

SPRING 2014

MC 221 – Section 001

International Relations II: The Politics of International Economic Relations

Professor : Komori

Prerequisites: MC220 or college approval

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

MC 221 is the second semester of a year-long introduction to the study of international relations. Building upon the concepts and theories covered in MC 220, this course examines alternative approaches to international political economy (i.e., the politics of international economic relations). The goals of the course are: 1) to obtain analytical skills to understand the changing political dynamics of international economic relations; and 2) to develop problem-solving skills to analyze major problems and formulate policy responses to the major issues in the field of international political economy (IPE).

Typical Readings:

- David N. Balaam and Bradford Dillman, eds., *Introduction to International Political Economy*, 5th ed. Boston, Longman, 2011.
- Thomas Oatley, *Debates in International Political Economy*. Boston: Longman, 2010.
- Dani Rodrik, *The Globalization Paradox: Democracy and the Future of the World Economy*. New York: N. W. Norton, 2011.

Evaluation

Short papers, a longer research paper, midterm and final exams, presentation, and class participation.

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 221 - Section 002

International Relations II: The Politics of International Economic Relations

Prerequisites: MC220 or college approval

Professor: G. Benitez

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Theories and policy issues in international political economy. Analysis of trade, money and finance, technology, transnational corporations, debt and environment. Globalization, hegemonic power, international regimes.

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 221- Section 003

Professor: Norm Graham

International Relations II: The Politics of International Economic Relations

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Theories and policy issues in international political economy. Analysis of trade, money and finance, technology, transnational corporations, debt and environment. Globalization, hegemonic power, international regimes.

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 221 – Section 004

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS II: POLITICS OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC
RELATIONS**

Professor: TBD

Prerequisites: MC220 or college approval

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Theories and policy issues in international political economy. Analysis of trade, money and finance, technology, transnational corporations, debt and environment. Globalization, hegemonic power, international regimes.

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 231 – Section 001

Cultures and Politics in Transnational Perspective

Professor: A. Borcila

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Interdisciplinary study of cross-cultural interactions and transnational politics in the context of globalization. Competing approaches to inter-cultural interaction. Case studies of cultural conflict, assimilation, and hybridization. Legacies of imperialism and colonialism. Narratives and representations of transnational interactions.

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 231 – Section 002

Cultures and Politics in Transnational Perspective

Professor : Freidus

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Interdisciplinary study of cross-cultural interactions and transnational politics in the context of globalization. Competing approaches to inter-cultural interaction. Case studies of cultural conflict, assimilation, and hybridization. Legacies of imperialism and colonialism. Narratives and representations of transnational interactions.

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 271 – Section 001

CONSTITUTIONALISM AND DEMOCRACY

Professor: Folke Lindahl

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Origins and development of liberal constitutionalism and its democratization. Theory and practice of the modern state, especially the American variant.

Spring 2014

MC 271 Section 002

Constitutionalism and Democracy

Professor : Curtis Stokes

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

This course provides an introduction and analysis of the origins and development of liberal democracy, initially in Western Europe but especially its development and institutionalization in the United States.

TYPICAL READINGS:

John Locke, *Two Treatises of Government*

Alexander Hamilton, James Madison and John Jay, *The Federalist Papers*

Robin Blackburn, *An Unfinished Revolution: Karl Marx and Abraham Lincoln*

Baron de Montesquieu, *The Spirit of the Laws*

Alexis de Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*

EVALUATION:

Several papers and class participation.

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 271 – Section 003

CONSTITUTIONALISM & DEMOCRACY

Professor Kleinerman

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Origins and development of liberal constitutionalism and its democratization. Theory and practice of the modern state, especially the American variant.

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 272: Political Theory and Political Issues

Professor: L. Hunt

Prerequisites: None

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Selected issues in political theory or specific political problems. Topics vary.

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 281 – Section 001

IMMIGRANTS, MINORITIES, AND AMERICAN PLURALISM

Professor: A. BERG

Prerequisites: MC 280 or college approval.

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Comparative social history of American peoples, focused on immigrants and ethnic and racial minorities. Comparisons of patterns of adjustment, intergroup relations, and politics.

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLELGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 281 – Section 002

IMMIGRANTS, MINORITIES, AND AMERICAN PLURALISM

Professor: Stein-Roggenbuck

Prerequisites: MC 280 or college approval.

