



The University of Western Ontario  
**SOCIOLOGY 3364F-001**  
**Selected Topics: Global Issues and Social Change**  
**Fall 2022**  
**Tuesdays, 9:30AM – 12:30PM, Room UCC-54B**  
**(Delivery Method: In person)**

**Instructor:** Dr. Jasmine Ha

**Office Hours:** Tue 1:30 – 3:30PM, and by appointment

**Department of Sociology, Office:** SSC #5208

**Email:** [jasmine.ha@uwo.ca](mailto:jasmine.ha@uwo.ca)

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**Course Description:**

This course examines the issues and theories that shape contemporary globalization and social change. It covers the substantive topics of global production, global governance, international migration, cyber-politics and technology, the rise of fundamentalism and 'anti-globalization', and global coordination on issues like environmental issues and sustainable development.

**Prerequisite(s):** Third or fourth year standing in a module in Sociology or Criminology.

Unless you have either the prerequisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. The decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

**Anti-requisite(s):** None

**Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Synthesize and critically evaluate theoretical arguments and published research from a sociological perspective;
- Critically assess social institutions, social processes, social relations, and various dimensions of global issues and social change from a sociological perspective;
- Demonstrate an ability to present and discuss ideas clearly and articulately through effective oral and written communication;
- Develop important research skills, including conducting effective literature review, documenting and organizing evidences, and incorporating feedbacks in their research writings.

**Course Material:**

Selected readings will be assigned for each week, and they will be posted on the course website under OWL. To access them, please make sure you are enrolled on the course website through OWL.

## Communication:

### *How to contact me:*

**OWL Messages** – Use this as the primary way to reach me regarding our course. You will find this on the left navigation bar on our course website

**Email:** [jasmine.ha@uwo.ca](mailto:jasmine.ha@uwo.ca) – for urgent communication only

### **Communication Guidelines & Expectations:**

- Messages and email will be returned within 24-48 business hours (unless announced otherwise). That means you may not receive a response during the evening or on the weekend.
- Be patient, avoid emailing multiple times.
- Make sure your tone and correspondence in all communication is professional

### *How to get important information:*

The **OWL Course site** will be set up to include all relevant course materials. In particular, pay attention to the following tabs:

- The **Homepage** will have key instructions on where to find information.
- The **Announcements** will be Used for Regular Communication or Urgent Messages
- The **Calendar** will be used regularly to let you know when assessments are due.
- The **Assignments** will have all course assessment outlines and instructions on what to do if you have questions.

## **Method of Evaluation:**

### *Evaluation breakdown:*

The evaluation methods described in the course outline are essential requirements for the course.

The final grade will be determined as follows:

Participation	15%
Reflection Note	15%
Midterm Exam (November 8)	30%
Final Paper (due December 6)	40%

**Participation (15%).** Attendance is expected each week for the full scheduled class time. Students will typically receive a full 1.5% for attending the lecture each week and participate in the course discussion as guided by the instructor. Participation includes asking questions, answering questions, discussing links to other things, thinking about implications. It is important to come to class with some notes and reflections on the material. As a universal accommodation, students may miss one week of class without any penalty, no question asked.

**Reflection Note (15%).** In Week 2, students will select one reading (from Week 3 to 11) to write a reflection note on. The reflection note is designed as an exercise for students to communicate their critical thinking through writing. Students are expected to write between 200-300 words in response to the chosen reading. Students many

choose to write about important points raised by the reading, synthesize with other readings in the same week, appreciate critically, or discuss the relevance of given readings to the weekly topic. The reflection note will be due before class on the chosen week.

**Midterm Exam (30%).** The midterm exam will include both multiple-choice and open-ended questions. The exam will cover materials from class lectures and readings. In other words, you also are responsible for the material covered in the readings even if the material is not discussed in class. The midterm exam will be held in class on November 8, 2022.

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

**Final Paper (40%).** The final paper is designed for students to conduct their own sociological investigation (through library research) and learn to reflect on the evidence relative to their research question(s). There will be three assignments associated with the final paper. The assignments are designed to cover key steps in a writing project to help students develop capability to plan their written work and incorporate feedbacks at each step. Papers should be about 2000 words (approximately 8 pages, double-spaced) on a topic relevant to global issues and social change.

- **Topic Selection (5%)** due on October 4, 2022, at 11:55PM EST. Students will propose a paper topic and submit in writing one page that indicates the main objective (thesis, purpose) of the paper, strategies of how you will approach the topics, themes to be covered and some references. The course materials may serve as a starting point for students to further develop their library search for relevant materials.
- **Annotated Outline (10%)** due on November 15, 2022, at 11:55PM EST. The paper should be seen as a research report (generally involving library research), where you put together the evidence for your argument and document your results. That is, it should bring to bear sociological/demographic research as evidence on the topic at hand. In the annotated outline, the students will provide an outline of their arguments, main themes, and cited evidence. The outline should be less than 3 pages in bullet-point format. This step will help students organize their arguments and evidence, and students are also expected to incorporate the instructor's feedback on the outline to complete the final paper.
- **Final Paper (25%)** due on December 7, 2022, at 11:55PM EST.

