GOVT 332
Globalization and Security
Fall 2010
Tues/Thurs 11:00am-12:15pm
Kirby 107

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Course description:
This course explores the various ways in which globalization is (re)shaping the concept
and practice of international as well as national security. Throughout the course, we will
examine the major concepts and issues in the globalization of security from both a
theoretical and empirical standpoint. The first part of the course introduces the changing
scope of security in the context of globalization. The second section examines a key
aspect of globalization, interdependence, and its impact on security. The third and fourth
sections deal with the changing nature of conflict and prospects for cooperation in the
context of globalization. Topics for discussion include economic interdependence and
war, migration and national security, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction,
terrorism and asymmetric warfare, defense privatization, economic sanctions, and
collective security.

Prerequisite:
GOVT 102 Introduction to International Politics (or permission of the instructor)

Course requirements:
The grading criteria for this course are as follows:
- Mid-term exams (25% x 2 = 50%)
- Research paper (30%)
- Research presentation (10%)
- Class attendance and participation (10%)

The major requirements for this course include two in-class mid-term exams and a
research paper due at the end of the semester. Research topics are due on Thursday,
September 16, 2010. After consulting with the instructor, students may then begin their
research. A brief description of a more specified research question with an annotated
bibliography is due on Thursday, October 14, 2010. Students are asked to present their
research-in-progress to the class later in the semester for feedback. The final version of
the paper is due on Tuesday, December 14, 2010.

Each student must also act as a discussant for weekly discussion sessions at least once
during the semester. The job of the discussant is to prepare and circulate in advance a one
page handout which briefly summarizes the assigned group of readings and raises two or three questions that engage and/or critique the authors’ arguments.

Students are expected to attend all sessions, to have carefully read and considered the required readings, and to actively participate in class discussions. Students who are unable to attend class must notify the instructor in advance or bring appropriate written documentation (e.g., Dean’s excuse). More than two unexplained absences may result in a lower final grade.

Late papers will be penalized one-third of a grade (e.g. B+ becomes a B) for each day past the due date. Students with special needs due to disability should make requests for accommodation in the first week of classes so that arrangements can be made.

Students are responsible for the content and integrity of all academic work. Please consult the Student Handbook for College policies on academic honesty (http://www.lafayette.edu/student_life/StudentHandbook_0910_FINAL.pdf).

Course readings:
The following books are required for purchase and will be made available at the campus bookstore. They will also be placed on reserve at the Kirby Library. Other course readings and additional material will be made available through Moodle.


Course outcomes:
Through the completion of this course, students are expected to have achieved the following learning outcomes:

- think analytically about the various linkages between globalization and security;
- critically assess opposing theoretical perspectives by evaluating the validity of empirical evidence;
- develop and formulate a coherent set of arguments;
- conduct original social scientific research;
- present research findings in front of peers as well as communicating critical evaluation of peer work; and
- engage in critical debate.
Course Schedule


Week 1: Introduction (August 31 & September 2)

Week 2: Defining Security in an Era of Globalization (September 7 & 9)

Week 3: Globalization and Its Discontents (September 14 & 16)

* Research topics due at the beginning of class on Thursday, September 16, 2010

Part II. Interdependence and Conflict

Week 4: Economic Interdependence and War (September 21 & 23)

Week 5: Migration and Security (September 28)

Mid-term exam #1 (in-class): Thursday, September 30, 2010
Week 6: Environmental Change and Conflict (October 5 & 7)

* Fall Break: No class on October 12

Part III. Globalization and the Changing Nature of Conflict

Week 7: Weapons Proliferation I (October 14)

* Annotated bibliography due at the beginning of class on Thursday, October 14, 2010

Week 8: Weapons Proliferation II (October 19 & 21)

Week 9: Terrorism and Asymmetric Warfare (October 26 & 28)

Week 10: Changing Patterns of Organized Violence (November 2)

Mid-term exam #2 (in-class): Thursday, November 4

Week 11: Student research presentations I (November 9 & 11)
Student presentations of research-in-progress

Week 12: Student research presentations II (November 16 & 18)
Student presentations of research-in-progress
Part IV. Global Solutions to Security Problems

Week 13: Arms Control (November 23)

* Thanksgiving holiday: No class on November 25

Week 14: Sanctions and Economic Statecraft (November 30 & December 2)

Week 15: International Intervention & Collective Security (December 7 & 9)

Research paper due: Tuesday, December 14, 2010