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Comparative social history of American peoples, focused on immigrants and ethnic and racial minorities. Comparisons of patterns of adjustment, intergroup relations, and politics.

SPRING 2014

MC 281 – Section 003

IMMIGRANTS, MINORITIES, AND AMERICAN PLURALISM

Professor: Pegler-Gordon

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Comparative social history of American peoples, focused on immigrants and ethnic and racial minorities. Comparisons of patterns of adjustment, intergroup relations, and politics.

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 295 RESEARCH DESIGN AND QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS IN PUBLIC POLICY

Not open to students with credits in PLS 201 OR SOC 281

Professor: Daniel Kramer (section 001), Daniel Bergan (section 002)

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Design and execution of research in public policy analysis and evaluation. Critical evaluation of data and arguments. Data collection, hypothesis testing, survey of measures of association and evaluation.

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 320: POLITICS SOCIETY & ECONOMY IN THE 3RD WORLD

Prerequisite: (MC 221 or MC 231 or MC 281) and Completion of Tier I Writing Requirement

Professor: Pinto

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Politics of social and economic change. Policies and strategies of development and of state and nation building in Third World countries. Impact of international political, security, and economic structures on the process of state and nation building in the Third World.

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 324A--REGIONAL POLITICS, COOPERATION & CONFLICT IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Prerequisite: MC 220 or PLS 160) and completion of Tier I writing requirement.

Professor: Aronoff

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Sources of conflict and cooperation in the Middle East through case studies such as the Arab-Israeli conflict. Intrastate, regional, and global factors.

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 324C--Regional Politics, Cooperation, and Conflict in Latin America and the Caribbean

Prerequisite: MC 220 or PLS 160 and completion of Tier I writing requirement

Professor: Galia Benitez

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Domestic and international politics of Latin American or Caribbean countries. Conflict and cooperation among states of the region. Government policies to promote security, democracy, and growth.

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 326 : U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

Professor: TBD

Prerequisite: Mc 221 and completion of the Tier I writing requirement or approval of College

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

U.S. foreign policy decision-making structures and processes. Domestic and international determinants of foreign policy. Evolution of U.S. foreign policy.

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 327: THE COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF FOREIGN POLICY

Prerequisite: MC 326 and completion of Tier I writing requirement

Professor: R. Lucas

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Concepts, processes and domestic and external determinants of foreign policy decision-making in several foreign countries. Comparative public policy, including security and foreign economic policies.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE

SPRING 2014

MC 331 : Encounters with Post-Communism

Professor: A. Borcila

Prerequisites: ((MC 230 or MC 231 or MC 220)or approval of college) and completion of Tier I Writing

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

With the events of 1989, the once “impenetrable” and monochrome “Cold War Other” exploded into visibility. Post-communist sites entered the American cultural and political landscape through the television screen as places where “history is happening”; subsequently, they became spectacles of crisis (orphans, ethnic violence, poverty, nationalism, human trafficking). This interdisciplinary course offers the tools and strategies to inquire into how post-communist countries are represented, how knowledge about them is produced, how “we” are positioned towards “them,” and what the real consequences of this representation, knowledge production and positioning are. We will examine media (primarily television news and film), tourism, literary, and scholarly representations. We will investigate American representations of post-communist “Eastern Europe” as well as representations produced by authors and media from the region. Some of the questions that we will be asking include: how is post Cold War “Eastern Europe” mapped and remapped; how is communism represented (imagined and remembered) in American and post-communist Eastern European cultural productions; how is “Eastern Europe” differentiated from “the west” in these representations, and how does this differentiation contribute to defining both American and post-communist identities; how does media participate in framing American encounters with post-communist “Eastern Europe” and in framing the remembering of the communist past?

While our specific focus is on representations of post-communism, the course means to contribute more generally to your understanding of the factors that shape and structure cultural encounters. Thus, our theoretical readings and our analysis of representations will offer us the opportunity to query the relationship among discourse, power, and knowledge; the politics of cultural representation; the impact of media on cultural encounters; the relationship between lived and mediated experience; and the cultural politics of memory and remembering.

You should expect a strong theoretical component in this interdisciplinary course as well as an emphasis on collaborative learning.

