

**Syllabus**  
**INTL1100 – Spring 2009**  
**Introduction to Global Issues**

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**Instructor:**  
Jennifer J. White

**Office Hours:**  
Tuesdays & Thursdays 11AM – 12PM,  
or by appointment

**Contact Info:**  
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**Class Time:**  
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9:30-10:45

**Class Location:**  
Peabody Hall, Room 115

**Course Web Site:**  
<https://webct.uga.edu/public/intl1100jw/>

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**Course Description:** A problem-solving approach which shows how international and comparative analyses contribute to a better understanding of global security, prosperity, and community issues.

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**Raise d'Être of the Course:** This course has two main goals: It is intended to cultivate your abilities to comprehend and critically analyse issues that have a global concern. It is also intended to cultivate your interest in these international issues. Undertaking this process requires disciplined investigation and critical thinking skills, which we shall work to develop throughout the course.

**What We'll Do in This Course:** This course serves as an introduction to the study of international affairs, and although there are many issues of international concern, time will limit us to investigating only a few important issues. In particular, we will discuss matters of ethnic diversity and migration; economic development and the meaning and impacts of globalization; public concerns such as health and the environment; matters of war and peace; and human rights.

This course is happening at an interesting time in the history of the United States and of the world. During this semester, a new US administration will take office, and we shall have the opportunity to assess just what changes, if any, will immediately follow – both domestically and internationally – and how changes in the US affect the decisions and ideas in other countries around the world.

In our investigation of these international issues, we shall engage in *critical assessments* of the information we encounter and the different ways in which various countries deal with the issues. The key is to be able to objectively analyse what we find, and hence there will be a large emphasis on critical thinking skills and analysis in the course. The knowledge of some facts will of course be necessary, but the development of critical analysis skills will be one of the main goals of the course. To this end, participation in discussions and class projects will be required on a frequent basis for you to do well in this course.

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**Things You Must Keep in Mind:** As this is an entry point into the field of International Affairs, this course will be covering a great deal of ground. It is **essential** that you come to class completely prepared: each day's assignments must be completed before class, and each student must be ready to conduct a quality discussion on the day's material. Also, lectures will not be mere repetition of the reading material, and students will be expected to come to class ready to *expand* on the readings and assignments. In effect, we shall be building the lectures together, so each student must be engaged in the discussions.

**Ground Rules:** The following are the basic rules for the course:

1. The use of laptops, cell phones, iPods, or any other electronic device is **NOT** permitted during class time.
  2. **Attendance is required.** You are expected to participate in each class (in fact, it's part of your grade! See below...), and you cannot do so if you do not attend.
  3. **If you are absent on a day when an assignment is due, you must provide an acceptable excuse per University policy in order to make up the assignment.** If you will be absent, I would appreciate an e-mail notification ahead of time, if possible.
  4. Class runs from 9:30 until 10:45; be prepared to stay for the entire class when you show up; those who leave early without notification will be marked absent for that class. Classes will consist of lecture, group activities and work sessions, presentations, and film viewings (consult the schedule of assignments and classes below).
  5. If you do miss a class, you are still responsible for the material covered and the assignments given during your absence. Class assignments will also be posted on WebCT as a reminder, but you should **double-check with a classmate** to make sure you have gotten the information you missed while absent.
  6. **Work submitted for this course must be your own work:** All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty." Students are responsible for informing themselves about those standards before performing any academic work. For more information, see: <http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/honesty/acadhon.htm> If you are unclear on what constitutes other than your own work, please see me.
  7. **If you are not performing satisfactorily and withdrawal before or on the withdrawal deadline, you will be given a "WF."** "Satisfactorily" means that you have attended most class sessions and have done the required work. Excessive absences without valid excuses or any attempt to communicate with me are not satisfactory.
  8. Our discussions may touch upon ideas or topics on which we may not all agree – in fact, this will probably be the case. Each student is expected to be courteous and respectful of the viewpoints and ideas of all others in the class, although disagreements are certainly acceptable. **In discussions, you should make an effort to provide either a theoretical or empirical basis for your comments – this is a major part of becoming a critical thinker, and it is part of the goal of this course.**
  9. This syllabus is a general plan; it may be necessary for me to amend any part of the syllabus as we proceed through the course. Announcements will generally be made in class and on WebCT, so you should be sure to attend each class, and to check the course Web site on **WebCT often.**
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## **Texts:**

### ***Textbook:***

We shall use one main textbook for the course, indicated in the class schedule below as *Global Perspectives* (Third Edition):

Kelleher, Ann, and Laura Klein. *Global Perspectives: A Handbook for Understanding Global Issues*. Third Edition. (Upper Saddle River, NJ, Pearson Education, Inc.) 2009.

