

**IRG 301: Introduction to International Relations and Global Studies****MEZ B0.306, MWF 10—10:50 a.m. (#40295)****Dr. Michael R. Anderson****Office: MEZ 3.230****Office hours: MW 11:00—12:30 and by appt.****E-mail: [mra@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:mra@mail.utexas.edu)****Teaching assistant:**

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BUR 302

W 11:30-1:30

**Course Description:**

This course serves as an introduction to the College of Liberal Arts' interdisciplinary major, International Relations and Global Studies. Students will engage with many broad questions relating to the contemporary world, including: How has the modern international system come into being? What are the major opportunities and challenges related to the world-wide movement of capital, goods and ideas we have come to define as globalization? To what extent does the United States dominate the geopolitical, economic and cultural landscape today? Finally, are we entering a "post-American world," and if so, what global repercussions might this entail? This course will attempt to transcend the disciplinary boundaries of social sciences—whether political science, economics, geography or anthropology—and instead ask students to take a more holistic view of global issues, rooted in historical inquiry.

Class time will be divided between lecture material (most Mondays and Wednesdays) and discussion (most Fridays). Students will be evaluated based upon their performance on weekly reading responses, three exams, and a final essay.

**Course Objectives:**

By the end of the term, students will have the ability to:

- 1) describe a broad array of global issues confronting international actors
- 2) evaluate the role of the United States in the contemporary era of globalization

**Required Books:**

- William Pfaff, *The Irony of Manifest Destiny: The Tragedy of America's Foreign Policy* (Walker and Company, 2010).
- Joseph E. Stiglitz, *Making Globalization Work* (Norton, 2007).
- James L. Watson, ed., *Golden Arches East: McDonald's in East Asia* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition, Stanford University Press, 2006).
- John Micklethwait and Adrian Woolridge, *God is Back: How the Global Revival of Faith is Changing the World* (Penguin, 2009).
- Fareed Zakaria, *The Post-American World* (Norton, 2008).

**Grading Breakdown:**

- **Attendance (5 percent):** Students are expected to attend all class meetings. Five times during the semester, unannounced in advance, the instructor will have students sign in on a class roster. If you have a university-related conflict or medical or family emergency that prevents you from attending a class, alert your TA (providing relevant documentation) and you will not be penalized for a particular absence.
- **Reading responses (10 percent):** Students are expected to keep up with the weekly reading assignments. On Fridays marked for “discussion,” (i.e., all Fridays excepting exam dates), students are required to respond to a reading question posted by the instructor on the class blackboard site (see: assignments). Reading responses should be no longer than one page, double-spaced (roughly 300 words). Students are expected to print out a copy of their response and turn it in to their TA at the end of class on Friday. No email copies will be accepted. Ten satisfactory responses (of 12 possible) will be sufficient for full credit.
- **Examinations (60 percent):** Three times during the semester students will take an exam covering the reading and lecture material from the previous month (see course schedule). These exams will consist of two sections: 20 multiple-choice questions (10 points) and two short essays (10 points). Note: the third exam will take place on the last day of class. It will cover material only since the second exam. There will be no final exam.
- **Book review essay (25 percent):** Students will write a comparative book review essay of 3000 words (10-12 pages), using the books by William Pfaff, Joseph Stiglitz, James Watson, John Micklethwait/Adrian Woolridge and Fareed Zakaria. The title of the book review essay should be: “Globalization: The Americanization of the World?” This essay will be due on the day and time reserved for the final exam (see course schedule). Papers will be docked one letter grade for each day they are late. More specific expectations regarding the essay will be handed out by the instructor midway through the term.
- **Extra credit (up to 3 percent):** Students who attend a lecture/event dealing with an international/global issue and hand in a typed, one-page summary may receive a one-percent credit to their final average. No more than three lectures/events total may count. Students must receive prior permission from the instructor.
- **Overall semester averages** will earn the following letter grades:
 

93-100: A	90-92: A-		
87-89: B+	83-86: B	80-82: B-	
77-79: C+	73-76: C	70-72: C-	
67-69: D+	63-66: D	60-62: D-	0-59: F

**University of Texas Honor Code:** The core values of The University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the university is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community. Any student found guilty of scholastic dishonesty may receive an “F” in the course and be remanded to the appropriate University of Texas authorities for disciplinary action. For more information, view Student Judicial Services at <http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs>.