Typical Readings

Maria Todorova, *Imagining the Balkans*

Slavenka DraKulic, *How We Survived Communism and Even Laughed*

Eva Hoffman, *Exit Into History*

Mckenzie Wark, *Virtual Geographies*

Edward Said, *Orientalism*

EVALUATION: may include short essays, quizzes, Research project, class participation, collaborative learning

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE

SPRING 2014

MC 332: LITERATURE AND POLITICS IN A COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

Professor: Dean Garnett

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Comparative examination of literary representations of politics and political themes involving different national literatures, literary genres and/or other narrative forms.

SPRING 2014

MC 351--SCIENCE AND SOCIAL POLICY

Professor : Mark Largent

Fulfills STEPPS HPS requirement, Briggs HPS requirement, and BHS requirement

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

This course will examine the interaction between U.S. public policy and the biological and social sciences from the early twentieth century through today through a series of case studies of controversies involving science and social policy. Topics will include the American eugenics movement, the IQ debates, science and homosexuality, and modern debates over vaccines. This course meets requirements for STEPPS, SRP, PTCB, and Lyman Briggs College HPS.

SPRING 2014

MC 362: PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW

Professor Mark Axelrod

Prerequisites: MC220/221 or college approval

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Public international law regulates interactions between countries, building upon the concept of sovereign state independence. The principle of sovereignty allows states to operate unconstrained within their own borders, subject to certain limits. Legally speaking, such control can be narrowed only by consent of the state's government or violation of widely accepted norms. This class provides a wide-ranging introduction to public international law, focusing on tensions between legal commitments and national sovereignty. Throughout the semester we will explore areas in which this friction is most evident, with special attention to the conditions driving states to follow their legal responsibilities.

During the first half of the semester, we address the design and sources of international law, and the conditions under which they apply. Following the midterm exam, we explore a variety of issue areas, starting with rules on the use of force across national borders. Limitations on the use of military force follow directly from the notion of sovereign state independence, and serve as the basis for most other international law provisions. Once we clarify the conditions under which military action is legally acceptable, we will focus on laws regulating the conduct of war and governments' behavior towards their own citizens, as well as the punishment of individuals who violate these rules. While the laws of war restrict border incursions, other international legal provisions are designed to solve collective action problems such as unfair trade practices and access to limited natural resources. These relationships are often handled by private actors, but we will explore the rules constraining state behavior in this realm. The course concludes by examining the broader international legal system and concerns raised by it.

ASSIGNMENTS: Class participation, judicial decision brief, discussion and written work addressing one recent or ongoing international dispute, midterm exam, and final exam

POTENTIAL READINGS INCLUDE SELECTIONS FROM THE FOLLOWING:

Dunoff, Jeffrey L., Steven R. Ratner, and David Wippman. *International Law: Norms, Actors, Process: A Problem-Oriented Approach*. 3rd Edition. (Aspen Law & Business, 2010).

Krasner, Stephen D. *Sovereignty: Organized Hypocrisy*. (Princeton University Press, 1999).

Case study materials will be drawn from recent news reporting, primary source materials, and *ASIL Insights* produced by the American Society for International Law

SPRING 2014

MC 364: POLICY EVALUATION

Professor: J. Sykes

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Economic concepts and analytic techniques for the design and evaluation of public policies. Political environment of policy formation and implementation. Basic data analysis. Application of concepts and techniques to selected government policies.

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 371- Section 001

BEYOND LIBERAL DEMOCRACY? NEW DIRECTIONS IN POLITICAL THEORY

Professor : F. LINDAHL

Prerequisites: MC 370 and completion of Tier I writing requirements; or college approval

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

_The contemporary status of liberal democracy. Theory and practice of late 20th century attempts to perfect, transcend, or undermine liberal democracy in light of crisis of rationalism.

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 371- Section 002

BEYOND LIBERAL DEMOCRACY? NEW DIRECTIONS IN POLITICAL THEORY

Professor : PETRIE

Prerequisites: MC 370 and completion of Tier I writing requirements; or college approval

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

This course will investigate the contemporary status of liberal democracy. We will emphasize recent attempts at redefining and defending liberalism as well as some twentieth century theories that try to undermine and transcend the Western liberal tradition. We will evaluate democracy from the perspective of the crisis of rationalism in an age of uncertainty.

EVALUATION:

Essays of various length; quizzes; class participation.

