

GEOG 5300: Globalization, Conflict, and Resistance

Spring 2024

Instructor: Ipsita Chatterjee

Time: Wednesdays 12.30 PM to 3.20PM

Venue: ENV 337

Instructor: Ipsita Chatterjee

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Preamble: This course has been designed to delve into three very contemporary issues – globalization, conflict and resistance. Globalization, conflict, and resistance are the buzz words of this era, just as nationalism, class, and modernity were in the yester years – although we use these words frequently to describe the over-whelming and fast-changing realities around us, often we stop-short when we are asked to conceptualize the nuts and bolts of these processes. The aim of this seminar is to explore and understand some of most important theoretical and empirical contributions in these topics so as to develop a comprehensive understanding of the changing realities around us. The purpose is not only to describe these changing realities, but also become capable of accounting for them. By breaking apart theoretical concepts to their very last atoms we will attempt to understand for example, how globalization is altering scales, how micro scales like cities are now global – what is the implication of such scale jumping? Does this mean that nation states are dissolving? Why are cultural categories like identity acquiring greater importance? Are nations, nationality, and class no longer important in a globalizing world? Does globalization benefit people? What new topographies of power does it produce? Is the resurgence of identity conflict in the contemporary world linked to globalization? How are conflicts in France same, or different from conflicts in India? What kind of social movements are emerging in a global world and why? These are incredibly interesting and complex questions, which require deep and informed thinking and stimulating discussions and debates. In this seminar, discussions and debates will be situated around cultural, political and economic analysis emerging out of readings from geography, anthropology, sociology and new social movement literature. The purpose is a cross-disciplinary analysis of globalization, identity, culture and class, and how they interact in enabling and disabling ways. This seminar will provide a forum for deep thinking, debate and discussion so that we can emerge more confident in our understanding of the world around us.

Required Readings: The **required textbooks** for the class include:

1. **Stiglitz, Joseph E.** (2003) *Globalization and its Discontents*. W.W. Norton Company. New York, London. **ISBN: 0-393-32439-7**
2. **Chua, Amy** (2004) *A World on Fire*. Anchor Books, New York. **ISBN: 0-385-72186-2**
3. **Starr, Amory** (2000) *Naming the Enemy*. Zed Books. London and New York. **ISBN: 1 85649 765 8**

These books are available at the University bookstore and **must** be procured from there or elsewhere by the first week of classes.

Additional readings: All additional readings that are not in the books listed above are posted on CANVAS. Please go to CANVAS (unt.instructure.com) – go to the course website (*Globalization, Conflict, and Resistance*) and then click on “module” on the left to access the readings arranged by folders and labeled by topic numbers that correspond to the schedule included later in this syllabus. Use Firefox, Google chrome as your browser for swift downloading of the readings.

Course Requirements:

All assignments must be completed and all discussions/presentations done in order to get a final grade in the class.

Class discussions: In each class one, or a group of students will be responsible for raising questions/concepts, and discussing topics of interest. The assigned students are therefore in charge of running the discussion by raising critical questions or controversial issues from the readings that need clarification, their responsibility is to see that the class attempts to answer the questions raised and discusses the issues tabled. Power points/ handouts can be used to display the questions. **The discussants must email a list of discussion questions and quotes attached to the questions by Tuesday noon (day before class) so that the instructor can provide comments and feedback that should be incorporated in the final presentation to be held on Wednesday's class.** Failing to provide this draft in time will result in the deduction of points from the presentation grade. Questions in the list must be contextualized with quote(s) from the readings that generated the question(s) along with page numbers for the quotes. This list need not be complete when it is emailed to the instructor, but should give enough indication to the professor as to where the presentation is likely to go. The presenters must then come to class with a complete list of questions and surrounding quotes and a clear-cut plan to stimulate discussion, moderate it, and if necessary organize screening of relevant documentaries, small group discussions, or other activities. Class presentation grades will depend upon the presenter's thoroughness, insight and critical faculties in running the discussion. Each presenter will present multiple times throughout the semester.

