

CS746-Globalization at our Doorsteps: Linking the Global and the Local

Term: Summer 2010

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Course Description

Globalization is not a totally new phenomenon, but we are now living in an era of intense globalization. Globalization is not simply what is happening "out there" or in other parts of the world, it is also happening in our midst. This phenomenon is multi-dimensional covering such aspects as geo-political economy, technology, migration, ideology, health, ecology, and religion, to name a few. This course engages the phenomenon of globalization and brings to the students' attention the interweaving of the global and the local in our daily lives. It also provides them the opportunity to reflect on the challenges that globalization poses for theology, ethics, spirituality, and ministry. This course satisfies the global justice requirement.

Course Objectives

1. To introduce students to the phenomenon of globalization and its various manifestations.
2. To expose students to contexts and issues that may sharpen their understanding of the interweaving of the local and the global.
3. To equip the students to read and interpret theologically the challenges of our globalized world.
4. To help students discern the manifestations and impact of globalization in their local context of ministries.
5. To develop and nurture an integral spirituality that is responsive to the issues posed by the current global order.
6. To introduce students to various resources so they can respond proactively to the challenges.

Course Requirements

1. Students are expected to attend all class sessions and exposure trips
2. Careful reading and reflection of assigned texts
3. Active participation in class interaction and group discussions

4. Project: 10-page. Choose an issue, analyze it, identify the forces at work and develop an action plan (education or advocacy). E.g. Identify a product you often use, research the company behind the label, find out where the product is made, the condition of the workers, impact on the ecology, etc. Or, identify an issue (health care, human rights, torture, consumerism, interfaith, migration, etc) you care about and do a research. Develop an action plan: advocacy and educational project.
5. Paper: 5-page reflection paper on main insights derived from the course in relation to theological understanding, lifestyle and ministry.

Readings:

1. Sharon Delgado, *Shaking the Gates of Hell: Faith-Led Resistance to Corporate Globalization* (Minneapolis, Minnesota: Fortress Press, 2007).
2. Meredith Fort, et al., ed., *Sickness and Wealth: The Corporate Assault on Global Health* (Cambridge, Massachusetts: South End Press, 2004).
3. Jeremy Brecher, et al., ed., *Globalization from Below: The Power of Solidarity* (Cambridge, Massachusetts: South End Press, 2002).
4. Richard Alba, et al., ed., *Immigration and Religion in America: Comparative Perspectives* (New York: New York University Press, 2009), 246-276.
5. William Grover and Joseph Pescheck, *Voices of Dissent: Critical Readings in American Politics* (New York: Longman, 2010), 25-34; 143-153.
6. Micheal Schut, ed., *Food and Faith: Justice, Joy and Daily Life* (Denver, Colorado: Living the Good News, 2006).
7. Huston Smith, *The World's Religions* (New York: HarperSanFrancisco, 1991), 12-81.
8. David Bacon, *Illegal People: How Globalization Creates Migration and Criminalizes Immigrants* (Boston, Massachusetts: Beacon Press, 2008).
9. Immigration Policy Center Special Report, *Breaking Down the Problems: What's Wrong with Our Immigration System?* (October 2009).

Schedule of Sessions

Time: 8:30-12:00

June 7: Monday

Topic: Introduction to Globalization: Dimensions of Globalization

Venue: UTS

Readings:

Delgado, *Shaking the Gates of Hell: Faith-led Resistance to Corporate Globalization*, 83-164.

Clawson, et al., "Why Does the Air Stink? Corporate Power and Public Policy, in *Voices of Dissent: Critical Readings in American Politics*, 25-34.

Film: *The Corporation*
Orwell Rolls Over in His Grave

June 8: Tuesday

Topic: Economy, Labor and Media

Venue: Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches
1001 East Lake St.
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55407-0509

Resource Persons: 1. Grant Stevensen, ISALAH
2. Brian Reusch, Urban Immersion Service Retreats

8:30 Film showing: *When Capitalism Hits the Fan*
By Richard Wolff (Media Education Foundation)

9:30 Grant Stevensen

9:55 Break

10:00 Brian Reusch

Lunch: Mercado Central (Corner of Bloomington and Lake)

Readings:

Moyers, "Life on the Plantation," in *Voices of Dissent: Critical Readings in American Politics*, 143-153.

Delgado, *Shaking the Gates of Hell: Faith-led Resistance to Corporate Globalization*, 56-81.

June 9: Wednesday

Topic: Globalization, Militarism and Human Rights

Venue: UTS

Resource Persons: 1. Jack Nelson Pallmeyer, Professor of Justice and Peace Studies
University of St. Thomas

2. Wesley Davey, Iraq Veterans against the War
3. Gary King, Amnesty International

8:30 Check-in

9:05 Gary King, Amnesty International

9:30 Break

9:40 Presentation: Jack Nelson Pallmeyer

10:45 Break

10:50 Film: *Rethink Afghanistan*

Directed by Robert Greenwald

11:20 Presentation: Wesley Davey, Iraq Veterans against the War

Readings:

Delgado, *Shaking the Gates of Hell: Faith-led Resistance to Corporate Globalization*, 165-189.

June 10: Thursday

Topic: Migration/Immigration

Venue: Minnesota Council of Churches

122 Franklin Ave. West

Suite 100, Minneapolis, MN 55404

Resource Persons: 1. Rev. John Guttermann, Church World Service

2. Imam Sheikh Saad Musse Roble, Somali community

3. Mahamid Cali, Somali community

Site visit: Somali Mall (Corner Lake and Pillsbury)

Readings:

Bacon, *Illegal People: How Globalization is Creating Migration and Criminalizes Immigrants*.

