

## COURSE SYLLABUS

for

**IDST 4240**

**GLOBAL ISSUES IN A CULTURAL CONTEXT**

**FALL 2003**

**SECTION 01 (HONORS) WEIR 201 8:00 - 8:50 TR**

- ◆ Serving as the capstone course of the Interdisciplinary Studies (IDST) curriculum at Schreiner University, “**GLOBAL ISSUES IN A CULTURAL CONTEXT**” offers a study of the major problems confronting the world today, from the perspective of different cultures. This provides a means of better understanding both the origin of, and potential solutions to, those global issues and problems faced by society. **IDST 4240 -- Honors** is a two-credit hour upper level course and students must be of junior or senior standing, with senior standing preferred.
  
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### OFFICE HOURS

MW (9:00 -- 10:00 AM)

TR (2:15 -- 4:00 PM)

**Textbooks:**     Globalization From Below: The Power of Solidarity, Brecher, Costello & Smith 2000.

Unequal protection, Hartmann, 2002.

These texts are required and are available in the Schreiner University bookstore. Brecher, et al’s text offers historical and current perspectives on the effects of globalization upon cultures domestically and worldwide, and offers possible alternatives to current globalization trends. Hartmann’s text provides a readable history to current corporate influence on developed and developing nations. **Student success in IDST 4240 is very dependent upon completing the required readings from this text and other supplemental materials to be provided.**

**Additional:**     Students should also have access to a copy of *The Grapes of Wrath*. Any edition will suffice. The Logan Library also has copies as well as the local city library.

**Materials:**     There are no special materials required for **IDST 4240**; however, students are expected to be able to have access to, and use, a computer for word processing and researching the Internet. In addition, it is strongly advised that the student organize course materials into a 3-ring binder.

**Students are also encouraged to refer to the electronic syllabus located at <http://faculty.schreiner.edu/tomwells/> for additional information. Also, handouts and some class notes will be posted on the electronic syllabus.**

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

**IDST 4240 -- Honors** is a study of the major problems (and their ‘connectedness’) confronting the world today:

- + a growing disparity between the "have's" and "have-not's"
- + increasing poverty+ social disintegration
- + the spread of corporate culture & consumerism
- + population growth & urban sprawl
- + continued racism
- + environmental destruction
- + fear as a control technique
- & + the influence of international institutions on democratic structures

This study is pursued using the perspectives of different cultures as a means of better understanding both the origins of, and potential solutions to, these problems. The major issue to be addressed in this **IDST 4240 -- Honors** section is globalization and its resulting impact on poverty, unemployment, inequality, corporate domination of governments, local economic stagnation, environmental degradation and loss of cultural identity. One significant question addressed by this specific **Honors** section is “Are the current effects of globalization really new, or have we seen all of them before?” This course draws on an interdisciplinary range of information from economics, history, political science, sociology, ecology and other fields to illuminate how globalization affects ordinary people in the United States and around the world. This course also explores the shifts that globalization necessitates in social strategies locally and worldwide. **IDST 4240 -- Honors** is a two-credit hour course that serves to partially fulfill the IDST core requirement, and all degree plans at Schreiner University.

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of IDST 4240:

- + Students will demonstrate the ability to describe ...
  1. the process of globalization.
  2. the positive and negative impacts of globalization on local and worldwide cultures.
  3. the dynamics of downward leveling.
  4. the significance of *Santa Clara County v. Southern Pacific Railroad*.
  5. the various forms of cultural resistance to the effects of globalization.
  6. significant historical events which have shaped current and developing corporate culture.
  7. World Bank & International Monetary Fund policies of “shock therapy & structural adjustment”.
  8. the benefits and negative consequences of the major international trade agreements.
  9. the commonalities of the Joad family’s ordeal and modern families.

**Evidence:** student performance on written exams, quizzes, classroom discussion
- + Students will demonstrate an understanding of the interconnectedness of local events and decisions on people and cultures worldwide.

**Evidence:** student performance in the major group project, classroom discussion, writing assignments, web page design
- + Students will become knowledgeable about globalization’s impact on one specific culture.

**Evidence:** student performance on the major writing assignment and/or web page
- + Students will utilize **appropriate** sources on the Internet as a significant supplement to research.

**Evidence:** reference sections on writing assignments and/or web page.

## **COURSE POLICIES**

**Academic Dishonesty:** Academic dishonesty is not tolerated in any form in **IDST 4240**. The student's work should be his/her own. This includes work on all exams, quizzes, and writing assignments. Students are encouraged to refer to the appropriate pages in the 2003-2004 Student Handbook provided by Student Services for Schreiner University policy on this matter. As a reminder, when doing research, it is permissible to use someone else's work, but the student must give this 'someone else' credit with a proper citation and/or reference. Any written work that has been purchased and then is submitted for a grade in this course will result in a failing grade for the course.

**Attendance/Tardiness Policy:** Students are expected to attend each class period and to be on time for each class. Students who arrive late for class disturb the class. The students and the instructor do not appreciate this. Students who choose to not attend class on a consistent basis will negatively affect their course grade. Please see "Student Evaluation" below.

