

School of Global Studies
SGS 394



Globalization and the Environment: Problems and Solutions
Spring 11

Instructor:

Dr. Pamela McElwee
Assistant Professor,
School of Politics and Global Studies
Coor Hall 6690
pamela.mcelwee@asu.edu
727-0736

Time: T TH 3:00-4:15

Location: EDB208

Line #: 11303

Office Hours:

Tues 12:30-2:30 pm
Other times by email appt.

Teaching Assistant:

Charles Ripley
cgripley@asu.edu

Course Description

This course assesses the impact of globalization on the earth's environment. In the course we will examine such issues as biodiversity loss to pollution to urbanization to climate change, among others, and assess how globalization has driven, impacted or improved these environmental problems. Emphasis of the course will be on understanding the social, political and economic factors that have contributed to global environmental change and the degree to which globalization processes are something 'new', as well as on examining the ability of communities, nations and transnational institutions to manage these global problems.

There are no requirements or prerequisites for this course. This course serves as an upper division track elective in the School of Politics and Global Studies for Global Studies majors.

Required Reading

There are three required texts for the course, available at the ASU bookstore and other online bookstores. Please ensure you purchase the correct edition of the text. The texts are:

J. R. McNeill (2000). **Something New Under the Sun: An Environmental History of the Twentieth-Century World**. Publisher: W. W. Norton & Company. ISBN: 0393321835

Andrew E. Dessler and Edward A Parsons (2010). **The Science and Politics of Global Climate Change: A Guide to the Debate**. 2nd Ed. Publisher: Cambridge University Press. ISBN: 978-0-521-73740-1.

J. Timmons Roberts and Nikki Demetria Thanos (2003). **Trouble in Paradise: Globalization and Environmental Crises in Latin America**. Publisher: Routledge. ISBN: 0415929806.

Requirements & Grading

This course will serve as a vehicle to emphasize reading skills, discussion skills, and writing skills of the student. There will be a fairly intense amount of reading spread throughout the semester. Please budget your time for homework that you can devote the necessary time to staying up to date with the readings. Students are expected to do all of the required readings for the assigned dates and to be prepared to discuss them in class. I reserve the right to call on any student in class: please be prepared! Pop quizzes may be given at any time throughout the semester, particularly if I feel discussion is suffering from a lack of preparation.

Written work and their points are listed in the table below. Dates and details of assignments will be finalized throughout the course. Please discuss with me if any assignment or due date is unclear.

Grades

There are 100 points that are possible to achieve in the work in this class. I will grade according to the following scale. (According to university policy, C- and D+ are not available.) Cutoffs are firm, especially given the use of pluses and minuses

Grading Scale

A	90 - 100
A-	89
B+	88
B	80 - 87
B-	79
C+	78
C	70 - 77
D	60 - 69
E	- 59

The points you will be graded on in the class include the following assignments:

Assignment	Points (100 total)	Due Date
Reading summary	20	Depends on dates chosen by student, due by 3:00pm
Mid term quiz	20	March 10, in class
Film review	20	April 21 by 5pm on BB
Take home Final Exam	30	May 5, by 5pm on BB
Attendance/Participation/Discussion (may include pop quizzes)	10	All semester

Written Assignments:

Written assignments are to be turned in on Blackboard in the designated slot. This means assignments are NOT to be emailed to the instructor, or given to me in class, or dropped off at my mailbox, etc. Any assignment not turned in to Blackboard begins to be considered late immediately following the time in which it was due. **Late assignments will be penalized 5 points per 24 hours late;** there are no exceptions.

Written assignments must meet the following requirements

1. The paper must be typed in 12 point font and be spaced at 1.5 spaces.
2. The paper must be in standard APA bibliographic format; see <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>. Cover sheets are not necessary, but please make sure you put a title and your name on the document at the top.
3. The paper must be in Microsoft Word document form (.doc).
4. The file name of the document you upload must be in the form of: YourlastnameSGSS394FilmReview.doc, YourlastnameSGS394ReadingSummary.doc, and YourlastnameSGS394FinalExamAssignment.doc
5. Papers should be proofed carefully, and please pay attention to readability and writing style, as well as to content.

-- Reading Summary:

You will be asked to choose one date for which you will write a ~4 page review of the assigned readings for that day. You will summarize the full reading assignment (ALL readings assigned for that day), highlight the key points, and analyze the message of the readings for their relationship to class themes. Dates will be assigned the first week of class.