Reaction Paper: Each student must write 4, 3-page reaction papers (0.5-1.00 inch on all sides and font size not less than 11.5, and line spacing not less than 1.0). The reaction papers should synthesize the readings for the coming week, critically evaluate them, and provide reactions or opinions of the student; it should not be a mere compilation of facts from the readings. The reaction papers must be submitted in class as class begins. In other words, the students are allowed to choose any 4 weeks for which they are going to write reactions, the papers however, must be submitted before the class discussion starts. The student must react to **all** the readings assigned for those specific 4 weeks that she/he chooses. Students are not allowed to go-back and write reaction papers on readings that have been covered in the past weeks.

Abstract and proposal for final paper (due 3/22) – An abstract of your final paper accompanied by the main question(s)/issue(s) you will be investigating, along with a brief note on the main theories and methods you will be using in your analysis. Due in class as class begins.

Final paper/presentation (5/3) Each student will present their final paper – the main question that is under investigation, the literature surveyed, the conceptual background, findings etc. Students are expected to ask questions and provide constructive criticisms to the other presenters. Presentation grades will depend on the presenter's ability to present her/his research in an interesting and clear manner within the time allotted, special attention will be paid to whether the presenter has been able to integrate the class readings in her/his research.

Final paper (due 5/6) – Each student must write one final paper, which should not exceed 12 pages (line spacing 1.0 or more). This should be a research paper dealing with any topic discussed in the class, or any other issue related to globalization. The paper must incorporate some literature studied in the class, special attention will be paid to the originality of the research, its social relevance, and how well the student has been able to link the theoretical/conceptual part of her/his paper with the empirical work. Paper submitted after 5PM on May 6th is late submission and will result in a deduction of 5 points. Paper submitted after May 6th will not be accepted. The paper should be submitted by email to the instructor.

Attendance in class is mandatory. Students must procure leave of absence, or notify the instructor in case of absence.

Grading:

Reaction papers: 20 points (4x5points)

Class discussion: 50 points

Final paper presentation: 10 points

Final paper: 20 points

Academic integrity-Academic dishonesty includes cheating during exams, copying assignments from each other, or using materials from other published sources and claiming them as your own without appropriate citation (plagiarism). Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and if discovered will result in loss of grade, or even an "F".

Disability Accommodation-

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

I reserve the right to make reasonable and responsible changes in the syllabus based on our progress, and any special requirement that may arise as the semester progresses. You will be notified about these changes well in advance. As such, the schedule is tentative.

**GEOG 5300: Globalization, Conflict, and Resistance
Spring 2024 Schedule**

Week 1: 1/17

Topic: Introduction to the course

Week 2: 1/24

Topic: Globalization and Neoliberalism

Readings:

- **Stiglitz, J.** 2003 *Globalization and its Discontents*. Norton Company, New York (**Chapters 1, 2 & 3**)
- **Harvey, D.** 2007. Neoliberalism as creative destruction. *The Annals of the American academy of political and social science*, 610(1), pp.21-44.
- **Melamed, J.** 2006 The Spirit of Neoliberalism. *Social Text* 89, vol. 24(4), Winter, pp. 1-24. [in
- **Peet, R. et al.** 2003. Globalism and Neoliberalism. In *Unholy Trinity: the IMF, World Bank and WTO*, Zed Books, London (**ch1, read pages 1-15**)

- **Peet, R.** 2004. Bretton Woods, IMF, WB. In Forsyth, T (eds.) *Encyclopedia of International Development*, Routledge, UK.

Week 3: 1/31

Topic: Globalization debates

Readings:

- **Friedman, T.** 1999. *Lexus and the Olive Tree*. Farrar Straus Giroux (**Chapters 1, 2,3, 10 and 16**)
- **Harvey, D.** 2005. The 'new' imperialism: On spatio-temporal fixes and accumulation by dispossession, excerpts from *New Imperialism*, Oxford University press, Oxford.
- **Peet, R. Chatterjee, I., and Hartwick, E.** 2011. Making sense of globalization: Hegemonic and counter-hegemonic geographies. In Leyshon, A., Lee, R., McDowell, L., and Sunley, P. (eds.) *The SAGE Handbook of Economic Geography*, Sage Publishers, London (pages 75-87)

Week4: 2/7

Topic: Globalization economy and culture

Readings:

- **Stiglitz, J.** 2003 *Globalization and its Discontents*. Norton Company, New York (**Chapters 7, 8, 9**)
- **Huntington, S. P.** 2000. The clash of civilizations? In O'Meara P, Mehlinger H D and Krain M (eds.) *Globalization and the Challenges of a New Century* Indiana University, Bloomington, pp. 3–23.
- **Barber, B.** 1992. Jihad Vs Mc World, *Atlantic Monthly*, March, pp. 53-65
- **Appadurai, A.** 1990. Disjuncture and difference in the global cultural economy. *Theory, Culture, Society*, vol.7, 295-310.