**Course Format:** This is a senior level course. Reading assignments cannot be ignored. For the class to be successful, the student must take charge of her/his information gathering. The readings from the texts, handouts and other sources are necessary for class discussions to have any meaning and importance. Class meetings will involve discussion of readings, group sessions and problem solving, lecture, video presentations and research experiences in the library and computer lab.

**Class Participation:** As mentioned in the Course Format below, class participation is a must in **IDST 4240**. Class participation can assume many forms. The most obvious being simply discussion of ideas presented in class or concepts emerging from the readings. Participation can also involve sharing articles and other information with the class that pertain to topics in **IDST 4240**. *Preparing for each class by reading required materials is an ideal method to insure good class participation.*

**Support Services:** Students are encouraged to take advantage of the available support services on campus that increase the opportunities for student learning and success. During the Fall Term, these services include (1) the Logan Library [resource texts and periodicals, computer work stations, Internet terminals, research assistance, Interlibrary Loan, etc.] and (2) the Computer Lab with computer work stations and Internet terminals. The Fasken Learning Center's Peer Tutoring program is available during the Fall Term. Study groups formed from members of the class are also encouraged.

**Special Note:** Schreiner University is compliant with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 with respect to providing academic adjustments/auxiliary aids to qualified students. Students requiring such accommodations should contact Dr. Jude Gallik, the Section 504 Coordinator.

**Format for Writing Assignments:** All written work must be submitted in typed form with a Times New Roman font and a font size of 12, unless otherwise noted. For comparison, this syllabus is typed with a Times New Roman font and a font size of 10.

**Standards:** Please refer to the "Writing Standards" addendum attached to the electronic syllabus.

Please refer to the electronic syllabus located at <http://faculty.schreiner.edu/tomwells/> for information pertaining to the following:

### **WRITING STANDARDS**

### **CLASSROOM PROTOCOL**

### **GROUP PROJECT**

## STUDENT EVALUATION

Students will be evaluated in this course based on their attendance and performance on writing assignments, quizzes and major exams as presented below.

Group Project	***	40 points
Writing Assignments	2	80 points
Quizzes	5	30 points
Major Exams	3	150 points
Final Exam	1	50 points
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>350 points</b>

\*\*\* Students who accumulate more than four (4) unexcused absences will not receive any Attendance points.

**Based on the points earned grades will be assigned as follows:**

342 - 350 = A+	271 - 277 = C+
324 - 341 = A	253 - 270 = C
314 - 323 = A-	243 - 252 = C-
306 - 313 = B+	237 - 244 = D+
288 - 305 = B	219 - 236 = D
278 - 287 = B-	209 - 218 = D-
	208 or lower = F

**Important Dates:** Following is a list of dates for major exams and writing assignment due dates.

Quizzes will be given once each week unless announced otherwise.	
Major Exam #1	Tuesday, September 16
Major Exam #2	Tuesday, October 21
Major Exam #3	Tuesday, November 13
Final Exam **	Tuesday, December 9 (8:00 - 10:00 AM)
Writing Assignment #1 is due on Tuesday, September 9. Writing Assignment #2 is due on Thursday, November 20. (Topic Declaration & Partial Reference list is due Thursday, September 18) (Evidence of Progress is due Thursday, October 16) (Group Project is due Tuesday, November 4) The Final Exam is at 8:00 AM on Tuesday, December 9, 2003.	

**\*\* All students must take the Final Exam on the scheduled date at the scheduled time. The only exceptions will be Seniors who are graduating in December 2003 and who have a grade of "B" or "A".**

## TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE

<u>Day</u>	<u>Topic</u>
21	Introduction/Syllabus/Terminology/Globalizations + & -/NAFTA video
26	Growing apart/"Roger & Me" video
28	"Roger & Me" video/Discussion/Quiz #1
Sept. 2	How much to make it exercise/Chapter 1 (B)
4	Finish discussion on Chapter 1 (B)/Begin Chapter 2 (B)
9	Finish discussion on Chapter 2 (B)/ <b>WA #1 is due</b>
11	Discussion of readings from (H)/Exam Review
16	<b>Major Exam #1</b>
18	Social Movements/Review exam results/ <b>Topic declaration &amp; refs. due</b>
23	Discussion of Chapter 3 (B)
25	Corporate crime – what's the solution?
30	International institutions/Chapter 4 (B)
Oct. 2	Environment v. people/North v South
7	<i>Santa Clara county v. Southern Pacific Railroad</i> /Chapter 6 (H)
9	Propaganda Model
16	Media discussion/Exam #2 review/Chapter 18 (H)/ <b>Evidence of progress is due</b>
21	<b>Major Exam #2</b>
23	Corporate history/Review exam results
28	NGO's & networks
30	Everything is connected
Nov. 4	WTO & NAFTA/ <b>Group Project is due</b>
6	NAFTA video/FTAA
11	Who decides?/Exam Review
13	<b>Major Exam #3</b>
18	Globalization From Below/Discussion of exam results
20	GFB strategy & conflict/ <b>WA #3 is due (Paper or WebPage)</b>
25	Global personalities
Dec. 2	Problem solving/Final Exam Review

