

## Globalization & Social Movements (POSC 327)///Spring 2015

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**Office Hours: W 1-3 PM or by appointment**

**Course Description:** Globalization is a contested concept. This course attempts to understand it in all its manifestations: economic, political, cultural, ecological, and ideological. It will also try to situate the phenomenon of globalization historically. Globalization, of course, has real world consequences and we live at a time of serious global problems. This course tries to engage with the real-world consequences of globalization by understanding and taking account of the kinds of resistance it has generated globally. In particular, the course pays close attention to resistance struggles in Latin America, the United States, and the Third World in general. The course ends with a consideration of the possible futures of globalization given the present crises faced by humanity.

**Required Books:** 1. Derber: *Marx's Ghost* 2. Prashad: *The Poorer Nations* 3. Graeber: *The Democracy Project* 4. Zizek: *Territories in Resistance*

**Evaluation\*:** Participation (20%); Journals (50%); Research Paper (20%); Presentation (10%)

### Notes:

- **Class Participation grade** consists of (a) consistent attendance (50%) and (b) informed participation in class discussions and activities (50%).
  - **Journals:** The course requires that students submit a total of 10 weekly journals of about 500 words each. The journals are due each Wednesday no later than 10 PM and must be submitted via e-mail attachment. Late journals will be penalized. Think of the entries as informal, creative spaces where you get to engage the course materials on a deeper basis. As such, avoid writing summaries of the readings. In general, the more an entry identifies and engages the key concepts, ideas, and arguments of a given assignment the higher the grade it receives.
  - **Research Paper (RP)** is due two weeks before the final class session in the semester. It should be no less than 10 typewritten pages (not including the Work Cited and the Title pages). I require that 2 weeks prior to this due date, the students hand in a Preliminary Statement (PS) indicating the following information about your research: 1) topic, 2) research question, 3) significance, and 4) a list of sources *already* consulted. Failure to hand in the PS on time will reduce the RP grade by a full grade.
  - **Class Readings** are assigned on a class-by-class basis. It is the student's responsibility to find out about assigned readings in case of absence.
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- **Attendance Policy:** Be there. And be on time. Absence due to illness requires written confirmation from a healthcare provider. Unexcused absences will be marked and incorporated into the course grade determination.
  - **Academic Honesty Policy:** In cases of cheating or plagiarizing in any way, I will follow the appropriate procedures as they appear in the College Student Handbook.
  - **E-Devices:** All electronic devices should be turned *off* before class.
  - Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact Ms. Elaine Mara, Assistant Director of Academic & Disability Support, located on the first floor of Monocacy Hall (extension 1401). Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic & Disability Support office.

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\* It is within my purview to apply qualitative judgment in the determination of any and all grades.