-- Film Review:

We will show several films during class time. You must choose one of the films for a ~4 page written review. Your film review will be written in the style of a review for a popular audience, and should focus on the stylistic conventions needed to convey to the public the environmental content in the film of your choice. The review will be due **April 21**. You may choose which film to review after you have seen all the films, but this will require you to take good notes on all of them. It will be difficult or impossible to arrange for you to see the films outside of class due to film rental policies, so make sure you attend the films in-class. You are welcome to turn this assignment in early after you have seen the film you wish to write on.

--Take-home final:

Your final exam will be a written review of the Roberts & Thanos book. You will write a 10 page review paper discussing the content of this book on globalization and the environment in Latin America, and how the themes that we have discussed in class are echoed and described in the Roberts book.

Exams

There will be a midterm quiz on March 10. Content and format will be discussed in class.

Blackboard Information

This course will have a Blackboard site. The site will contain the syllabus, and I will post on the website announcements, some class notes and PowerPoint presentations, and handouts/readings. The website is only a supplemental aid, and not a replacement for attending class.

Attendance and Make-ups

Because this is a seminar and lecture class, attendance and participation is an important part of making the class work. Excessive absences will detract from your participation grade. You will need to actively participate in most class sessions in order to earn the full 10 points for participation. Additionally, if you cannot attend a class it is YOUR responsibility to obtain notes, syllabi changes, assignments etc. from another student. Additionally, if you cannot attend a class it is YOUR responsibility to obtain notes, syllabi changes, assignments etc. from another student. If you know you will have to miss class in advance because of something beyond your control (NOT, for example, a routine appointment), let me know (with relevant documentation) in time to arrange when you should hand in any

work. Make-up after the fact is available only for a documented emergency. Students who will miss class due to an athletic competition or other official university events are required to follow official ASU policies if they wish to make up an assignment. You must notify me immediately, and at that time we can make arrangements for turning in missed work. Those who fail to do so will not be accommodated.

Withdrawals and Incompletes

Please see me if you feel you will need to withdraw from the class. You will need to follow ASU and SGS rules on dates for withdrawal. I will not give incompletes for this course, except for extreme and ongoing situations such as family problems or illnesses that you or an immediate family member suffer that would make it impossible for you to come to class. Documentation is required. For more information, please see: <http://www.asu.edu/aad/manuals/usi/usi203-09.html>

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty is not tolerated in any shape or form. If you are unclear on what constitutes dishonesty, please see <http://clas.asu.edu/files/AI%20Flier.pdf> Dishonesty includes any forms of plagiarism, cheating on tests, turning in the same work for more than one class, and other things. **I have a zero tolerance policy on academic dishonesty: An initial incident will result in the student receiving no credit for the assignment. A second incident will result in a failure in the class, and a grade of XE is an option for cases in which I feel there has been serious misconduct. *It is your responsibility to be aware of what plagiarism is, and not to do it in any shape or form.*** There may be additional university consequences, including expulsion.

Other Policies

Please note the following.

1. There is no extra credit work.
2. The classroom is a place of mutual respect. Everyone is expected to treat each other and his/her questions and comments with civility. Cell phones must be off or on silent. Please, no text messaging, surfing websites, reading outside material, and the like during class. If you are using a computer during class I reserve the right to ensure you are using it for class purposes.
3. Announcements and instructions throughout the course (in class and on Blackboard) will amplify, supplement, and possibly change the syllabus. The student is responsible for keeping up-to-date on these announcements and for understanding any changes.
4. Email is a medium that should be used carefully. I do not answer emails immediately and especially not on nights and weekends, so be aware that emailing me the night before your assignment is due is not acceptable. Please plan ahead and try to make use of my office hours, not email, for more complicated or in-depth discussions.
5. If you have any disability or need any special consideration in the classroom or with assignments, please see me so that we can make appropriate arrangements. You may contact the Office of Disability Resources at (480) 965-1234 or www.asu.edu/drs for more information.

Outline and Schedule of Class Periods and Readings

--This schedule is subject to change – pay attention to Blackboard announcements--
* Indicates readings that will be posted on-line. The rest are from the required books.

WEEK ONE: Introductions: Globalization & its Impacts

Jan 18

First day of class

Jan 20

McNeill, Ch. 1, "Prologue: Peculiarities of a Prodigal Century" (pg. 3-19)

WEEK TWO: What Does Globalization Mean for the Environment?

Jan 25

* Dauverge, P (2005). Globalization and the environment. In John Ravenhill, ed., *Global Political Economy*. Oxford: Oxford University Press: 366-389.

Jan 27

* Najam, et al. (2007) *Environment and Globalization: Five Propositions*. International Institute for Sustainable Development.

