

Dalhousie University
Departments of Political Science & Sociology & Social Anthropology

POLI/SOSA 1500
Global Politics and Society (GPS)

Winter term, 2022; Online and in-person tutorials.



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Class Location: Online via Brightspace & Brightspace Collaborate

Tutorials: held in person, please check the time and location of your tutorials.

Class Time: Wednesdays from 1:05-2:25; 2:25-3 pm reserved for office hours.

The course fulfills the 1st year social science requirement and acts as a pre-requisite for upper level courses in both Political Science and Sociology and Social Anthropology. This is a DAL CAPS course.

Note: Students may take a maximum of 9 credit hours in SOSA and/or POLI at the first year level. Because this course can be counted as either POLI or SOSA, that means students can take only one additional 3 credit course in POLI and another in SOSA.

Course Description:

What do we mean when we say we live in a “global society”? The course covers key concepts from political science, sociology, and social anthropology with a view to examining how interactions of large-scale global processes, politics, and policies resonate in communities, social institutions and people’s everyday lives. This course explores globalization as the multiple ways nations, communities, and people are connected and disconnected across traditional boundaries. While consideration of globalization requires thinking about seemingly abstract large-scale global processes, in this course we will show how ‘the global and the local’ come together; how people engage with and shape global processes, and how state and non-state actors seek to ‘govern’ and contest them.

We will focus upon the changing dynamics of global capitalism as these are manifest in the political, economic, and social conditions across and within regions, nations, and communities. Core themes for the course will include: political economy as the primary lens through which to discuss the changing dynamics of global capitalism and the resulting strains on communities, countries, and regions; global governance and local institutions, along with the complex politics of regional and global security; nation states, societies and cultures as foundational concepts, all of which are subject to new strains from globalizing forces; global migration and the governance of borders – who moves to other countries, how, why and under what conditions?; politics, ecology and the environment – including the challenge of climate change; popular struggles by people concerned about globalization and how it affects their lives; global connections and disconnections – the pros and cons of global institutions and cultural practices. Through these topics, we will emphasize foundational theories and concepts from all three disciplines including: class, gender, ethnicities and race; culture and society; the nation-state; government and governance; conflict and co-operation; power and authority.

Organization of the course:

This course is **asynchronous**, relying on videos of lectures, and entails **weekly synchronous discussions** (explained below). All course materials, except the textbook, are available on Brightspace. Please check Brightspace daily for announcements.

Every week the instructors will post videos on the online platform [Brightspace](#) (usually on Mondays) in order to provide students the opportunity to watch and take notes in preparation for the following Wednesday discussion.

Every week students are expected to read the assigned chapters and, some weeks, watch a documentary. Some weeks you will also be asked to complete an assignment.

The course has 3 Discussion Boards: 1. Introductions/ Community for students and TAs to upload their Introduction videos or text; 2. Conversations and Questions about the Course -- a space for student questions and discussions about the lectures, readings, or documentaries. We may post news pieces of interest here also; 3. Questions about assignments.

Learning Objectives:

- become familiar and able to define foundational concepts in all three disciplines
- understand the ways in which the three disciplines define and study globalization, global politics and society
- learn how to describe and analyse examples of globalizing politics and processes
- be able to identify some examples and impacts of globalization in contemporary everyday life (e.g. in cities, migration and citizenship, environmental politics, food production and consumption)
- build organizational and time-management skills that assist students in taking greater control and responsibility for their own learning. Practically, this means that students join the discussion having completed readings and ask questions when they do not understand materials in lectures and readings.
- learn about and practice writing and citation conventions for the social sciences.

Required Text

Globalization: A Basic Text by George Ritzer and Paul Dean. Wiley Blackwell. Third edition. Paper and e-book copies available from the Campus Bookstore: [ebook](#)

Evaluation and Assignments

Introductory post	5 pts	Due Jan 12 midnight
Attendance and participation –Tutorials	up to 10 pts	
Attendance and participation—synchronous classes	up to 10 pts	
Lecture/reading Reflections (4 pts x 5)	up to 20 pts	Student choose 5 weeks
Review assignment	up to 25 pts	Due Fri Feb 18 midnight
Final assignment	up to 35 pts	Due April 15 midnight

1. Introduce yourself! We would like to get to know you! Tell us your name, where you are taking this class from (From BC? Near the Dal campus?), where you went to high school (in Winnipeg? Hong Kong? Bedford?) and/or why you decided to take this course. Are you taking other DALCAPS courses? Have you taken a anthropology, political science, or sociology course before? You may record your response in a 1- min video or in a short double spaced, typed page (around 120-150 words). Be sure that your name and banner number are on the typed page or title your video Introduction [First and Last name]. **Worth 5 points. Due by midnight Atlantic Daylight Time on Wed January 12.** Note: you can always post it earlier.