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 371- Section 003

BEYOND LIBERAL DEMOCRACY? NEW DIRECTIONS IN POLITICAL THEORY

Professor : L. HUNT

Prerequisites: MC 370 and completion of Tier I writing requirements; or college approval

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

The contemporary status of liberal democracy. Theory and practice of late 20th century attempts to perfect, transcend, or undermine liberal democracy in light of crisis of rationalism.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE

SPRING 2014

MC 372 : Comparative Black Political Thought

Professor Curtis Stokes

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

This course provides a comparative and critical examination of the political thought of selected black radicals and conservatives in the United States, as well as Africa and elsewhere in the African Diaspora. Our conversation will be informed by the following questions: What does it mean to be a black radical and is black radicalism interchangeable with black nationalism, whether in the United States or elsewhere in the African Diaspora? What does it mean to be black and conservative, and is black conservatism a viable theoretical and practical alternative to black radicalism? Is black political thought, whether conservative or radical, no more than warmed over Americanism?

TYPICAL READINGS (selections from a few of the following and other readings):

Emmanuel Chukwudi Eze, (ed), *Race and the Enlightenment*

Jeffrey B. Leak, (ed), *Rac(e)ing to the Right: Selected Essays of George S. Schuyler*

W.E.B. Du Bois, *Black Reconstruction*

Amilcar Cabral, *Return to the Source*

C.L.R. James, *World Revolution*

Anna Julia Cooper, *A Voice from the South*

Adolph L. Reed, *Class Notes: Posing as Politics and Other Thoughts on the American Scene*

Harold Cruse, *The Crisis of the Negro Intellectual*

Cheikh Anta Diop, *Civilization or Barbarism: An Authentic Anthropology*

Frantz Fanon, *The Wretched of the Earth*

Charles W. Mills, *The Racial Contract*

Patricia Hill Collins, *Black Feminist Thought*

Cedric J. Robinson, *Black Marxism: The Making of the Black Radical Tradition*

EVALUATION:

Several papers and class participation

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 373A: CONSTITUTIONALISM: CONGRESS

Prerequisite: Completion of Tier I writing requirement

Professor: Kleinerman

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Congress in American constitutional democracy. Origins and development of the legislative branch, constitutional issues, and legislative practice in Congress.

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 376— MODERN POLITICAL THOUGHT IN THE MUSLIM WORLD

Professor: EL-RAYES

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Major intellectual transformations in the Muslim world from 19th century to the present. Important internal

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 380 Social Policy

Professor : Susan Stein-Roggenbuck

Prerequisites:

- 1. Either MC 280 or MC 281 completed.**
- 2. EC 201 or EC 251H (completed or taken concurrently)**
- 3. EC 202 or EC 252H (completed or taken concurrently)**
- 4. completion of Tier I writing requirement.**

Restrictions: Open only to sophomores, juniors, or seniors in James Madison College or with approval of the college.

Recommended Background: Completion of one semester methodology course.

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Application of social theory and methods to analysis of contemporary U.S. social policy. Competing explanations, current debates. Civil rights, education, employment, family, immigration, poverty, social welfare.

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 384: METROPOLITAN SOCIETY

PROFESSOR: LOUISE JEZIERSKI

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

This course explores the significance of urban and suburban life in American society. How has inequality between cities and suburbs developed? Are those who live in poor, inner city neighborhoods afforded full citizenship? Does suburbia represent the ideal democratic community? How has American urban policy abetted the decline of American cities? Can we achieve greater integration and diversity in our communities? Are our cities worth saving? We explore in depth the uneven development and spatial segregation by social class, race and ethnicity, and gender in American metropolitan areas. New fragmentation and segregation patterns have emerged with deindustrialization and post-industrial restructuring. The interdependent processes of urban decline and the social composition of the suburb will be examined, using, in particular, the cases of Detroit, Los Angeles, Chicago, and New York. The course covers the history of American urban policy and current debates in urban and community redevelopment. The issues of globalization and postmodernism and urban life are explored.

An interdisciplinary perspective is emphasized using readings from urban and community sociology, urban history, geography, economics, and cultural studies. We examine how social inequality is organized spatially and how identities and opportunities are forged in community politics. Analytic skills are developed as we compare urban theories and evaluate urban policies. Students will learn demographic and economic census analysis, qualitative analysis using urban ethnography and in depth interview, and cultural analysis. The course will encourage debate over policy choices, the importance of community organization, assessment of structural forces versus political agency and participation, and the measure of social justice that converge in urban issues.