WEEK THREE: Scaling up from Local to Global Problems

Feb 1

McNeill, Ch 3, "The Atmosphere: Urban History" (p 50- 84)

Feb 3

McNeill, Ch 4, "The Atmosphere: Regional and Global History" (p 84-117)

In-Class Film: Weather Report

WEEK FOUR: The Global Climate Change Dilemma

Feb 8

Dessler, Ch 1, "Global climate change; a new type of environmental problem" (p 1-30)

Feb 10

Dessler, Ch 2, "Science, Politics and Science in Politics" (p.31-60)

WEEK FIVE: Global Climate Change State of Knowledge

Feb 15

Dessler, Ch 3, "Human-induced climate change: present scientific knowledge and uncertainties" (p. 61-91)

Feb 17

Dessler, Ch 3, "Human-induced climate change: present scientific knowledge and uncertainties" (p. 91-111)

WEEK SIX: Does a Global Problem Demand a Global Solution?

Feb 22

Dessler, Ch 4, "The climate-change policy: impacts and potential responses" (p. 112-159)

Feb 24

Dessler, Ch. 5, "The state of climate policy and steps forward" (p. 160-196)

WEEK SEVEN-EIGHT: Energy & Consumption under Globalization

Mar 1

McNeill, Ch 10, "Fuels, tools and economics" (p 296-324)

Mar 3

* Asif, M and Muneer, T. (2007) Energy supply, its demand and security issues for developed and emerging economies. *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews* 11 (7) pp. 1388-1413

* Witze, A . (2007) That's oil, folks. *Nature* vol. 445 (7123): 14-17

In-class film: A Crude Awakening

Mar 8

*O'Rourke, D & Connolly, S (2003) Just oil? The distribution of environmental and social impacts of oil production and consumption. *Annual Review of Environment and Resources* 28: 587–617

Mar 10

Mid term Quiz

March 13-20 Spring Break – No Class

WEEK NINE: Global Land Use Change

Mar 22

McNeill, Chapter 7. "The Biosphere: Eat and be Eaten" (p 192-227)

Mar 24

McNeill, Chapter 8. "The Biosphere: Forests, Fish and Invasions" (p 228-266)

WEEK TEN: Global Water Use and Scarcity

Mar 29

McNeill, Ch 5, "The Hydrosphere: The History of Water Use and Water Pollution" (p 118-148)

Mar 31

McNeill, Ch 6, "The Hydrosphere: Depletions, Dams and Diversions" (p 149-191)

In-class Film: Drowned Out

WEEK ELEVEN: Global Impact of Trade & Agriculture

Apr 5

*Selections from Paarlberg, R. 2010. *Food Politics: What Everyone Needs to Know*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Apr 7

*Norberg-Hodge, H. et al, (2002). From global to local: Sowing the seeds of community. In *The Ethics of Food*, G. Pence, ed. , p 191-214. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield.

WEEK TWELVE: Global Trade and Agriculture, cont

Apr 12

*Wade, R. (2003) What strategies are viable for developing countries? The World Trade Organization and the Shrinking of Development Space. In *The Development and Globalization Reader*, ed. T. Roberts and A Hite, p 277-294. Malden, MA: Blackwell.

*Raynolds, L. (2000) Re-embedding global agriculture: The international organic and fair trade movements. *Agriculture and Human Values* 17: 297–309, 2000.

Apr 14

*Lee, D and E. Lee (2010). Free trade, fair trade, and coffee farmers in Ethiopia. In *Human Rights and the Ethics of Globalization*, ed. D.Lee and E. Lee. p 142-158. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

In-class film: Black Gold

WEEK THIRTEEN: Global Impact of Urbanization

April 19

McNeill, Ch 9, "More People, Bigger Cities" (p 269-295)

Apr 21

*McGranahan, G and D. Satterthwaite. (2003) Urban centers: An Assessment of Sustainability. *Annual Review of Environment and Resources* 28: 243-274.

Assignment: Film Review Due

WEEK FOURTEEN: Global Impact: Population or Consumption?

Apr 26

*Kates, R. (2000) Population and consumption. *Environment* vol. 42 (3): 10–19

*Stern, P et al. (1997) Consumption as a problem for environmental science. In *Environmentally Significant Consumption*. Washington: National Academic of Sciences.

Apr 28

*Schor, J. (2005) Prices and quantities: Unsustainable consumption and the global economy. *Ecological Economics* 55: 309-320.

*Schor, J (1999) The new politics of consumption. *Boston Review* Summer issue.

WEEK FIFTEEN: Conclusions

May 3

McNeill, Chapter 11 "Ideas and Policies" (p 325-355)

McNeill, Chapter 12. "Epilogue: So What?" (p 357-363)

May 5

Final take home exam due, 5pm