**FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY**

**SYP 4453 001 - Global Social Change (3 Credits)**

**Spring 2013 Monday 4-6:50 PM in GS 111**

**Syllabus**

**Instructor: Nicole Mixson-Perez, M.A., Ph.D. Candidate TA: Antonette Wint**

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**Office Hours: MWF 10:30-11 AM, MWF 12-1 PM; W 4-6 PM; F 2-3:30 PM**

**Course Description**

This course explores the phenomenon of social change within the context of globalization – that is, in a globally connected world. Understanding globalization as involving political, economic, and cultural processes, the course considers many aspects of global change including: economy, polity, society, and culture. The course takes students beyond the commonsense conception of globalization as greater economic and political interdependency (accompanied by the experience of accelerated time and contracted space) to a deeper understanding of power relations in the contemporary world. In a real sense, the course is about how development is occasioned through inequality – as noted by Philip McMichael, the author of one of your main texts. Substantive topics include: the information revolution, outsourcing to low-wage zones, transnational migration, global governance institutions, neoliberal economic policies, nationalism, and religious fundamentalism.

**Course Objectives**

By the end of the course, students should:

* Be able to explain how power relations have developed among the countries/regions of the world.
* Know the basic principles that have guided development policies under globalization.
* Understand the role of international institutions in global governance and the impact of such on the developing world.
* Know the principle objectives of key countermovements (i.e. alternatives – both proposed and instituted – to the globalization project).

**Required Texts**

McMichael, Philip. 2012. *Development and Social Change: A Global Perspective*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, Inc.

Rothenberg, Paula S. 2006. *Beyond Borders: Thinking Critically About Global Issues*. New York: Worth Publishers.

The books are available at the FAU Bookstore as well as at Booksmart. If you wish you may purchase an electronic version of each book (cheaper than buying actual books).

**Blackboard Readings**

Additional readings will be posted on Blackboard (<http://blackboard.fau.edu>).

Here are the instructions for signing into the course page:

The student username is their FAUNet ID. If the student does not know their FAUNet ID they should go to <http://accounts.fau.edu> (they will need to enter their social security number and PIN in order to obtain their FAUNet ID). The student’s initial password for Blackboard is their PIN (PINs are by default set to 2 zeros followed by the 2-digit DAY and 2-digit YEAR of birth). The student email address in Blackboard will be set as their FAU email address (to forward email to another account students should go to MyFAU email and select “auto forward” under “options”). If you are unable to log onto Blackboard, contact the help desk immediately.

Please come to class having read the assigned readings for that day, because we will be discussing that material.

**Assignments and Grading**

* Grades represent an evaluation of the quality of students' work.
* Course grades will be based on:

Midterm exam 30%

Final exam 30%

Essay #1 15%

Essay #2 15%

Participation 10%

**Explanation of Assignments:**

**Midterm Exam (30%):** This is an in-class exam and will consist of short answer and essay questions.

**Final Exam (30%):** This is an in-class exam and will consist of short answer and essay questions.

**Essays (30% total):** You will write two short essays (worth 15% each) that will ask you to demonstrate your critical reading and thinking skills. Each essay will be ***500-750 words*** long. In your essays, you will respond to questions posed by the instructor about key concepts or arguments in the assigned readings and apply what you have learned to relevant events. Detailed instructions and a grading rubric will be made available to provide guidance for the successful completion of the essays. ***Your essays will be submitted through the Blackboard system by the specified dates below. I will not accept email attachments via email.*** Before the first report is due you should make an appointment with a consultant at the FAU writing center (UCEW) <http://www.fau.edu/UCEW/>. Bring a draft of your essay to the consultant to help with your writing before you submit the first essay.

**Participation (10%):** This encompasses attendance, participation and engagement in class activities and discussions. A-level class participation is thoughtful and shows that you have done the reading and considered it carefully; A-level class participation is respectful of the rights of other students to speak and offer their opinions; A-level class participation is focused on the topic that has been set by the instructor. A-level participation does not need to be constant, but it needs to be consistently at the level specified. B-level participation is missing one element of the components of A-level participation. C-level participation is missing more than one element of the components of A-level participation. The quantity of your participation is much less important than the quality of your participation. Think before you speak. I will take attendance by various means each class.

