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MWF 11:30-12:30  
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POLITICS 122  
Globalization and Human Rights

“Globalization” is shorthand for many different and often contradictory shifts in relations of power, wealth and identity. A helpful distinction is between globalization as process and as ideology. As process, it refers to transformations in relations between politics and economics, capital and labor, states and markets, and international and domestic politics. As ideology it tends to naturalize the process, to impute magical qualities to “the market,” to depoliticize and so distract from the myriad political and economic decisions and practices that propel it. Globalization as ideology reminds us of the politics, power relations, and material interests that underpin the process. Globalization as process reminds us that globalization is always in process, is still becoming, and is a contradictory and contested process. Globalization has encouraged assertions of indigenous identities across the world. In some instances, these strivings have constituted a self-protective response to intervention from “outside.” Thus, for example, global deforestation has triggered indigenous activism in Amazonia, and the activation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) at the beginning of 1994 provided the immediate trigger for armed rebellion in pursuit of aboriginal rights in Mexico’s Chiapas State. In addition, globalization has transferred some power away from the territorial state, which in the past often repressed native peoples in the name of nation building.

Intensifying globalization processes and state transformations are profoundly gendered in their consequences—in part because women are already positioned in relation to the state, citizenship, and the labor market differently from men.

Global deregulation and restructuring re-privatize tasks and spaces. Women are especially hard-hit when the state reduces, or withdraws from, or charges for social support. Women in their domestic and reproductive roles must compensate for state retreat, or for state failure to provide social infrastructure and support.

Women in First and Third Worlds work in low-paid, risky conditions, in factories and sweatshops. They have become part of a globalized feminized working class. Gender is racialized, too; commodifying “Asian women,” for example, in ways that launch many of them into particular kinds of work along transnational circuits of exchange—as workers in export processing zones (EPZs) or sex tourist sites, or as international domestic workers.

## REQUIRED READINGS:

Seyom Brown. *Human Rights in World Politics*. Longman, 2000.

David Held and McGraw (eds.) *The Global Transformations Reader*. Polity Press, 2000.

Rita Mae Kelly et al. *Gender, Globalization, and Democratization*. Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, 2001.

Three Xeroxed Reader to be purchased during the first week of classes from your professor (total \$50.00).

## RECOMMENDED READINGS:

E. Bonacich and R. Applebaum, *Behind the Label*. University of California Press, 2000.

Zygmunt Bauman, *Globalization: The Human Consequences*. Polity Press-Blackwell Publishers, 1998.

M. Nussbaum, *Women and Human Development*. Cambridge University Press, 2000.

O'Brien et al. *Contesting Global Governance*. Cambridge University Press, 2000.

## Syllabus

September 5	Introduction— <b>Video: <i>Globalization and Human Rights</i></b>
September 7	Brown, <i>Human Rights in World Politics</i> (Chapter 1) Reader: “Human Rights--The Next Step?”
September 10	Brown, <i>Human Rights in World Politics</i> (Chapters 2) Reader: S. Lukes, “Five Fables About Human Rights”
September 12	Brown, <i>Human Rights in World Politics</i> (Chapter 4) Reader: C. A. MacKinnon, “Crimes of War, Crimes of Peace”
September 14	Brown, <i>Human Rights in World Politics</i> (Chapter 5) Reader: R. Rorty, “Human Rights, Rationality, and Sentimentality”
September 17	Brown, <i>Human Rights in World Politics</i> (Chapter 6) Reader: Carlos Santiago, Nino, <i>Radical Evil on Trial</i>

Discussion of Stanley Kramer's film, ***Judgment at Nuremberg*** (1961)

- September 19 Brown, *Human Rights in World Politics* (Chapters 7-8)
- September 21 Reader: T. W. Pogge, "The Moral Demands of Global Justice"; P. Singer, "Famine, Affluence and Morality" and "The Singer Solution to World Poverty"
- September 24 Reader: A. Sen, "Women's Agency and Social Change"; "Micro Loans for the Very Poor" (all the articles); "Without Barefoot Doctors, China's Rural Families Suffer" and "Gynecology Lessons for Rural China"
- September 26 Reader1: Mitter and Rowbotham, "Bringing Women's Voices into the Dialogue on Technology Policy and Globalization in Asia"  
Reader 2: Martha Chen, "A Matter of Survival"
- September 28 Reader: Martha Nussbaum, "Human Capabilities"
- October 1 Reader: A. Sen, "Gender Inequalities and Theories of Justice" and NY Times articles (from February 26, 2001 to April 22, 2001)
- October 3 Reader: From *Of Women, Outcastes, Peasants, and Rebels*, "Letter From A Wife" and "A Tale of These Days"
- October 5 Reader: U. Narayan, "Cross-Cultural Connections, Border-Crossings," and "Death by Culture"
- October 8 Reader: U. Narayan, "Contesting Cultures"
- October 10 Held and McGraw, *Global Transformations* (pp. 1-39)
- October 12 Held and McGraw, *Global Transformations* (pp. 49-67)
- October 15 Held and McGraw, *Global Transformations* (pp. 76-98)
- October 17 Held and McGraw, *Global Transformations* (pp. 99-103, 109-123)
- October 19 MIDTERM HOLIDAY
- October 22 Held and McGraw, *Global Transformations* (pp. 167-171, 181-190)