2. Attendance and Participation --for tutorials (Worth up to 10 points) and for synchronous classes (Worth up to ten points). Please be sure to join the online synchronous class using your full name so that we can take attendance. For in person tutorials, attendance will be taken, but please stay home if you are not feeling well. You will not be penalized for absence due to illness.

3. Reflections. Students are asked to write 1 page double spaced or about 250 words summarizing their responses to a question posed by the instructors in the videos. **Students choose 5 different weeks** (whichever weeks students prefer **between Week 2 and Week 11**) to hand in a Reflection. If the professor raises more than one question, choose the one you would like to focus on. **This is due Monday of each week at midnight (or 11:59) Atlantic daylight time, no exceptions.** Please submit your Reflection to Brightspace, and be sure to mention the video module or reading to which you are

referring. This will typically be graded within several days. You will be provided with more detailed feedback on the first reflection you hand in but after that the comments will be brief. **Each worth up to 4 points X 5 = points (20%)**

5. Article review. This assignment asks you to find a peer reviewed article of interest to you, and to write a summary of it, noting connections to issues or concepts raised in our course. Find a peer-reviewed article of your choice using NOVANET. Your article should focus on a course topic such as inequality (income inequality globally or in a particular country or racial inequality?); local/global sport, music, or food; migration (a case study?); neoliberal policies (in a particular region?). The article you choose to summarize and discuss in connection to course issues or concepts must be published in a journal in political science, anthropology, or sociology. The length of the assignment is approximately 1000 words (3-4 pages, double spaced), Further instructions to follow. **Worth up to 25 points (25%).** Due Friday February 18 by midnight Atlantic Daylight Time.

6. Take home essay assignment. The final assignment will be written responses to questions posed by the instructors about the course materials. Students will draw from all the relevant course materials (assigned chapters, the lectures, and documentaries) and write essay style answers. The take home assignment questions are posted at the end of classes and your essay answers are due April 15 by midnight Atlantic Daylight Time. **Worth up to 30 points (30%).**

Course policies and expectations:

- Check Brightspace daily. In Brightspace we post the link to our synchronous discussions, video lectures, instructions for the assignments, and announcements. We also post answers to commonly asked questions by students about the course in the Discussion Boards so please check Brightspace first, before sending us a question via email.
- In order to do well in this course, it's crucial that you keep up with the content of the lectures and reading materials. Lectures will often contain material that complements rather than reproduces the content of the readings, so it's really important to stay on top of both.
- Videos made by the professors (or fellow students) available on Brightspace are not to be saved and shared. Audio / video recordings of lectures are not permitted. The posted course material is the property of your instructors.
- **Brightspace Collaborate synchronous discussions:**
 - Please sign in a few minutes early (you may need to wait for the moderator)
 - Use your first and last names when you sign in so we can take attendance (you may need to edit your name from a nickname to your full name).
 - Please remember to mute your mic unless you are speaking.
 - We prefer to see students' faces during the discussion –but we understand if this is not possible or if students need to stop the camera for a bit.
 - If you would like to ask a question, click the hand icon and/or type it into the discussion section.
 - If a phone in option is available (for those with internet connection issues), we will provide it next the link for the synchronous discussion on Brightspace.
- If you are having a problem with Brightspace, contact the Brightspace Help: [online help](#)
- Assignments should be typed, double-spaced, with a 12 pt. font. Be sure to include place name, ID, assignment title, course no. and the instructors' names at the top of the assignment.

- Please proof-read and copy-edit **all** assignments. The quality of your writing will be considered in assessing your grade.
- If you have questions or concerns about course content, your progress in the course, or other matters, we encourage you to post your questions to the appropriate Discussion Board, or visit our virtual office hours.
- If you email us about the course, please put GPS 1500 in the subject heading and include your B00 number. Do please first refer to the course outline and to the Brightspace discussion board on common course questions, which contain answers to many of the questions we might otherwise receive.