Week 5: 2/14

Topic: Globalization and space-place

Readings:

- **Kellner, D.** 2002. Theorizing globalization. *Sociological Theory*, vol. 20(3), November, pp.285-305 [in
- **Swyngedouw, E.** 1997. Neither global nor local. In Cox, K.R. (ed.) *Spaces of Globalization*, pp. 137-166. Guilford Press, New York
- **Harvey, D.** 2001. Time-space compression and the postmodern condition. In Held D and McGrew A (eds.) *The Global Transformations Reader* Polity Press, Cambridge pp. 82–91
- **Castells, M.** 2001. The Network Society. In: Held, D McGrew A (eds.) *The Global Transformations Reader*. Polity Press, Cambridge, pp. 76–81.

Week 6: 2/21

Topic: Globalization and the city

Readings:

- **Davis, M.** 2004. The urbanization of empire. *Social Text* 81, vol. 22(4), Winter, pp. 9-15
- **Harvey, D.** 2008. The right to the city. *New Left Review* 53, Sept-Oct, pp. 23-40

- **Harvey, D.** 1989. From Managerialism to Entrepreneurialism: The Transformation in Urban Governance in Late Capitalism. *Geografiska Annaler. Series B, Human Geography*, vol. 71(1) pp3-17
- **Wilson, D.** 2004. Towards a Contingent Urban Neoliberalism. *Urban Geography* 25(8), pp. 771-783
- **Chatterjee, I.** 2016. Mapping the Fantastic: Akshardham temples in India (Ch. 5. pp110-143). In *Spectacular Cities: Religion, Landscape, and the Dialectics of Globalization*. Oxford University Press.

Week 7: 2/28

Topic: Women and Globalization

Readings:

- **Eisenstein, H.** 2005. A dangerous liaison? Feminism and corporate globalization. *Science and Society*, vol. 69(3) July, pp.487-518.
- **Chatterjee, I.** 2012. Feminism, the False Consciousness of Neoliberal Capitalism? *Gender, Place and Culture* vol. 19(6), December, pp.790-809.
- **Katz, C.** 2001. On the ground of globalization: A topography for feminist political engagement. *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*, 26 (Summer), pp, 1213-34.
- **Gibson-Graham, J.K.** 1996. *The End of Capitalism (as we knew it)*. Blackwell: Massachusetts. Chapter 6: "Querying globalization, pp. 120-147
- **Ong, A.** 2000. Gender and labor politics of postmodernity. In P O' Meara, H D Mehlinger and M Krain (eds) *Globalization and the Challenges of a New Century* (pp 253-281). Bloomington: Indiana University Press

Week 8: 3/6

Topic: Globalization and Conflict: India and France

Readings:

- **Chatterjee, I.** 2009. Social Conflict and the Neoliberal City: A case of Hindu-Muslim violence in India. In *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers* vol. 34(2), pp143-160.
- **Kamat, S. and Mathew, B.** 2003. Mapping Political Violence in a Globalized World: The Case of Hindu Nationalism. *Social Justice*, vol. 30 (3) pp. 4-16
- **Murray, G.** 2006. France the riots and the Republic. *Institute of Race Relations* vol. 47 (4), pp. 26-45
- **Giddens, A.** 2006. French riots show need to reform European social model. *New Perspectives Quarterly*, Vol. 23(1), pp. 44-46
- **Ossman, S. and Terrio, S.** 2006. The French Riots: Questioning Spaces of Surveillance and Sovereignty. *The Authors*, pp. 5-21.