Immigration Policy Center Special Report, *Breaking Down the Problems: What's Wrong with Our Immigration System?*

Film: How to Solve Illegal Immigration

June 11: Friday

Topic: Ecology and Faith

Venue: UTS

8:30 Convene at UTS: Presentation on Ecology and Faith

9:30 Depart for Land Stewardship Project, Minneapolis
821 E. 35th Street Ste 200
Minneapolis, MN 55407-2102

10:10 Conversation with Sarah Claasen, Land Stewardship Project

11:00 Depart for Southwestern Minnesota

Pick -up your own lunch

1:30 Tour Butterfield Foods Chicken Processing Plant--A smaller
processing facility that employs workers from many ethnic backgrounds.

3:30 Settle in at Shalom Hill Farm
(www.shalomhillfarm.org)
42194 County Road 3
Windom, Minnesota
(507) 831-2232

4:00 A Look at the Prairie

4:45 View: Food and Faith Conference: Ethical Dimensions of America's Food
System (Minnesota Consortium of Theological Schools)
Dr. Fred Kirschenmann

6:00 Supper

7:00 Film: Food Inc.
Discussion

Readings:

Delgado, *Shaking the Gates of Hell: Faith-led Resistance to Corporate Globalization*,
11-21; 22-29; 30-36; 37-55.

June 12: Saturday

Topic: Agriculture, Rural Life and Globalization
Venue: Shalom Hill Farm

8:00 Breakfast

8:30 Depart for Enninga Farm and Worthington Multi-cultural Visits

12:00 Dinner at Queen of Sheba Ethiopian Restaurant

2:30 Return to Farm

3:30 “Impacts of a Globalized Food System on Land and People”
A presentation by Mark Yackel-Juleen
6:00 Supper at Shalom Hill Farm
7:00 Book Discussion
Micheal Schut, ed., *Food and Faith: Justice, Joy and Daily Life*.
8:00 Film: Battle in Seattle
Directed by Stuart Townsend

June 13: Sunday

Venue: Shalom Hill Farm

8:00 Breakfast

<p>ONE NOTE: You will depart for the Twin Cities directly from Worthington. Please have all your things packed and loaded into vehicles before breakfast.</p>
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8:30 Depart for Bigelow

9:30 Worship Service at Asian American Christian Reformed Church in Bigelow
with a Potluck Dinner at the church.

1:00 Meet with Pastor Lammers in Worthington for follow-up and Q & A

2:00 Depart for the Twin Cities

June 14: Monday

Topic: Interfaith Relations

Venue: The Hindu Temple of Minnesota (www.hindumandirmn.org)
10530 Troy Ln. N.
Maple Grove, MN 55311
Phone: 763-425-9449

Lunch: Hindu Temple

Resource Persons: 1. Gail Anderson,
Director of Unity and Relationships
Minnesota Council of Churches
2. Dr. Shashikant Sane

8:30 Film: *Fremont, U.S.A*

The Pluralism Project, Harvard University

9:30 Gail Anderson, Director of Unity and Relations, MCC

10:30 Break

10:35 Dr. Shashikant Sane

11:30 Guided temple tour

11:45 Lunch at Hindu Temple

Readings:

Smith, *The World's Religions*, 12-81. Recommended background reading by Dr. Sane

Alba, *Immigration and Religion in America: Comparative Perspectives*, 246-276.

June 15: Tuesday

Topic: Health and Challenges

Venue: NorthPoint (www.NorthPointHealth.org)

Health and Wellness Center

1313 Penn Avenue. N.

Minneapolis, 55411

Resource Persons: 1. Elsa Batica, Director, Community Outreach

2. Mustafa Ahmed Sudiata

8:30 Check-in

Film: *Unnatural Causes:...Is Inequality Making Us Sick*

California Newsreel: www.newsreel.org

10:30 Presentation: Elsa Batica

11:30 Tour of the facility

Readings:

Fort, *Sickness and Wealth: The Corporate Assault on Global Health*.

June 16: Wednesday

Topic: Churches and the Global Issues

Venue: Mayflower UCC (www.mayflowermpls.org)

106 E Diamond Lake Rd

Minneapolis, MN 55419

(612) 824-0761

Resource Persons: 1. Rev. Sarah Campbell, Minister, Mayflower UCC

2. Doug Mork, Workers Interfaith Network (WIN)

8:30 Check-in

8:35 Student presentation on church denomination's position on issues related to Globalization

10:30 Presentation by Doug Mork

11:00 Presentation by Sarah Campbell

11:30 Plenary Session

Readings:

Brecher, *Globalization from Below: The Power of Solidarity*.

June 17: Thursday

Venue: UTS

8:30 Check-in

8:35 Students sharing of reflections/projects

10:00 Break

10:10 Sharing of reflections/projects

11:20 Closing worship

11:30 Evaluation

11:40 Lunch: Filipino Food

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Policy on Extensions of Course Works

The work for a course is terminated at the end of the final class session. Students' performance in the course is evaluated on the basis of work submitted by that time, unless an exception is made by the instructor, in which case a formal petition for extension must be approved by the instructor by the end of the final class session. Extensions of course work beyond the end of the semester will be approved only under extraordinary circumstances. Each instructor will include this policy on each course syllabus as well as the criteria by which she or he will grant such extraordinary exception.

In the event such an extension is approved, the instructor shall file the extension form with the Registrar by the date grades are due. The Student Review Committee shall monitor extensions. If no petition for extension is filed, a final grade will be submitted.

An extension may be granted for a period not to exceed six months from the end of the term. If the work is not completed by the date petitioned, a final grade will be submitted. Any renewal of an extension must be approved by the instructor and filed with the Registrar prior to the due date on the original petition. No extension or its renewal will exceed six months from the end of the term in question.