Late Policy:

All assignments are due when specified in this outline. However, if you hand in late work due to illness or emergency, you must inform the professors in advance; if you do not inform us or the assignment is very late, your work may be penalized by 2% per day (including weekends). If extenuating circumstances prevent you from completing the assignments on time, please email or discuss this with one of the professors as soon as the problem arises. If you are having a problem with Brightspace, contact the Brightspace Help and email your assignment to your professors until you can upload it into Brightspace, but it must be uploaded to Brightspace within 24 hours. Please note: Reflections cannot be handed in late; students just choose the following week as explained above.

Course Schedule

Please note that you are asked to do the reading *in advance* of the weekly synchronous class discussions.

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|--------|---|
| Jan 5 | <p>Week 1: Welcome & Introduction to the course
 Our first synchronous class on Wed Jan 5 (1:05-2:25 Atlantic Daylight Time) is an introduction to the course.
 READING: Chapter 1 (textbook)
 Watch: lecture videos</p> |
| Jan 12 | <p>Week 2: Globalization? Concepts and Debates
 READING for this week: Chapters 2 and 3 (Textbook)
 Watch recorded lectures
 Introduction due January 12 by midnight ADT</p> |
| Jan 19 | <p>Week 3: Economic Globalization
 READING: Chapters 4 and 6 (Textbook)
 Watch recorded lectures
 FILM: <i>Life and Debt</i>, Stephanie Black, 2001</p> |
| Jan 26 | <p>Week 4: Economic Globalization, Part II.
 READING: Chapter 7 (Textbook)
 Watch recorded lectures
 Note: you should hand in at least one Reflection during January in order to keep up.</p> |

- Feb 2 **Week 5: Global governance: actors and processes**
 READING: Chapter 5 (Textbook)
 Watch recorded lectures
 Note: If you haven't yet, watch Video on How to use Novanet.
- Feb 4 Munro Day- University Closed
- Feb 9 **Week 6: Global culture and cultural flows**
 READING: Chapters 8 and 9
 Watch recorded lectures
 FILM: *Global Metal* Scot McFadyen and Sam Dunn, 2007.
- Feb 16 **Week 7: Global migration and transnationalism**
 READINGS: Chapter 10 & Fitting, E. 2016. "From Working the Farm to Fast Food and Back Again: Rural Mexicans in the Neoliberal Food System" pp 77-97 in *Latin@s Presence in the Food Industry: Changing How We think about Food.* Eds M. Abarca and C. Carr Salas. Fayetteville: Arkansas University Press.
 -Watch recorded lectures
 -FILM (20 min): *The Year of the Dog: Inside the World's Largest Human Migration*

****ARTICLE REVIEW ASSIGNMENT DUE Friday Feb 18 by midnight ADT****

Feb 21-25 Dalhousie Study Break- No classes

- March 2 **Week 8: Global Security & Borders**
 READINGS: Chapter 12 "Negative Global Flows and Processes" & Zaiotti, R. and Nafisa Abdulhamid, N. (2021). "Inside out and Outside in: Covid 19 and the Reconfiguration of Europe's Border Controls." *Historical Social Research.* Vol. 46, No.3
 -Watch recorded lectures
- Mar 9 **Week 9: Global inequalities**
 READING: Chapter 13 and 14
 Watch recorded lectures
 FILM: *There's Something in the Water* Page and Daniel, 2019
- Mar 16 **Week 10 Environmental politics – global and local concerns**
 READING: Chapter 11
 Watch recorded lectures
 FILM: *This Changes Everything* Klein and Lewis, 2015.
- Mar 23 **Week 11: Reimagining Globalization, Part 1**
 READING: Chapter 15
 Watch recorded lectures
Note: Last possible week to hand in a Reflection
- Mar 30 **Week 12: Reimagining Globalization, Part 2**
 FILM: *The Take* Naomi Klein and Avi Lewis, 2004.

April 6 Review class

April 15 **Final take home assignment due by Friday April 15, midnight ADT**

Other important dates:

Jan 14 Last add/drop date without financial penalty

Jan 28 Last drop date without a "W"

Exam period is April 8 to 26.