Final grades are based on the following percentages:

**Grading:**

**Point Scale     Letter Grade**

**> 93                          A**

**90 - 92                      A-**

**87 - 89                      B+**

**83 - 86                      B**

**80 - 82                      B-**

**77 - 79                      C+**

**70 - 76                      C**

**60 - 69                      D**

**0   - 59                      F**

**Attendance Policy**: Students are expected to attend ALL class meetings. Students who are absent from class cannot expect assistance with obtaining missed lecture notes or activities and are responsible for obtaining any information regarding changes in assignment due dates and other requirements. I will take attendance at the beginning of every class period. If you are late, it is your responsibility to ensure I know you were present before you leave.

The goal of this course is to be an interactive experience. Actively participating in class discussions and attending lectures is important to your success in this course. I expect you to come to class on time and prepared, having done the necessary readings and assignments before the meeting times. If you must miss a class session, it is your responsibility to complete assignments and to keep up with the readings. No make-ups will be given for missed in-class assignments, unless I receive notification of an excused absence before the missed session. ***Please email me if you must miss class for any reason so you do not fall behind.***

**Absences from class**

Students will not be penalized for absences from class for a university-approved reason. If you are absent from class for a university-approved reason, please be sure to provide that documentation to me no later than the next class. University-approved absences will include jury duty, military service, participation in scheduled FAU athletic events, and similar commitment.

You may also be excused from class for religious observances. If you need to miss a class for religious reasons, please inform me in writing in advance of the day of religious observation. Please be sure to tell me the name of the religious observance that required your absence.

If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to get notes from one of your fellow students.

**Missing an exam**

You should make a note on your calendar of all exam dates and plan on taking them as scheduled. There are a small number of legitimate reasons why you might be given permission to skip a scheduled exam and take a makeup exam at a later date. As I explain below, you must contact me in advance if you want to request permission to miss an exam.

If you need to miss a test for a university-approved reason, a religious observance, or another legitimate reason (e.g., jury duty), you must contact me in prior to the exam and get permission to take the exam at a later date. You must provide me with the relevant documentation and we will arrange for a make-up test.

If you have an emergency of some sort that you believe should permit you to be excused from the test as scheduled, you must make every effort to contact me prior to the test and request permission to take a make-up exam at a later date. If you have not contacted me and there is no compelling reason why you failed to contact me, you will earn a grade of zero for that test and will not be permitted to take a make-up exam.

If I give you permission to take a make-up exam, I may require that you provide me with documentation of your emergency.

**Exam Conduct**

Bring your FAU student ID or driver’s license to the exam for verification.

Bring a writing instrument and other materials as directed.

There will be no electronic devices allowed during the exam, including iPods.

All books and other materials must be placed under the desk.

Be on time and use the restroom before the exam as you will not be able to leave the room once you have started the exam.

**Student Behavior**

Students should familiarize themselves with the rules regarding misconduct outlined in the FAU Student Code of Conduct. Please consult the following website for further information:

<http://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/4.007_Student_Code_of_Conduct.pdf>

**University Code of Academic Integrity**

Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethicalstandards. Academic dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism, is considereda serious breach of these ethical standards. These violations interfere with the University’s ability to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is destructive of the University community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties will be associated with academic dishonesty.

**Cheating and Plagiarism**

Cheating is defined as the attempt, successful or not, to give or obtain and/or information by illicit means in meeting any academic requirements

Plagiarism is defined as the use, without proper acknowledgment, of the ideas, phrases, sentences, or larger units of discourse from another writer or speaker.

Students are expected to know and abide by the policy as stated in the university Code of Academic Integrity. Failure to do so will result may result in penalties as severe as an F for the course and further disciplinary action maybe pursued. For more information, contact: <http://wise.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/4.001_Code_of_Academic_Integrity.pdf>

**Students with Disabilities**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who require special accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) located in Boca Raton - SU 133 (561-297-3880), in Davie - MOD I (954-236-1222), in Jupiter - SR 117 (561-799-8585), or at the Treasure Coast - CO 128 (772-873-3305) and follow all OSD procedures. For further information, go to [www.osd.fau.edu](http://www.osd.fau.edu).