#### **Contingency plan for an in-person class pivoting to 100% online learning:**

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, affected course content will be delivered entirely online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will **not** change. Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.

#### **Student Absences:**

If you are unable to meet a course requirement due to illness or other serious circumstances, please follow the procedures below.

***Assessments worth 10% or more of the overall course grade:***

For work totaling 10% or more of the final course grade, students must provide valid medical or supporting documentation to their Home Faculty Academic Counselling Office as soon as possible.

Students with an approved absence from an in-class test or exam will be required to write a makeup exam. Course professor or teaching assistant(s) may not be available to respond to questions during the makeup exam. Students should be aware that the make-up test will not necessarily be in the same format, be of the same duration, or cover the same material as the original test.

**Note:** missed work can *only* be excused through one of the mechanisms above. Being asked not to attend an in-person course requirement due to potential COVID-19 symptoms is **not** sufficient on its own. Students should check the Western website to see what directives for Covid are to be followed. Western has been and will continue to follow directives established by the Middlesex-London Health Unit. That directive will state whether students should or should not come to campus/class and any other requirements (e.g., masks are mandatory). Please check on your own and do not email the instructor, the Department Undergraduate Advisor/Coordinator or the Faculty of Social Science Academic Counselling Office.

### Important Policies

**Academic Consideration for Missed Work:** Students must provide valid medical or supporting documentation in order to receive accommodation for missed work worth 10% or more of the final grade in the course. All required documentation for absences must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty. Individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds or for other reasons.

Western's policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness can be found at [www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_medical.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf). The student medical certificate is available at [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf).

**Religious Accommodation:** When a course requirement conflicts with a religious holiday that requires an absence from the University or prohibits certain activities, students should request accommodation for their absence in writing at least two weeks prior to the holiday to the course instructor and the Academic Counselling office of their Faculty of Registration. Please consult University's list of recognized religious holidays (updated annually) at <https://multiculturalcalendar.com/ecal/index.php?s=c-univwo>.

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.

**Accessibility Options:** Students with disabilities or accessibility challenges should work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD [http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible\\_education/index.html](http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible_education/index.html)), which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [Academic Accommodation for Students with](#)

[Disabilities](http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/academics/examinations/accommodated_exams.html). Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar's website: [www.registrar.uwo.ca/academics/examinations/accommodated\\_exams.html](http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/academics/examinations/accommodated_exams.html)

**Scholastic Offences:** Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following web site: [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

**A Note on Plagiarism:** Students must write their assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major scholastic offence.

**Plagiarism Checking:** All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<https://www.turnitin.com/>).

**Mental Health:** Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western ([www.uwo.ca/health/mental\\_wellbeing/index.html](http://www.uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/index.html)) for a complete list of options how to obtain help.

Please visit the Social Science Academic Counselling webpage for information on adding/dropping courses, academic considerations for absences, appeals, exam conflicts, and many other academic related matters: [Academic Counselling - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](http://www.uwo.ca/academic_counselling/).

Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at [https://www.uwo.ca/health/student\\_support/survivor\\_support/get-help.html](https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html). To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact [support@uwo.ca](mailto:support@uwo.ca).

### **Course Schedule and Readings:**

*Please note: This schedule is subject to change over the course of the term to meet the needs of the class. Any changes will be announced through our OWL course website.*

#### **Week 1 (Sep 13, 2022): What is globalization? How do we study globalization?**

Robinson, W.I. (2007). Theories of Globalization. In *The Blackwell Companion to Globalization*, G. Ritzer (Ed.). <https://doi.org/10.1002/9780470691939.ch6>

Sen, A. (2002). How to Judge Globalism. *The American Prospect*, special supplement (Winter).

#### **Week 2(Sep 20, 2022): Global economy & Economic inequality**

*\*Students must select a reading (from Week 3 to 11) to write the reflection note on.*

el-Ojeili C. (2015). Reflections on Wallerstein: The Modern World-System, Four Decades on. *Critical Sociology* 41(4-5): 679-700. doi:10.1177/0896920513497377.

Milanović, B. (2018). *Global inequality: A new approach for the age of globalization*. The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press. Chapter 1: The rise of the Global middle class and Global Plutocrats. <https://doi-org.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/10.4159/9780674969797-003>

McMichael, P., & Weber, H. (2022). *Development and social change: A global perspective (Seventh edition)*. SAGE. Chapter 3. The Development Project: An International Framework in Global Context

### **Week 3(Sep 27, 2022): Global poverty**

Banerjee, A. V., & Duflo, E. (2011). *Poor economics: A radical rethinking of the way to fight global poverty* (1st ed). Public Affairs. Chapter 6 (Barefoot Hedge-Fund Managers) and Chapter 9 (Reluctant Entrepreneurs).

Kalleberg, A.L. (2013). Globalization and Precarious Work. *Contemporary Sociology*, 42 (5): 700-706.