Grading scheme

Grade	Grade Point Value		Definition	
A+	4.30	90-100	Excellent	Considerable evidence of original thinking; demonstrated outstanding capacity to analyze and synthesize; outstanding grasp of subject matter; evidence of extensive knowledge base.
A	4.00	85-89		
A-	3.70	80-84		
B+	3.30	77-79	Good	Evidence of grasp of subject matter, some evidence of critical capacity and analytical ability; reasonable understanding of relevant issues; evidence of familiarity with the literature.
B	3.00	73-76		
B-	2.70	70-72		
C+	2.30	65-69	Satisfactory	Evidence of some understanding of the subject matter; ability to develop solutions to simple problems; benefitting from his/her university experience.
C	2.00	60-64		
C-	1.70	55-59		
D	1.00	50-54	Marginal Pass	Evidence of minimally acceptable familiarity with subject matter, critical and analytical skills (except in programs where a minimum grade of "C" or "C+" is required).
FM	0.00		Marginal Failure	Available only for Engineering, Health Professions and Commerce.
F	0.00	0-49	Inadequate	Insufficient evidence of understanding of the subject matter; weakness in critical and analytical skills; limited or irrelevant use of the literature.
INC	0.00		Incomplete	
W	Neutral and no credit obtained		Withdrew after deadline	
ILL	Neutral and no credit obtained		Compassionate reasons, illness	
P	Neutral		Pass	
TR	Neutral		Transfer credit on admission	
Pending	Neutral		Grade not reported	

SECTION B: UNIVERSITY POLICIES, STATEMENTS, GUIDELINES and RESOURCES for SUPPORT

This course is governed by the academic rules and regulations set forth in the University Calendar and the Senate.

University Statements

Provide links and brief statements as provided:

Academic Integrity http://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/academic-integrity.html

At Dalhousie University, we are guided in all of our work by the values of academic integrity: honesty, trust, fairness, responsibility and respect (The Center for Academic Integrity, Duke University, 1999). As a student, you are required to demonstrate these values in all of the work you do. The University provides policies and procedures that every member of the university community is required to follow to ensure academic integrity.

Accessibility https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/accessibility.html

The Advising and Access Services Centre is Dalhousie's centre of expertise for student accessibility and accommodation. The advising team works with students who request accommodation as a result of: a disability, religious obligation, or any barrier related to any other characteristic protected under Human Rights legislation (NS, NB, PEI, NFLD).

Student Code of Conduct

https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/safety-respect/student-rights-and-responsibilities/student-life-policies/code-of-student-conduct.html

Everyone at Dalhousie is expected to treat others with dignity and respect. The Code of Student Conduct allows Dalhousie to take disciplinary action if students don't follow this community expectation. When appropriate, violations of the code can be resolved in a reasonable and informal manner—perhaps through a restorative justice process. If an informal resolution can't be reached, or would be inappropriate, procedures exist for formal dispute resolution.

Diversity and Inclusion – Culture of Respect

Every person at Dalhousie has a right to be respected and safe. We believe inclusiveness is fundamental to education. We stand for equality. Dalhousie is strengthened in our diversity. We are a respectful and inclusive community. We are committed to being a place where everyone feels welcome and supported, which is why our Strategic Direction prioritizes fostering a culture of diversity and inclusiveness (Strategic Priority 5.2).

(read more: <http://www.dal.ca/cultureofrespect.html>)

Recognition of Mi'kmaq Territory

Dalhousie University would like to acknowledge that the University is on Traditional Mi'kmaq Territory. The Elders in Residence program provides students with access to First Nations elders for guidance, counsel and support. Contact the program at elders@dal.ca.

University Policies and Programs

Provide links to:

Important Dates in the Academic Year (including add/drop dates)

http://www.dal.ca/academics/important_dates.html

University Grading Practices: Statement of Principles and Procedures

https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/grading-practices-policy.html

Learning and Support Resources

General Academic Support – Advising

https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/advising.html

(Halifax)

Fair Dealing Guidelines

<https://libraries.dal.ca/services/copyright-office/guidelines/fair-dealing-guidelines.html>

Dalhousie University Library <http://libraries.dal.ca>

Indigenous Students

https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/indigenous.html

Black Students

https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/black-student-advising.html

International Students

https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/international-centre.html

Student Health Services

https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/health-and-wellness.html

Counselling

https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/health-and-wellness/frequently-asked-questions-august-2017.html

Copyright Office

<https://libraries.dal.ca/services/copyright-office.html>

E-Learning website

<http://www.dal.ca/dept/elearning.html>

Dalhousie Student Advocacy Services

<http://dsu.ca/dsas>

Dalhousie Ombudsperson https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/safety-respect/student-rights-and-responsibilities/where-to-get-help/ombudsperson.html

Writing Centre https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/writing-and-study-skills.html

Faculty or Departmental Advising Support: Studying for Success

Program: http://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/study-skills-and-tutoring.html