READINGS:

Thomas Sugrue: *Origins of the Urban Crisis*; J. Abu-Lughod, *New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, America's Global Cities*; Messer, *Grand River And Joy*; Dreier, Mollenkopf, and Swanstrom: *Place Matters* N. Abraham and A Shryock, *Arab Detroit: From Margin to Mainstream*.

EVALUATION:

Seven short (3-5 pages) analytic essays are due throughout the semester. In addition, a semester-long census exercise requires students to provide a population and economic profile of Lansing or Detroit. A class tour of Detroit and/or Lansing is arranged. A final short research paper on a contemporary urban policy is required.

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 386: WOMEN & POWER IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

Prerequisite: Completion of Tier I writing requirement

Professor: J. Goett

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Application of feminist theory to questions of gender and power in different economic and political systems and geographic areas.

SPRING 2014

MC 387: JEWS AND ANTI-SEMITISM

Professor Kenneth Waltzer

Prerequisites: Completion of a Tier I Writing course

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

MC 387 is a comparative history course that focuses on Jews and anti-Semitism especially during the 1930s-40s, the pivotal decades of modern Jewish experience. It explores the history of anti-Semitism in Europe and the West from medieval Christendom to the Modern era, and also examines contemporary developments in the history of anti-Semitism. It probes the sources and dimensions of the Nazi Holocaust, including the path of Nazi policy to genocide, and European and European Jewish responses to the Holocaust in the ghettos and camps. It also explores aspects of the global response to the Nazi Holocaust, including the American response. Primary concerns include comprehending the rise of modern racial anti-Semitism and the new anti-Semitism which has risen in recent years; the role of Nazi ideology, hatred, and other factors in the path to the Final Solution during the 1930s-40s; the responses of witnesses and of victims to Nazi genocide, including life beyond extremity in the Nazi camps; and the reactions of bystander nations and communities.

TYPICAL READINGS

Laqueur, *The Changing Face of Antisemitism*

Friedlander, *Years of Extermination*

Snyder, *Bloodlands*

Friedrich, *Auschwitz*

A Holocaust memoir from a list of choices (*Auschwitz*)

Wyman, *The Abandonment of the Jews*

These books are subject to change and substitution by newer ones....

EVALUATION

Two papers, final exam, and participation. An approved paper on a specialized topic can be substituted for final exam.

H-option: An honors seminar with five meetings focused on issues of "New Directions in Study of the Holocaust and of Antisemitism." Honors students read an additional book, or selected other readings, and present to a seminar. No additional paper.

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 390 – Section 001

ADV TOPICS IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Professor:

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Issues in international relations, political economy, political theory and constitutional democracy, and social relations.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE

SPRING 2014

MC 390 –Section 003

**ADV TOPICS IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS: POLITICS OF IDENTITY, IDEOLOGY, AND GENDER
IN MUSLIM CENTRAL EURASIA**

Professor: Timur Kocaoglu

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

The term Muslim Central Eurasia comprises roughly the Tsarist Russian territories of the various Muslim peoples (in Crimea, Volga-Ural, Caucasus, and Central Asia) and refers to the rise of modernism, nationalism, and reform movements (Jadidism) from the mid-nineteenth century down to the Soviet period. This course will examine and compare various movements, political organizations as well as the politics of identity, ideology, and gender issues in the three major periods of Central Asian political history: the pre-Soviet (from mid-19th century until early 1920s), the Soviet (early 1920s to 1991), and the post-Soviet (1992 to present). It will provide the students the basic information to understand and compare the politics of the pre-Soviet period with that of the Soviet (1920-1991) and the post-Soviet (1992-present) periods that have introduced new and sometimes drastic changes in the political, economic, social, and cultural lives of the Muslim Central Eurasian peoples. The students will have a chance to study and debate internal (domestic) political and gender issues such as steps toward democratization or authoritarianism in this region. Students will be given an opportunity to develop critical reading and writing skills and practice in defining a research agenda. The ultimate goal is to increase the awareness and understanding of the students to the politics and culture of this region the importance of which has been increasing in the global context.

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 395 – Section 001

CULTURAL DIMENSIONS OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS: Women and the Politics and Poetics of biblical Interpretation

Professor: Ilana Blumberg

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

This course is about women in the Bible, women scholars and writers on the Bible, and the Bible itself. We will study the founding narratives of the Book of Genesis, focusing on the representation of women in relationship to each other, to men, to God and history. To help us consider these subjects, we will turn to some of the most creative and scholarly readings that women have offered in the last twenty years. In reading these recent interpretations, we will be able to reflect on older, influential assessments offered by male scholars and note the innovations at hand.