**Technology in Classroom:** To facilitate a positive learning environment and minimize distractions in class, all cell phones and other electronic devices must be turned off and put away. In addition, students will not be allowed to use a laptop computer during class unless they provide documentation regarding its necessity as a learning aid and disable Internet access during class.

**Religious Holidays:** According to UT-Austin policy, students must notify the instructor of an impending absence at least 14 days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If a student must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, the student will be given an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

**Student Privacy:** The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) requires that student privacy be preserved. Thus the posting of grades, even by the last four digits of the social security number, is forbidden. All communication will remain between the instructor and the student, and the instructor will not be able to share details of the student’s performance with parents, spouses, or any others.

**Documented Disability Statement:** The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact Services for Students with Disabilities at 471-6259 (voice) or 232-2937 (video phone).

**Emergency Evacuation Policy:** In the event of a fire or other emergency, it may be necessary to evacuate a building rapidly. Upon the activation of a fire alarm or the announcement of an emergency in a university building, all occupants of the building are required to evacuate and assemble outside. Once evacuated, no one may re-enter the building without instruction to do so from the Austin Fire Department, University of Texas at Austin Police Department, or Fire Prevention Services office. Students should familiarize themselves with all the exit doors of each room and building they occupy at the university, and should remember that the nearest exit routes may not be the same as the way they typically enter buildings. Students requiring assistance in evacuation shall inform their instructors in writing during the first week of class. Faculty members must then provide this information to the Fire Prevention Services office by fax (512-232-2759), with "Attn. Mr. Roosevelt Easley" written in the subject line. Information regarding emergency evacuation routes and emergency procedures can be found at <http://www.utexas.edu/emergency>.

**SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND READINGS**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Jan. 19	Introduction
Jan. 21	Discussion: Iriye, "Globalization as Americanization?" (bb)
Jan. 24	Power and empire
Jan. 26	Realism and idealism
Jan. 28	Discussion: Pfaff, Intro (pp. 1-42)
Jan. 31	The Legacy of the Enlightenment
Feb. 2	Rethinking the 20 <sup>th</sup> century
Feb. 4	Discussion: Pfaff, Parts III/IV (pp. 43-102)
Feb. 7	Economic globalization
Feb. 9	Free trade, fair trade?
Feb. 11	Discussion: Stiglitz, Chs. 1-3 (pp. 3-101)
Feb. 14	Tragedy of the commons
Feb. 16	Global debt
Feb. 18	Discussion: Stiglitz, Chs. 6-8 (pp. 161-244)
Feb. 21	The global reserve system
Feb. 23	Democratizing globalization
	Read: Stiglitz, Chs. 9-10 (pp. 245-292) – no response
Feb. 25	<b>First midterm exam</b>
Feb. 28	Cultural imperialism
Mar. 2	INGOs and transnationalism
Mar. 4	Discussion: Watson, Intro-Ch. 2 (pp. 1-109)
Mar. 7	Human rights
Mar. 9	GMOs: the debate
Mar. 11	Discussion: Watson, Chs. 3-Update (pp. 110-197)
Mar. 14—18	SPRING BREAK
Mar. 21	Creolization and culture
Mar. 23	"Cyberspace and the American Dream"
Mar. 25	Discussion: Micklethwait, Intro/Part III (pp. 1-27, 211-261)
Mar. 28	"Anglosphere"
Mar. 30	"Globish the World Over"
Apr. 1	Discussion: Micklethwait, Part IV (pp. 263-321)
Apr. 4	Global Christianity

- Apr. 6 Global Islam?  
Read: Micklethwait, Part IV (pp. 322-373) – no response
- Apr. 8 **Second midterm exam**
- Apr. 11 Five Roads to the Future  
Apr. 13 “Asian values”  
Apr. 15 Discussion: Zakaria, Chs. 1—3 (pp. 1-86)
- Apr. 18 China: the next superpower?  
Apr. 20 India: democratic alternative?  
Apr. 22 Discussion: Zakaria, Chs. 4-5 (pp. 87-166)
- Apr. 25 “Anti-globalization”  
Apr. 27 Global terrorism  
Apr. 29 Discussion: Pfaff, Parts V/VI (pp. 103-190)
- May 2 Geopolitics of energy  
May 4 Global ethics  
Read: Zakaria, Chs. 6-7 (pp. 167-259) – no response
- May 6 **Third exam**
- May 13 **Book review essay due at NOON in MEZ 3.230.**