

Short Course 10: Globalization: Dimensions, Significance, & Impacts

Sponsor: New Political Science Section

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Registration: No Fee

Time: Wednesday, August 27, 2008, 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Locations: On site at the Annual Meeting

Instructors: Manfred B. Steger, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology
Clyde W. Barrow, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
Jennifer Leigh Disney, Winthrop University

ABSTRACT

“Globalization” has become the buzzword of our age -- a term that describes a variety of changing economic, political, cultural, ideological, and ecological processes that have resulted in the expansion and intensification of social relations across world-time and world-space. This short course provides an accessible theoretical overview of globalization, including an introduction to the main academic approaches to the process of globalization. Special consideration will be given to the political and ideological dimensions of globalization and the shift from a national to a global imaginary. The short course includes two case studies that link the theory, practice, ideology, and policies of globalization to illustrate how the transnational dynamics of globalization are played out in concrete social and political contexts.

One case study will examine the disproportionate impact of globalization and neoliberal development processes on women with the corresponding acts of organized resistance by women in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East at the grassroots, state, and transnational levels. A second case study will examine how the liberalization of trade in “higher education services” has been quietly negotiated in multilateral trade agreements on both a global (WTO) and a regional (EU, NAFTA) basis. The major trade agreements have potentially enormous impacts on higher education throughout the world by incorporating higher education into the world trading system as just another industry.

The short course will include discussion sessions at the end of each presentation. It will conclude with a discussion period exploring the normative aspects of globalization, which have been hotly debated in the last decade, particularly after the terrorist attacks of 9/11.

SCHEDULE

1:00pm – 1:15pm	Introductions
1:15pm – 2:00 pm	Manfred B. Steger, “The Basics of Globalization: Definitions, Dimensions, and Approaches in the Social Sciences.”
2:00pm – 2:15 pm	Discussion Period
2:15pm – 3:00pm	Jennifer Leigh Disney, “Women and Globalization: Gendered Impacts and Feminist Resistances.”
3:00pm – 3:15 pm	Discussion Period
3:15pm – 3:30pm	Break
3:30pm – 4:15pm	Clyde W. Barrow, “Globalization, Trade Liberalization, and the New Higher Education Industry.”
4:15pm – 4:30pm	Discussion Period
4:30pm – 5:00pm	Wrap Up, Overview, and Discussion

RECOMMENDED READINGS

Participants in the short course are asked to read the following texts prior to attending the short course:

Manfred B. Steger, Globalization: A Very Short Introduction (New York: Oxford University Press, 2003).

Mary E. Hawkesworth, Globalization and Feminist Activism (Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, 2006).

Clyde W. Barrow, Silvie Didou-Aupetit, and John R. Mallea, Globalisation, Trade Liberalisation, and Higher Education in North America (Dordrecht: Kluwer Academic Publisher, 2003), Chaps. 1, 2, and 6.