### **Week 4(Oct 4, 2022): Global governance & The quest towards development**

\*Final Paper Topic due on October 4, 2022, at 11:55PM

Gilman, N. (2018). Modernization Theory Never Dies. *History of Political Economy* 50(S1): 133–151. <https://doi.org/10.1215/00182702-7033896>

McMichael, P., & Weber, H. (2022). *Development and social change: A global perspective (Seventh edition)*. SAGE. Chapter 5: The Globalization Project: Processes, Experiences, and Implications

Klug, H. 2008. “Law, Politics, and Access to Essential Medicines in Developing Countries.” *Politics & Society* 36(2):207–45.

### **Week 5(Oct 11, 2022): World society, the nation-state, and cyber politics**

Meyer, J. W. et al. (1997) World Society and the Nation-State. *American Journal of Sociology* 103,1:144-181.

Suárez, D.F., Ramirez, F.O., Koo, J-W. (2009) UNESCO and the Associated Schools Project: Symbolic Affirmation of World Community, International Understanding, and Human Rights. *Sociology of Education* 82(3):197-216.

Kello, Lucas. 2018. Cyber Threats. Chapter 29 In *The Oxford Handbook on the United Nations (2nd edition)*, Weiss, T.G. & Daws, S. (Eds). Oxford University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780198803164.001.0001>

### **Week 6 (Oct 18, 2022): International migration & Transnationalism**

Massey, D.S. et al. (1993). Theories of International Migration: A Review and Appraisal. *Population and Development Review* 19(3), 431–466. <https://doi.org/10.2307/2938462>

De Haas, H. (2005). International Migration, Remittances and Development: Myths and Facts. *Third World Quarterly*, 26(8):1269–84. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/4017714>.

Castles, S., Haas, H. de, & Miller, M. J. (2014). *The Age of Migration: International Population Movements in the Modern World (Fifth edition)*. Palgrave Macmillan. Chapter 10. The State and International Migration: The quest for control.

**Week 7(Oct 25, 2022): Brain gain, brain waste, transnationalism**

Banerjee R, Verma A, & Zhang T. (2019) Brain Gain or Brain Waste? Horizontal, Vertical, and Full Job-Education Mismatch and Wage Progression among Skilled Immigrant Men in Canada. *International Migration Review* 53(3):646-670. doi:10.1177/0197918318774501

Li, W. et al. (2021). Intellectual migration: Considering China. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 47(12), 2833–2853. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1369183X.2020.1739393>

Evans, Peter (2000) “Fighting Marginalization with Transnational Networks,” *Contemporary Sociology*, 29, 230-241.

**Week 8(Nov 1, 2022): Reading Week – No class**

**Week 9(Nov 8, 2022): Midterm exam – No new materials**

**Week 10 (Nov 15, 2022): Global food security**

\*Final Paper Annotated Outline due on Nov 15, 2022, at 11:55PM

Clapp, J. (2016). *Food*. Policy Press. Chapter 1: Unpacking the World Food Economy (pp. 1-25.)

Koopman, J. (2012). Will Africa’s Green Revolution squeeze African family farmers to death? Lessons from small-scale high-cost rice production in the Senegal River Valley. *Review of African Political Economy*, 39(133):500–511.

Tina Rosenberg. (2003). Why Mexico's Small Corn Farmers Go Hungry. *The New York Times*. Retrieved August 29, 2022, from <https://www.nytimes.com/2003/03/03/opinion/editorial-observer-why-mexico-s-small-corn-farmers-go-hungry.html>

**Week 11 (Nov 22, 2022): Climate change**

Robbins, Paul, et al. (2014). *Environment and Society: A Critical Introduction (Second edition)*. John Wiley & Sons, Incorporated. Chapter 6: Risks and Hazards.

Bernauer, T. (2013). Climate Change Politics. *Annual Review of Political Science*, 16(1), 421–448. <https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev-polisci-062011-154926>

**Week 12 (Nov 29, 2022): Anti-globalization and Backlash**

Walter, S. (2021). The Backlash Against Globalization. *Annual Review of Political Science* 24:1, 421-442.

Alden, E. (2022). The Dangerous New Anti-Globalization Consensus. *Foreign Policy*. Retrieved August 29, 2022, from <https://foreignpolicy.com/2022/05/03/globalization-deglobalization-inflation-economy-trade-borders/>

Alexander, S. (2014). Life in a “degrowth” economy, and why you might actually enjoy it. *The Conversation*. Retrieved August 29, 2022, from <http://theconversation.com/life-in-a-degrowth-economy-and-why-you-might-actually-enjoy-it-32224>

McAfee, A. (2020). Why Degrowth Is the Worst Idea on the Planet. *Wired*. Retrieved August 29, 2022, from <https://www.wired.com/story/opinion-why-degrowth-is-the-worst-idea-on-the-planet/>

**Week 13 (Dec 6, 2022): The futures of globalization**

\*Final paper due on Dec 6, 2022, at 11:55PM

Buzan, B. (2011). A World Order Without Superpowers: Decentred Globalism. *International Relations*. 2011;25(1):3-25. doi:10.1177/0047117810396999

Hillebrand, E. E. (2010). Deglobalization Scenarios: Who Wins? Who Loses? *Global Economy Journal* 10(2). <https://doi-org.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/10.2202/1524-5861.1611>

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