We will thus be involved in both the ancient past of the biblical stories and our own contemporary world where the Bible continues to inspire and undergird a wide variety of spiritual and political positions.

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 445 BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION POLICY PRACTICE

Professor: KRAMER

Interdepartmental with FW

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Social, economic, and policy considerations. Approaches to conserve biodiversity.

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 459: STEPPS CAPSTONE

Professor : Georgina Montgomery

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

Selected topics in science, technology, environment and public policy (STEPPS).
Analysis of key issues and problems. Case studies

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 481 GLOBAL ISSUES IN FW

Interdepartmental with FW

Professor : TAYLOR

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

Global issues and their impacts on implications for the management of fisheries and wildlife resources.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE

Spring 2014

MC 482 : GENDER AND VIOLENT CONFLICT

Professor Linda Racioppi

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

From all-male and male-dominated armies to the heroic masculinization of combat, from systematic rape campaigns to the policing of sexual relations, violent conflicts throughout the world are deeply gendered. An emerging scholarship has documented the profound gender consequences of wars, conflicts and their resolution. This course is designed to review some of that scholarship and to explore specific cases of violent conflict, war and militarization, addressing the theoretical contours, social, cultural and political dynamics, and policy implications of gendered conflict within and between states. It draws on a wide range of disciplinary perspectives and genres (from social science analyses to history, memoir, and film).

TYPICAL READINGS:

Joshua Goldstein, *War and Gender: How Gender Shapes the War System and Vice Versa*.
Tamara Herath, *Women in Terrorism: Case of the LTTE*.
Kirsten Holmstedt, *Band of Sisters: American Women at War in Iraq*.
Janie Leatherman, *Sexual Violence and Armed Conflict*.
Dubravka Zarkov, *The Body of War: Media, Ethnicity and Gender in the Break-up of Yugoslavia*.
Leymah Gbowee, *Mighty Be Our Powers*

EVALUTION:

Exams or quizzes, take home essay, research project, active participation.

*MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE*

SPRING 2014

MC 492 –Section 001

Senior Seminar in International Relations:

Professor: TBD

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Major issues and theories of international relations.

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SPRING 2014

MC492 –Section 002

Senior Seminar in International Relations: **Transnational Relations for a Cause: Advocacy Networks, Civic Groups and Social Movements**

Professor: R. G. Pinto

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

This senior seminar analyzes cause-oriented action in transnational relations, with emphases on advocacy, organizing, mobilization and resistance. It examines the origins and outcomes of transnational activism. Careful thought is given to specific tactics of activism across borders, research methods, and international relations (IR) more broadly.

Activism between two or more polities is committed to causes including independence, social justice, democratization, labor, environmentalism, pacifism, religion, health, human rights, ethnic or gender equity, and poverty reduction. We will focus on the transnational activism of advocacy networks, civic organizations, social movements, and defiant weak actors who resist. Well-known examples of these sorts of activists, respectively, range from the Climate Action Network to Transparency International; from Doctors (or Engineers) Without Borders to the National Rifle Association; from the global justice movement to al-Qaeda; and from whistleblowers to wildlife poachers.

While our semester will begin and end with pre and post surveys of transnational activist relations taken together, steady attention to methods for research on activism will fill a comprehensive toolbox that will strengthen research projects produced as capstones for the seminar (and IR major). In the early part of the term we will assess the theoretical lenses that have been used to view transnational activism from various angles. In this initial phase we will learn, for instance, to view transnational activist entities at once in five distinct ways: as infrastructures for change; non-governmental, non-profit, civil-society, public-interest or third-sector organizations; social movement organizations; everyday disorganizations; and protest businesses or social enterprises. During the bulk of the term we will concentrate on transnational activism while extending our consideration to both its upstream origins and downstream outcomes. Sampling varieties of cause-oriented action across borders, we will disaggregate this activism into at least ten specific types of tactical modes on five distinct spatial scales of transnationality. Generalizing to broader IR questions through numerous geographic and issue areas, we will also bring the tactical repertoire to bear on themes such as globalization, state sovereignty, normative change, multilateral cooperation, governance, and domestic-foreign frontiers.