3/13 Spring break, no classes

Week 9: 3/20

Topic: Globalization and Conflict – Market and violence

Readings:

- **Chua, A.** 2004. *World on Fire*. Anchor Books, New York. (**Part 1:** Economic Impact of Globalization,: **Chapters: 1, 2, 3 and 4:** Rubies and Rice Paddies; llamas Fetuses, Latifundia and La Blue Chip Numero Uno, The Seventh Oligarch, The Ibo of Cameroon.)

DUE: An abstract of your final paper, plus the main question(s)/issue(s) you will be investigating, along with a brief note on the main questions/theories you will be using in your analysis.

Week 10: 3/27

Topic: Globalization and Conflict – Market and violence

Readings:

- **Chua, A.** 2004. *World on Fire*. Anchor Books, New York. (**Part 3:** Ethnonationalism and the West: **Chapters: 9, 10, 11 and 12:** The underside of western free market democracy; The Middle Eastern cauldron; Why they hate us; The future of free market democracy)

Week 11: 4/3

Topic: Globalization and Geopolitics: Middle East

Readings:

- **Smith, N.** 2005. Endgame of Globalization. *Political Geography*, vol. 25, pp1-14
- **Klein, N.** 2007. *The Shock Doctrine*. Metropolitan Books, New York. (**Chapters 16, 17:** Erasing Iraq; Ideological blowback, **pages 325-359**)
- **Benin, J and Hajjar, L.** *Palestine, Israel and the Arab-Israeli Conflict*. Middle Research and Information Project, available at [www. MERIP.org](http://www.MERIP.org)
- **Gregory, D.,** 2004. Palestine and the “War on Terror”. *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East* 24, 183–195.

Week12: 4/10

Topic: Globalization and Resistance

Readings:

- **Starr, A.** 2001. *Naming the Enemy: Anti-corporate movements confront globalization*. Zed Books, London, New York (**Chapter 1, 3 and 5:** Structure and anti-structure in the face of globalization; Globalization from below; Pop Culture v. agriculture and other reflections on the anti-corporate movement)
- **Ashman, S.** 2004. Resistance to Neoliberal Globalization: A Case of Militant Particularism? *Politics*, vol. 24(2), pp. 143-153
- **Featherstone, D.** 2005. Towards the Relational Construction of Militant Particularisms: Or Why the Geographies of Past Struggles Matter for Resistance to Neoliberal Globalisation. *Antipode*, 250-271

Week13: 4/17

Topic: Globalization and Resistance-India, Brazil, France and the US

Readings:

- **Appadurai, A.** 2002. Deep Democracy: Urban Governmentality and the Horizon of Politics. *Public Culture* 14(1), 21-47
- **Stedile, J. P.** 2002. Landless Battalions. *New Left Review* 15, 77-104
- **Ahmed, W.** 2011 From Militant Particularism to Anti-neoliberalism? The Anti-Enron Movement in India. *Antipode*, pp1-21
- **Harvey, D.** 2011 Occupy Wall Street. Available at: <http://socialistworker.org/blog/critical-reading/2011/10/29/david-harvey-occupy-wallstree>
- **Fassin, D. and Defossez, A.** 2019. An Improbable movement: Macron's France and the rise of Gilets Jaunes. *New Left Review* 115, January-February.

Week 14: 4/24 Contemporary movements: Black Lives Matter, Alt-Right

Readings:

- **Chatterjee, I** (2021) Ch 2: Individual freedom, liberal politics and the production of Alt-Right. And Ch4: Alt-Right Women and the Reconstruction of Patriarchy and Feminism. In *Alt-Right Movement: Dissecting Racism, Patriarchy and Anti-immigrant Xenophobia*. Sage
- **May, R. and Feldman, M.,** 2019. Understanding the Alt-Right: Ideologues, 'Lulz' and Hiding in Plain Sight.
- **Atkinson, D.C.,** 2018. Charlottesville and the alt-right: a turning point? *Politics, groups, and identities*, 6(2), pp.309-315.
- **Kelley, R.D.G.**(2016, September) What does Black Lives Matter want? CounterPunch
- **Fowler, R.** (2020, July 1) Then as Farce: The Commodification of Black Lives Matter. CounterPunch.

Week 15: 5/1

Student Presentations (final paper can be submitted after presentations in class)

5/4: Final paper must be submitted via email to the instructor by 5PM, after this it is a late paper.