- October 24 Held and McGraw, *Global Transformations* (pp. 195-215, 231-247)
- October 26 Held and McGraw, *Global Transformations* (pp. 259-270, 328-337)
- October 29 Held and McGraw, *Global Transformations* (pp. 348-353, 366-386)
- October 31 Held and McGraw, *Global Transformations* (pp. 387-399, 405-419)
- November 2 Held and McGraw, *Global Transformations* (pp. 420-430, 442-452)
- November 5 Kelly et al. *Gender, Globalization, and Democratization* (Chapters 1 and 2)
- November 7 Kelly et al. *Gender, Globalization, and Democratization* (Chapter 3)
- November 9 Kelly et al. *Gender, Globalization, and Democratization* (Chapter 4)  
Reader 2: B. Ibhawoh, "Between Culture and Constitution"
- November 12 Kelly et al. *Gender, Globalization, and Democratization* (Chapter 5)  
Reader 2: Speed and Collier, "Limiting Indigenous Autonomy in Chiapas, Mexico"  
**Video: A Place Called Chiapas** (S940)
- November 14 Kelly et al. *Gender, Globalization, and Democratization* (Chapter 6)
- November 16 Kelly et al. *Gender, Globalization, and Democratization* (Chapters 7-8)
- November 19 Kelly et al. *Gender, Globalization, and Democratization* (Chapter 9)
- November 21 Kelly et al. *Gender, Globalization, and Democratization* (Chapter 10)
- November 22- 25 THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

November 26	Kelly et al. <i>Gender, Globalization, and Democratization</i> (Chapters 11-12)
November 28	Kelly et al. <i>Gender, Globalization, and Democratization</i> (Chapter 13)
November 30	Reader 3: <i>From Making the Harm Visible</i> : A. F. Santos, "Globalization, Human Rights, and Sexual Exploitation"
December 3	Reader: H. Overbeck, "Towards a New International Migration Regime"
December 5	Reader: "Global Exchange"
December 7	Reader: "A Job On the Line" ( <i>Mother Jones</i> , March/April 2000), "Lives Held Cheap in Bangladesh Sweatshops" ( <i>NY Times</i> , April 15, 2001) and "Labor standards Clash with Global Reality" ( <i>NY Times</i> , April 24, 2001)
December 10	Reader: "Seattle: December '99?" (pp. 103-140)
December 12	Reader: <i>Globalize This!</i> (pp. 7-52, 188-208)
December 14	<b>Video: <i>Global Village Global Pillage</i></b>

### Service-Learning Requirement

*"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."*

--Margaret Mead

The requirement of 30-hours service-learning with an organization helping to promote global justice/human rights provides you with the opportunity to apply what you learn in class through active participation.

Team work is strongly recommended.

If you cannot or are not willing to make the time commitment to this component of the course, you cannot be in the class.

**Possible Organizations/Activities** (if uncertain, go to see Lucie in the CILSA Office: she has a binder with names and contact persons for these organizations)

Women's Economic Project (WEAP, Oakland)

Global Exchange (2017 Mission Street #303, S.F. Tel. 415-255-7296  
([info@globalexchange.org](mailto:info@globalexchange.org))  
Trade Watch ([www.tradewatch.org](http://www.tradewatch.org) Mike Dolan)  
Living Wage Coalition (Tel. 415-616-5150 [www.nikewages.org](http://www.nikewages.org))  
Habitat for Humanity (Mt Diablo)  
Amnesty International (on campus, contact Sarah Souza,  
[ssouza@stmarysca.edu](mailto:ssouza@stmarysca.edu))  
California Peace Action (2800 Adeline St., Berkeley; contact John Malkin, tel.  
(510) 849-2272)  
Legal Services for Prisoners and Children (San Francisco, 415-255-7036,  
[lspc@igc.apc.org](mailto:lspc@igc.apc.org))  
Mujeres Unidas Y Activas (995 Market Street, 11<sup>th</sup> floor, S.F. Tel. 415-243-8215)  
Northern California Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (995 Market  
Street, 11<sup>th</sup> floor, San Francisco, 415-243-8215)  
Asian Immigrant Women Advocates [AIWA] (310 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 301, Oakland,  
510-268-0192)  
American Friends Service Committee (510-238-8080)  
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (510-849-3020 or Darian  
at 510-665-8372)  
International Action Center (2489 Mission Street, Room 28, SF, Tel 415-821-  
6545, Fax 415-821-5782, e-mail for internship [intern@actionsf.org](mailto:intern@actionsf.org)/  
[www.iacenter.org](http://www.iacenter.org).)  
Critical Resistance [www.criticalresistance.org](http://www.criticalresistance.org)  
Speak Out (510-601-0182) <http://www.peopleshistory.org> (People's History  
Project, c/o Speak Out, Box 99096, Emeryville, CA 94662)  
East Bay Central American Refugee Center (CRECE) [contact Chris Fuller at  
Campus Ministry]

## Course Requirements

### Participation:

It should do without saying, but will not, that this course is a seminar and will succeed or fail as a consequence of your involvement. That holds true collectively--the discussion will only be as good as everyone makes it--and individually—your evaluation will depend heavily on your thoughtful and informed (but not necessarily voluminous) contribution.

### Exams:

There will be two written papers and a service project assignment. Your written work must be typed, double-spaced, carefully proofread, and with your pages numbered. Grammar and writing style count. There will also be in-class quizzes to test what you have read.

Absences:

If you miss three or more classes you are encouraged to drop the course. If you are not in class you cannot participate--don't deprive the class of your valuable contributions! Absence is at times unavoidable; nonetheless your grade is likely to suffer.

Grading Policy:

Your grade will be based on both participation in class (and at pertinent events on campus), and oral and written work. I reserve the right to adjust grades either up or down, depending on such things as trajectory, effort, special circumstances, and so on. You need to complete each component to pass the course.

Assignments must be turned in the date they are due. Late submissions will not be considered, and will receive an F.

Grades for the semester will be determined on the basis of the following percentages:

- 10% for participation/attendance in class
- 10% for in-class quizzes
- 30% for the first written assignment (midterm paper)
- 30% for the second assignment (final paper)
- 20% for service-learning project