam is taken.

Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:"

Please note, the semester's midpoint is **March 21. 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. Also note, I have to report to the university whether students have attended class, and how regularly you attend. If you submitting work for this class when I have to submit my report to the university, you have "stopped attending", and it is possible that the university will reduce your 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, and 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 technical support and [Submit a Problem Report](#) for help. **I do not post my PowerPoint notes to D2L, nor do I provide study guides for the exams in D2L.** Students are expected to watch the lectures and take their own notes from the videos and readings to use for study purposes. You are also welcome to attend my virtual office hours to ask questions prior to 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. Disruptive class 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, i.e., .online. If your behavior is disruptive to other students or the instructor, this will violate University guidelines, and you will be reported to administrative authorities.

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

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

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 according to the due dates listed. *See next page for schedule.*

Course Schedule

Dates	Lecture Topics , Reading Assignments, Exams	Discussions and Due Dates (by 11:59PM, unless otherwise noted)
Mon., Jan. 10	Course Introduction	
Globalization & International System Structures Wed., Jan. 12	Lecture: Waves of Globalization Read textbook Ch 1- Exploring Global Issues, pgs. 1-12	
Fri., Jan. 14	Lecture: System of International States Textbook Ch 2 – Global Security 21 st Century, pgs. 21-31	Introduce Yourself Discussion, due Sunday night, January 16.
Week 2 – Mon., Jan. 17	MLK DAY - NO classes/campus offices are closed, no virtual office hours	
Key Actors – Wed., Jan. 19	Lecture: United Nations, Parts I, II Read D’Anieri Ch 14 – United Nations, PDF online	Reading Quiz 1, by 11:59PM
Fri., Jan. 21	Lecture: Non-State Actors	Improving United Nations Discussion, Due Sunday night, January 23.
Mon., Jan. 24	Lecture: Nationalism and Identity Read textbook Ch 1- Exploring Global Issues, pgs.13-18	
Wed., Jan. 26	Case: Israel and Palestine Read textbook Ch 4 – Nationalism and Clash of Identities, pgs. 69-83 Watch Conflict Zone Excerpts (posted in D2L)	
Fri., Jan. 28	Lecture: Non-State Actors and Political Violence Read “Classifying Acts of Violence” PDF online	Reading Quiz 2, by 11:59PM AND Independent Statehood Discussion, due Sunday night, January 30.
Going to War Mon., Jan. 31	Lecture: State-initiated war, Parts I, II Textbook Ch 2 – Global Security 21 st Century, pgs. 21-33	
Wed., Feb. 2	Lecture: Technology of War Read textbook Ch 3- Weapons Proliferation, pgs. 39-57	
Fri., Feb. 4	Lecture: NATO Read NATO’s Next Act – by Breedlove, PDF online	Reading Quiz 3, by 11:59PM AND NATO Updates Discussion, due Sunday night, February 6.
Modern Security Issues Mon., Feb. 7	Lecture: Cybersecurity Read Textbook Ch 2 – Global Security 21 st Century, pgs. 34-37	
Wed., Feb. 9	Case: Isis and War in Syria Read “Syria’s War” - PDF online	
Fri., Feb. 11	Lecture Terrorism, Parts I, II Read “Framing Terrorism” pgs. 3-top of p 16 – PDF online	Reading Quiz 4, by 11:59PM AND Terrorism and Extremist Groups