**The Final Exam is scheduled for TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2003 AT 8:00 AM.**

Please note the above is a tentative outline. Depending on course progress, student interest and occurrence of local/worldwide events, deviations in the course outline may occur.
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**IDST 4240**  
**SUGGESTED INTERNET SITES**

**The first two sites listed begin with `http:\`**

[info.lanic.utexas.edu/](http://info.lanic.utexas.edu/)

excellent site for any South American or Central American country. Info on all aspects: music, religion, politics, education, etc.

[aug3.Augsburg.edu/global/](http://aug3.Augsburg.edu/global/)

great site if you are interested in travel abroad

**The following sites begin with `www.`**

[epinet.org](http://epinet.org)

excellent up-to-date economic info

[opensecrets.org](http://opensecrets.org)

info on politicians' votes and relationship to source of money

[corpwatch.org](http://corpwatch.org)

info on various corporations and their operations

[cqs.com/](http://cqs.com/)

info on health and the environment

[foreignaffairs.org](http://foreignaffairs.org)

news with a foreign perspective

[essential.org](http://essential.org)

excellent reference site with access to all major search engines

[essential.org/monitor/monitor.html](http://essential.org/monitor/monitor.html)

very good site for investigating corporations

[essential.org/cgi-bin/countrylist](http://essential.org/cgi-bin/countrylist)

effects of corporations on specific countries

[oneworld.org/index.html](http://oneworld.org/index.html)

another foreign perspective

[webactive.com/webactive/body.html](http://webactive.com/webactive/body.html)

general site with links to several areas pertinent to globalization issues

[commondreams.org](http://commondreams.org)

a veritable cornucopia of media sources across the complete political spectrum

[publiccitizen.org](http://publiccitizen.org)

site for issues that affect all citizens – environmental, health care, corporate & government fraud

[unc.edu/surge](http://unc.edu/surge)

college student activism site – SURGE stands for Students United for a Responsible Global Environment, very good listserv also

[diefor.com](http://diefor.com)

excellent site with detailed analysis of energy & environmental effects

[recoverywatchdog.org](http://recoverywatchdog.org)

up-to-date economic and employment info

[usasnet.org](http://usasnet.org)

Students against sweatshops site

### Writing Assignment #1

1. Log on to the Internet.
2. Use a search engine such as “Alta Vista”, “Google”, “Yahoo”, etc. to locate your assigned term or phrase.
3. Search through the possibilities provided.

The list of topics below can be used for **Writing Assignment #1**. Please pick a topic and follow the directions in your syllabus for WA#1. If you have any problems, let me know.

U’wa	Operation Northwoods
Bio Bio	Monsanto in Anniston
Predatory Lending	Echelon
Mondragon	Fallon, Nevada
Living Wage	Depleted uranium
GMO’s	ISEW or GPI

4. Select one of interest to you.
5. Print the article.
6. Read and review the article.
7. Write a one-page to two-page “letter-to-the-editor” reaction to the article.
8. A reaction is a “gut level” response.
9. The reaction should be well-written -- logical, grammatically correct, etc. The use of first and second person is acceptable in a “letter-to-the-editor” format

+ **Please refer to the “Student Evaluation” page for the due date**

+ **This assignment is worth 20 points or 6.7% of your final course grade.**

10. Completed assignments will include the “letter-to-the-editor” paper and a copy of the article.

## Writing Assignment #2

The student will choose one specific transnational corporation that has located in a developing country. By researching the corporation and the country, the student will write of the impact this corporation (globalization) has had on this particular country and its culture, positively or negatively. The student's objective is to research and determine the impact of globalization on a native culture. Questions the student might address, but are not limited to addressing, would include:

- + Has the daily life of this cultural group been changed?
- + Has the economic status of the group changed?
- + Are their native & cultural traditions still intact?
- + Has their religion been affected?
- + Have there been changes to their local environment?
- + What has been the most significant adjustment they have had to make?
- + What role, if any, have the international institutions such as the IMF and World Bank played?

The paper must be 5-7 pages, typewritten. This is a senior level course and the research and writing should reflect this level. A minimum of six (6) sources must be used, and at least four (4) must be Internet sources. Please cite your sources used within the body of the paper.

Students may also choose to present this paper in the form of a webpage. Example sites will be presented in class.

Suggestions on where to start would be any of the Central/South American countries, African countries, or Far East (Indonesia, Malaysia, etc.).

### **DUE DATES**

**September 18 -- Reference list & Topic Declaration (6 pts.)**

**October 16 -- Evidence of progress (9 pts.)**

**November 20 -- Final paper/Web Page (45 pts.)**

**THIS ASSIGNMENT IS WORTH 60 POINTS OR 20% OF YOUR FINAL COURSE GRADE**