**Print ISBN-13: 978-0-13-603772-9**

**E-Text ISBN-13: 978-0-13-603773-6**

***This textbook is available for purchase either in hard-copy or e-text format (the e-text is cheaper, but you may want to print the text, so keep that expense in mind when deciding which format to purchase). Please choose the format that works best for your needs.***

***You may find and purchase the e-book by entering in the E-Text ISBN-13 number (978-0-13-603773-6) in the ISBN search box on the following page:***

**<http://instructors.coursesmart.com/students>**

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### ***Additional Texts:***

There will also be selected readings approximately weekly from other texts. These readings will be posted on WebCT, so be sure to check WebCT often.

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## Grading:

<b>Group Presentation (1)</b>	<b>→</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Exam 1</b>	<b>→</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Exam 2</b>	<b>→</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Participation</b>	<b>→</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>→</b>	<b>30%</b>

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**Total:** **100%**

Each student will work as part of a group to give a presentation on a particular country that the group selects at the beginning of the semester. Details concerning the presentation will be discussed in class in advance of the due dates. **Additional assignments** may also be given during class, either to be completed in class or turned in during the next class session. These assignments will be announced in class and posted on WebCT.

There will be two semester exams that will be comprised of multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, and essay questions. Exam 2 will be on material covered after Exam 1. The final exam will feature multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, and essay questions. The final will be comprehensive, but material covered in class since Exam 2 will be more heavily featured in the exam. You will have the full class time to take the final on the last day of class; further information about the format of the final exam will be presented in class.

## Daily Class Agenda:

For each class, students are expected to have completed the readings listed for that day in the course schedule. Each week, you will prepare and hand in two (2) questions on the week's readings to turn in **at the beginning of class**. I will announce when the questions are due. These questions may be used as discussion points during the class, and as such, count towards your participation grade.

Being a course on global issues, students are naturally expected to be familiar with current world events, and we shall begin each class period with a discussion of these events and how they bear on our studies to that point (our daily "World News Round-Up"). As this is an introductory politics course in which you are expected to sharpen your critical thinking skills, you should try to check out at least *two* (2) news sources each day and thoughtfully assess each source's presentation of the information. This may be most easily accomplished on-line, by going to the "world news" section in any of the following sources:

- The New York Times ([www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com) – free registration required)
- The BBC On-Line ([news.bbc.co.uk](http://news.bbc.co.uk))
- The Guardian On-Line ([www.guardian.co.uk](http://www.guardian.co.uk))
- Le Monde ([www.lemonde.fr](http://www.lemonde.fr) – in French)
- Der Spiegel ([www.spiegel.de](http://www.spiegel.de) – in German)
- The Christian Science Monitor (<http://www.csmonitor.com>)
- Or, check out **Google News** (<http://news.google.com/nwshp?hl=en&tab=wn>), and choose "World" to see the worlds news in the country of your choice – there are many news sources here in English (e.g., Canada, New Zealand, Australia, South Africa) as well as other languages.

## Schedule of Assignments and Classes:

*Readings marked with an asterisk (\*) can be found on WebCT.*

### Thursday, 8 January: Introduction

- Introduction to Course

### Tuesday, 13 January: Getting Started

Readings:

- "Critical Thinking: How to Detect Media Bias & Propaganda in National and World News," Paul & Elder\*
- Chapter 1, "Good Societies," Draper & Ramsay\*

### Thursday, 15 January:

Readings:

- Chapter 1, *Global Perspectives*, Kelleher and Klein
- "Critical Thinking: Concepts and Tools," Paul & Elder\*

### Tuesday, 20 January: **NO CLASS -- INAUGURATION**

Assignment:

- Watch the presidential inauguration events (swearing-in ceremony)
- Write an essay explaining what you believe this change in US administration may mean for world issues (e.g., economy, terrorism, immigration, human rights, the environment). Further details given in class.