Dates	Lecture Topics , Reading Assignments, Exams	Discussions and Due Dates (by 11:59PM, unless otherwise noted)
		Discussion, due Sunday night, February 13.
Mon., Feb. 14	Lecture: How to Write GS Essay – link in Essay folder (Research paper explained)	No readings
Wed., Feb. 16	I will hold a special virtual office time to ask Exam questions/with live discussion board monitoring	No readings
Fri., Feb. 18	Exam 1	Open Friday Feb 18 at 12am-Sun Feb 20 at 11:59PM
International Law & Rights Mon., Feb. 21	Lecture: What is international law? Read “International Law and Justice”- PDF online	
Wed., Feb. 23	Lecture: Human Rights Read Textbook Ch 5- Ensuring Human Rights, pgs. 85-107	
Fri., Feb. 25	Case: Russian Orphans No readings	Intl Law – Is it Law? Discussion ends Sunday night, February 27.
Mon., Feb. 28	Lecture: NGOs Read “NGOs and Development” Ch 1, Introduction, pgs. 1-23 – PDF online	Reading Quiz 5, by 11:59PM
Wed., Mar. 2	Lecture: Refugee Crises Read “Regaining Control? The Political Impact of Policy Responses to Refugee Crises” – PDF online	
Global Political Economy Fri., Mar. 4	Lecture: Political Economy, Part I Read Textbook Ch 9, The Power of Ideas, pgs. 181-top of 189	Case of Russian Orphans Discussion ends Sunday night, March 6.
Mon., Mar. 7	Lecture: Political Economy, Part II Read Textbook Ch 9, The Power of Ideas, pgs. 189-end of chapter	Reading Quiz 6, by 11:59PM
Wed., Mar. 9	Lecture: Trade and Globalization Read Textbook Ch 10, Politics, Economics, Trade, pgs. 201-222	
Fri., Mar. 11	Case: Digital Currency and the Dark Web Read “Policy of Dark Web” by Chertoff – PDF online	Show Me the Money Discussion Ends Sunday night, Mar 13.
Mon., Mar. 14 – Fri. Mar 18	SPRING BREAK	

Mon., Mar. 21	Lecture: Development Strategies Read Textbook Ch 11, Strategies for Development, pgs. 223-240	
Wed., Mar. 23	Lecture: Foreign Aid	

	Read Textbook Ch 11, Strategies for Development, pgs. 241- the end	
Fri., Mar. 25	Case: 2008 Global Financial Crisis/ Lectures Too Big to Fail, Parts I and II AND Watch YouTube video: https://youtu.be/ZAlj2gu0eM?t=151	Reading Quiz 7, by 11:59PM
Migration, Inequality, & Demographic Issues Mon., Mar. 28 - Wed., Mar. 30	<i>Dr. Dowd at an academic conference – no office hours these days</i> Lecture: Population Growth and Migration ONLINE Read Textbook Ch 12, Challenges of Population Growth, pgs. 247-275	
Fri., Apr. 1	<i>Dr. Dowd at an academic conference – no office hours these days</i> No new content for this date	Paper Deadline at 11:59PM
Mon., Apr. 4	Lecture: Poverty Reduction Read Textbook Ch 13, Women’s Equality/Development, pgs. 277-297	Reading Quiz 8, by 11:59PM
Wed., Apr. 6	I will hold a special virtual office time to ask Exam questions/with live discussion board monitoring	No readings
Fri., Apr. 8	Exam 2	Open Friday April 8 at 12am- Sun April 10 at 11:59PM
Global Environmental Problems Mon., Apr. 11	Lecture: Conflict over Natural Resources Read USIP “Conflict over Natural Resources” – PDF online	
Wed., April 13	Lecture: Barriers to Environmental Collaboration Read Textbook Ch 15, Solutions to Climate Change, pgs. 319-330 <i>HOLIDAY BREAK begins 10 pm</i>	
Fri., April 15	NO CLASSES	Map Quiz Deadline
Mon., Apr. 18	<i>CLASSES RESUME</i> Lecture: Millennium Development Goals and Sustainable Development Goals Read Textbook Ch 14, Pathways to Sustainable Development, pgs. 299-316	Reading Quiz 9, by 11:59PM
Wed., Apr. 20	Case: The Greta Effect Read Textbook Ch 15, Solutions to Climate Change, pgs. 331- to end	
Fri., Apr. 22	Lecture: Global Compact and CSR Read article, “Ruggie’s Global Compact and CSR” – PDF online	
Miscellaneous International Topics Mon., Apr. 25	Lecture: Global Health Policy Coordination Read Textbook Ch 6 – Ensuring Global Health, pgs. 109-132	
Wed., Apr. 27	Lecture: Social Media and International Politics Read, “How Social Media Influences International Politics” -PDF online	
Fri., Apr. 29	Lecture: Shifting Power Balances – East vs. West, Parts I, II	Reading Quiz 10, by 11:59PM

	No readings	
MONDAY, MAY 2	Final/ Exam 3, NO EXTENSIONS OFFERED	Open Friday April 29 at 12am-Mon May 2 at 11:59PM

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