Students who have registered with OSD should present the appropriate paperwork to me during the first week of class.

**Communication**

Please make every effort to contact the teaching assistant and me through the Blackboard system as this will allow me to identify you and link you effortlessly to the appropriate course. If you email me outside of the Blackboard system, please use your FAU email address. Because of problems with some of the ISP’s, I cannot reliably reply to you unless you are using that address. Additionally, to protect students’ privacy, the university discourages us from course-related communication that is not to the official email address

**Office Hours**

I encourage you to come to my office hours to discuss any problems, questions, or suggestions related to the class. If you cannot make my office hours, please let me know and we can make an appointment to talk.

**Syllabus Changes**

I may make changes in the syllabus if necessary, as well as assign appropriate supplementary material. I will announce these changes during class meetings, as well as post these announcements on Blackboard. I will not change a test without at least seven days’ notice.

**Course Outline**

Please note we will be watching relevant video material and discussing short readings in class to supplement and illustrate the topics under discussion. These materials may be referred to in the exams. For this reason, regular attendance and focused attention are crucial as these materials may not be available after class, and I encourage you to take notes in class to help you internalize key concepts and provide yourself a reference when studying for the exams. Films to be shown in class and additional readings to be announced.

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| **Week** | **Date** | **Topic** | **Assignments Due** |
|  |  |  |  |
| 1 | Aug 26 | Course Introduction |  |
|  |  | What is Globalization? | Globalization: The context |
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| 2 | Sept 2 | **\*\*\*NO CLASS – Labor Day\*\*\*** |  |
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| 3 | Sept 9 | Colonialism and Its Legacy | McMichael: Chapter 1 |
|  |  |  | Rothenberg: Part 2: Introduction |
|  |  |  | and Chapters1-4 |
|  |  |  |  |
| 4 | Sept 16 | The Development Project - Instituted | McMichael: Chapter 2 |
|  |  |  | Rothenberg: Part 2: Chapters 5-9 |
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|  |  |  |  |
| 5 | Sept 23 | The Development Project – International | McMichael: Chapter 3 |
|  |  | Framework |  |
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| 6 | Sept 30 | Impact on the Third World | McMichael: Chapter 4 |
|  |  |  | Rothenberg: Part 6: Chapter 1 |
|  |  |  | **Essay 1** |
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| 7 | Oct 7 | Global Inequalities Part I | Rothenberg: Part 5: Chapters 1-6 |
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|  |  |  |  |
| 8 | Oct 14 | Global Inequalities Part II | Rothenberg: Part 5: Chapters 7-11 |
|  |  | **Midterm Exam Review** |  |
|  |  | *(note: Oct 18 last day to withdraw from a class)* | |
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| 9 | Oct 21 | **Midterm Exam online during scheduled time** | |
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| 10 | Oct 28 | The Globalization Project - Instituted | McMichael: Chapter 5 |
|  |  |  | Rothenberg: Part 6: Chapters 2-8 |
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| 11 | Nov 4 | The Globalization Project - Practice | McMichael: Chapter 6 |
|  |  |  | Rothenberg Part 7: Chapters 1-11 |
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| 12 | Nov 11 | **\*\*\*NO CLASS – Veterans Day\*\*\*** |  |
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| 13 | Nov 18 | The Globalization Project - Crisis | McMichael: Chapter 7-8 |
|  |  | Global Counter-movements | Rothenberg Part 7: Chapter 12-22 |
|  |  |  | **Essay 2** |
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| 14 | Nov 25 | Sustainability | McMichael: Chapter 9 |
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| 15 | Dec 2 | Rethinking Development | McMichael: Chapter 10 |
|  |  | **Final Exam Review** |  |
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| 16 | M (Dec 9) 4:00pm - 6:30pm | **\*\*\*FINAL EXAM \*\*\***  **\*\*\*Exam will be online during scheduled time** | |