### Thursday, 22 January:

Readings:

- Chapter 2, *Global Perspectives*, Kelleher and Klein

**Due:**

- Inauguration Essay

### Tuesday, 27 January:

Readings:

- Chapter 2, *Global Perspectives*, Kelleher and Klein
- "Discomfort of Strangers," Goodhart\*

### Thursday, 29 January:

Readings:

- Chapter 3, *Global Perspectives*, Kelleher and Klein

In Class:

- Country Group Work

### Tuesday, 3 February:

Readings:

- Chapter 3, *Global Perspectives*, Kelleher and Klein
- "Clash of Civilizations," Huntington\*

### Thursday, 5 February:

**Presentations:**

- Country Reports – First 3 Groups

In Class

- Country Report Discussion

### Tuesday, 10 February:

Readings:

- Chapter 9, "Chile," in Draper & Ramsay\*

In Class:

- Film #1: "Machuca"

**Thursday, 12 February:**

In Class:

- Film #1: "Machuca" and Discussion
- Review for Exam 1

**Tuesday, 17 February:**

**EXAM 1**

**Thursday, 19 February:**

Readings:

- Chapter 4, *Global Perspectives*, Kelleher and Klein

**Tuesday, 24 February:**

Readings:

- Chapter 4, *Global Perspectives*, Kelleher and Klein
- Introduction and Chapter 1, "The Perspective of Freedom," Amartya Sen\*

**Thursday, 26 February:**

Readings:

- Chapter 5, *Global Perspectives*, Kelleher and Klein

In Class:

- Country Group Work

**Tuesday, 3 March:**

Readings:

- Chapter 5, *Global Perspectives*, Kelleher and Klein

In Class:

- Resource Abundance Activity

**Thursday, 5 March:**

**Presentations:**

- Country Reports – Second 3 Groups

In Class:

- Country Report Discussion

**Tuesday, 10 March: NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK**

**Thursday, 12 March: NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK**

**Tuesday, 17 March:**

Readings:

- Chapter 6, *Global Perspectives*, Kelleher and Klein

In Class:

- Guest Speaker: Dr Han S. Park

**Thursday, 19 March:**

Readings:

- Chapter 6, *Global Perspectives*, Kelleher and Klein

In Class:

- Guest Speaker: Dr Han S. Park

**Tuesday, 24 March**

Readings:

- Chapter 7, *Global Perspectives*, Kelleher and Klein

In Class:

- Guest Speaker: Dr Han S. Park

**Thursday, 26 March:**

In Class:

- Film #2: "Sicko"

In Class:

- Guest Speaker: TBD

**Tuesday, 31 March**

Readings:

- Chapter 7, *Global Perspectives*, Kelleher and Klein

In Class:

- Film #2: "Sicko"

In Class:

- Guest Speaker: TBD

**Thursday, 2 April:**

Readings:

- Chapter 8, *Global Perspectives*, Kelleher and Klein

In Class:

- Guest Speaker: TBD

**Tuesday, 7 April:**

In Class:

- Review for Exam 2

**Thursday, 9 April:**

**EXAM 2**

**Tuesday, 14 April:**

Readings:

- Chapter 8, *Global Perspectives*, Kelleher and Klein
- "Perpetual Peace: A Philosophical Sketch," Immanuel Kant\*
- "The Peloponnesian War: The Melian Dialogue (Book 5, Chapter 17)," Thucydides\*

**Thursday, 16 April:**

Readings:

- Chapter 9, *Global Perspectives*, Kelleher and Klein

In Class:

- Country Group Work

**Tuesday, 21 April:**

Readings:

- TBA\*

In Class:

- Film #3: "Battle of Algiers"

**Thursday, 9 April:**

In Class:

- Film #3: "Battle of Algiers"

**Presentations:**

- Country Reports – Third 2 Groups

**Tuesday, 28 April:**

In Class:

- Discuss Film "Battle of Algiers"
- Review for Final Exam

**Thursday, 7 May: 8-11 AM**

**\*\*FINAL EXAM\*\***