Sample books:

- Bob, Clifford. 2012. *The Global Right Wing and the Clash of World Politics*. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press.
- Keck, Margaret E.; and Kathryn Sikkink. 1998. *Activists beyond Borders: Advocacy Networks in International Politics*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.
- Klandermans, Bert; and Suzanne Staggenborg, eds. 2002. *Methods of Social Movement Research*. Minneapolis, MN: University of Minnesota Press.
- Tarrow, Sidney. 2005. *The New Transnational Activism*. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press.

Evaluation:

Classroom participation, three rounds of discussion facilitation, research project (in four stages), presentation of research project, peer reviews of research projects, and two exams.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE

SPRING 2014

MC 492 – SECTION 003

Senior Seminar in International Relations: Water, Energy and Commerce: Resource Scarcity, Sustainable Development and Environmental Impacts

Professor: Norm Graham

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

This seminar will examine comparatively the experience of states undergoing rapid economic, political, and environmental change since the collapse of the Soviet Union. It will provide an interdisciplinary analysis of the progress made and challenges faced in post-socialist era Europe, Russia, and the other successor republics to the former Soviet Union. It will also examine the impact of the socio-cultural context that may influence both the course of the debates and the feasibility of alternative policy strategies in a changing and increasingly interdependent global economy. An important focus will be on the comparative analysis of natural resource challenges and conflicts, particularly as they relate to the energy-water nexus.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE

SPRING 2014

MC 493, section 001

SENIOR SEMINAR IN COMPARATIVE CULTURES AND POLITICS: Displacement, Politics and the Visual Field

INSTRUCTOR: Professor C. M. Tremonte

PREREQUISITES: MC 230 and MC 231; completion of Tier I writing requirement.

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

One of the most pressing issues in the world today is the involuntary movement of people, of ‘displaced persons’. Whether wrought by natural disasters, such as the tsunamis or earthquakes, by war or ethnic conflicts, or by policies towards urbanization or development, displacement is often linked to human suffering, and always connected to national and transnational geopolitics. Not surprisingly, scholars in a wide range of fields have noted the importance of ‘seeing’ displacement: they recognize that visual images and narratives not only elicit emotional responses from a general populace, but that the production and circulation of such images and narratives are inextricably linked to policies and actions taken within the global arena. As such, these scholars challenge us to understand the constitutive relations of geopolitics and visuality differently; to understand it not only as the social construction of the visual field but as the visual performance of the social field (Campbell, 2007; 357).

This section of MC 493 examines the ways in which displacement and ‘displaced’ persons—material bodies and subjectivities—are constructed, circulated, and regulated in and across the social field. To this end, we will ask questions such as: What is ‘displacement’? How is displacement constituted materially and discursively? What are the dominant technologies (or modes) employed in producing knowledge about displacement? Who has access to such technologies? Can displaced groups engage in this production? Here contemporary cases might include the movement of people internally and across borders as prompted by conflict or environmental issues. Cases will be concerned with multi-dimensionality of experiences of displacement (e.g. human security). In exploring these questions, we will draw from a range of fields, including anthropology, political philosophy, cultural geography, and visual studies; and, across a range of genres, such as policies papers, ethnographies, and documentary film. Most importantly, students will draw on their areas of expertise beyond CCP (e.g. specializations) to construct theoretical or practical models to address issues of displacement and displaced bodies.

POSSIBLE TEXTS

Michael Agiers, *On the Margins of the World: The Refugee Experience Today* (2005).

Yung Chang, director, *Up the Yangtze* (2007).

Christiane J. Gruber and Sune Haugbolle, editors, *Visual Culture in the Modern Middle East: A Rhetoric of the Image* (2013).

Marianne Hirsch and Nancy K Miller, *Rites of Return: Diaspora Poetics and the Politics of Memory* (2011).

Jane McAdam, editor, *Climate Change and Displacement* (2012).

Caroline Moorehead, *Human Cargo: A Journey Among Refugees* (2006).

Karen O’Brien, Asuncion Clerit St. Clair and Berit Kristoffersen, *Climate Change, Ethics and Human Security* (Cambridge University Press, 2010).

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, *The State of the World's Refugees: Human Displacement in the New Millennium* (2006).

Maureen Stanley and Gesa Zinn, eds., *Exile through a Gendered Lens: Women's Displacement in Recent European History, Literature, and Cinema* (2012).

