George Mason University
Graduate Course Approval/Inventory Form

Please complete this form and attach a copy of the syllabus for new courses. Forward it as an email attachment to the Secretary of the Graduate Council. A printed copy of the form with signatures should be brought to the Graduate Council Meeting. Complete the Coordinator Form on page 2, if changes in this course will affect other units.

Please indicate: _____ NEW  ____ X MODIFY  ____ DELETE

Local Unit:  ICAR  Graduate Council Approval Date:  

Course Abbreviation:  CONF  Course Number:  736 001

Full Course Title:  Globalization and International Conflict

Abbreviated Course Title (24 characters max.):  Globlztn: Int’l Conf

Credit hours:  3  Program of Record:  ICAR

Repeatable for Credit?  ____ D=Yes, not within same term  Up to hours  ____ T=Yes, within the same term  Up to  hours  ____ X N=Cannot be repeated for credit

Activity Code (please indicate):  ____ X Lecture (LEC)  ____ Lab (LAB)  ____ Recitation (RCT)  ____ Studio (STU)  ____ Internship (INT)  ____ Independent Study (IND)  ____ Seminar (SEM)

Catalog Credit Format CONF: 736:001  Course Level:  GF(500-600)  ____ GA(700+)  ____

Maximum Enrollment:  15  For NEW courses, first term to be offered:  

Prerequisites or corequisites:  CONF 501 or permission of instructor

Catalog Description (35 words or less)  Please use catalog format and attach a copy of the syllabus for new courses.:  This course explores the meanings of globalization: economic, political, social, cultural; and examine how it affects conflict processes at the international level. It explores when and under what conditions globalization promotes cooperation or conflict.

For MODIFIED or DELETED courses as appropriate:

Last term offered: Fall 2003  Previous Course Abbreviation:  CONF 695 003  Previous number:  CONF 695 003

Description of modification:  Convert Special Topics course into a permanent course

APPROVAL SIGNATURES:
Submitted by:  Agnieszka Paczynska  email: apaczyns@gmu.edu

Department/Program:  ________________________________ Date:  __________________

College Committee:  ________________________________ Date:  _________________

Graduate Council Representative:  ________________________________ Date:  _______________
Welcome to the course. This course will explore the various meanings of globalization: economic, political, social, and cultural. It will examine how these global transformations shape social change and conflict processes at the international level. This course will seek to broaden our understanding of when and under what conditions globalization processes may promote peace and under what circumstances they may aggravate old conflicts and lead to the emergence of new ones.

Requirements

Participation
The emphasis in this class will be on an intellectual give and take between all of us. This means that our meetings will be in the form of a seminar rather than a lecture. This of course places much responsibility on your shoulders and requires you to be responsible for doing all the readings prior to class and actively participating in class discussions. The success of the course thus depends on you coming to the seminar prepared. Discussion participation will be worth 20% of your grade.

Participation grades will be based on frequency and quality of your involvement each week (including those weeks when we will be meeting on-line). You do not need to have something to say on every topic that comes up in discussion but rather should participate in a way that promotes and deepens the discussion. In evaluating participation, I will look for evidence that you have done the readings with sufficient attention and care and have thought about them. I therefore expect from you more than a summary of what you have read. I expect that you will be able to offer opinions on an author’s argument. You should come to our meetings ready to answer such questions as: Do you find the authors’ arguments convincing? If so, why? If not, why not? Are they clearly presented? Do you find the use of evidence satisfying? Do you think the arguments work best for some cases but are less convincing for other cases?

If you can demonstrate that you know what you have read, have thought about it, and can articulate an opinion on it, you have nothing to worry about.

Short Papers
In addition to active participation in class discussions, you will also be required to write 10 three page papers. These papers should be a critical assessment of that week’s assigned readings and not just summaries. In these papers you should address such issues as what are the main arguments; are they convincing and why or why not; the limits of the arguments made; the causal logic/assumptions of the arguments, etc. The short papers will be due on the day when the readings will be discussed. Each of these papers will be worth 5% of your final grade for a total of 50% of your final grade.

Final Paper
There will also be a final paper due on the class exam date. The question that the final paper will address will be handed out in class. It will deal broadly with the subject of globalization and domestic conflict. This paper should be eight to ten pages long and will be worth 30% of the final grade.

The following books are available for purchase at the Johnson Center Bookstore and are available on reserve at the Johnson Center. The videos are also available on reserve at the Johnson Center. All other readings, except
two, can be accessed through GMU library’s databases or through websites indicated on the syllabus. The other two articles (marked on the syllabus) are available through GMU library’s e-reserves.


**Week One - Introduction**

**Week Two - What is Globalization?**


Thomas Friedman/Robert Kaplan, “States of Discord (Debate),” *Foreign Policy*, March 2002


Branko Milanovic, “The Two Faces of Globalization: Against Globalization as We Know It,” *World Development*, vol. 31, no. 4, 20003

**Week Three - Economic Changes and Conflict I**


**Week Four - Economic Changes and Conflict II**
Week Five – Economic Interdependence and War


Week Six – New Actors in International Relations I


Week Seven - New Actors in International Relations II


Week Eight - Globalization and Cultural Conflict

Samuel Huntington. *Clash of Civilizations*


Week Nine – Globalization and Ethnic Conflict


Week Ten – Globalization and Indigenous Peoples


Eleven - Globalization, Migration and Conflict


**Week Twelve - Globalization, Gender and Conflict**


**Week Thirteen - New Technologies and Conflict**


**Week Fourteen - Summing Up**