Michael Winterbottom, director, *In This World* (2004).

POSSIBLE ASSIGNMENTS

Electronic dialoguing; book review; visual politics site-ing; major research project and presentation.

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 497 – Section 001

Senior Seminar in Political Theory and Constitutional Democracy:

Professor: T. CRAIG

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Selected problems in political theory and constitutional democracy. Relationship between theory and politics. Analysis of key thinkers. Case studies.

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

SPRING 2014

MC 497 -- Section 002

Senior Seminar in Political Theory and Constitutional Democracy:

Professor: EL-RAYES

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Selected problems in political theory and constitutional democracy. Relationship between theory and politics. Analysis of key thinkers. Case studies.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE

SPRING 2014

MC 498 – Section 001

SENIOR SEMINAR IN SOCIAL RELATIONS: MIDDLE CLASS POLITICS AND POLICY IN THE U.S.

Professor: **Louise Jeziarski**

Prerequisites: MC 380 and completion of a Tier I writing requirement

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

This senior seminar course is a research based capstone for Social Relations and Policy majors. The course will be conducted as a cooperative and interactive learning environment where all participants are responsible for attendance, readings, and presentations. Our first task is to become familiar with key definitions and concepts used in dialogue with various disciplines. Who is the middle class in the United States? How has this social class been variously constructed over the years? What is the promise of the middle class for Democracy in America? We will study the interaction of social agency, ideology, opportunity structures, conflict, domination, normative order, political economies, cultures, and social movements in creating communities and achieved or ascribed social identities associated with the middle class. How middle class status is linked to gender and race is also emphasized. In contemporary American society, the future of the middle class seems endangered. This course hopes to chart some of the larger forces which are challenging and shaping traditional roles and identities of the middle class, creating new inequalities and entitlements, and forging new political agendas. How does U.S. policy shape the Middle Class? Participants will demonstrate their facility with these analytical tools in a presentation of original research on a topic of their choice.

Required Texts:

C. Wright Mills, *White Collar: The American Middle Classes*, 2nd ed.

B. Bledstein, R. Johnson, *Middling Sorts: Explorations in the History of the American Middle Class*

Annette Lareau and Dalton Conley (eds) *Social Class: How Does It Work?*

[Karyn R. Lacy](#), *Blue-Chip Black: Race, Class, and Status in the New Black Middle Class*

Richard Florida, *Rise of the Creative Class & How It's Transforming Work, Life, Community, And Everyday Life* (2nd ed.)

Film: "A Raisin in the Sun" by Lorraine Hansberry

Film: "The GI Bill of Rights"

Assessment will include 3 major components: discussion, position papers on the readings, and a final research project and 25 page final paper.

Discussion participation and Discussion Leadership required by all (10%)

Ten 2-3 page position papers (50%)

Research Paper proposal (feedback but ungraded), Annotated bibliography (10%), power point presentation (5%) and final 25 page research paper (25%).

Topics: Middle Class Insecurity; How Do We Define the Middle Class?; Was American Born of the Middle Class?; 19th Century Middling Sorts; The Transformation from the Old Middle Class to the New Middle Class; Progress and the Middle Class; Suburbanization and Middle Class Mobility; Educational Attainment; How Much Social Mobility?; Social and Spatial Segregation by Race and Gender; the Black Middle Class; Middle Class Consumption and Debt; the End of the Middle Class and the Rise of the Creative Class? Middle Class Dreams and Discontents.

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
JAMES MADISON COLLEGE**

Spring 2014

MC 498—Section 002

SENIOR SEMINAR IN SOCIAL RELATIONS: THE AMERICAN DREAM

Professor: J. SYKES

Prerequisites: MC 380 and completion of Tier I writing requirement

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

The ideology of the American dream - the belief that prosperity awaits those willing to work hard - resonates powerfully today. Yet where did this national ethos originate? What were - and are - the central tenets of this dream? This course examines the persistence of this promise that predates the founding fathers and evaluates the success of the American dream - who has been able to realize this dream, and importantly, who has not? How is this potent concept of the American dream evoked politically today? Topics in this course will highlight the continuing importance of this ideology and the barriers to the promise that economic opportunity is open to all. Readings highlight social mobility trends and opinion poll research, theories on the reproduction of social class, and ways media and social policy reinforce or challenge the American dream.