

POL100

GLOBAL
POLITICS
AND SOCIETY

MAC 210
TR: 9:30-
10:50



COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course introduces students to the key issues and actors that animate the world political system.

One overarching goal of this exercise is to increase your understanding of the world around you. To this end, this course will focus on the Millennium Development Goals

(MDG), the efforts undertaken to achieve these goals, and the things you can do to help push this effort along.

A second overarching goal is to polish your critical thinking and communication skills. You will therefore be required to read several books, to think about the arguments they present, and to write an

argumentative essay about education. Although most of our class time will be dedicated to examining the MDGs, we will also set aside time to discuss the assigned readings.

My hope is that you will acquire a lifelong interest in world politics and greater self-confidence in your ability to affect political change.

Instructor

Prof. Dallas Blaney
MAC B329

Office Hours:, M/W 1-3pm
or by appointment
Email: blaneyd@uwgb.edu

Millennium Development Goals



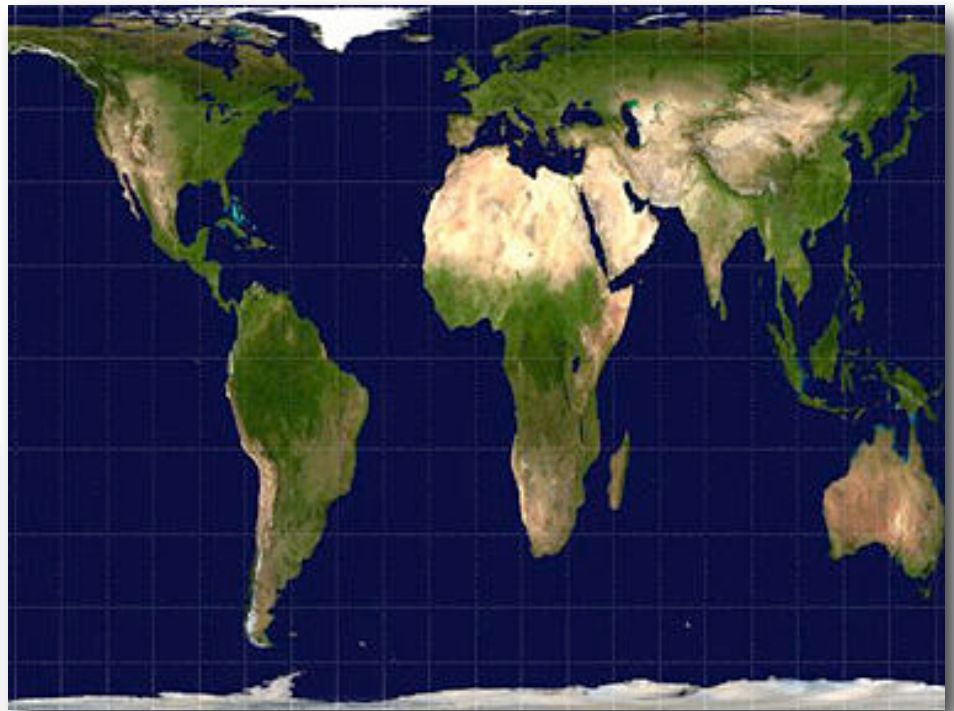
2015

In September 2000, building upon a decade of major United Nations conferences and summits, world leaders came together at United Nations Headquarters in New York to adopt the [United Nations Millennium Declaration](#), committing their nations to a new global partnership to reduce extreme poverty and setting out a series of time-bound targets - with a deadline of 2015 - that have become known as the Millennium Development Goals.



When is education effective?

According to Dewey, education is most effective when "those instructed take part so that they may acquire a social sense of their own powers and of the materials and appliances used"



Student Expectations

It is expected that you will complete all assignments on time and actively participate in classroom conversations. You are also expected to be courteous to your neighbors. In part, this means you should turn off any noise-making electronic devices, like cell-phones, etc. You may use a computer to take notes; however, this right will be forfeit if your computer use is a distraction.

Class time will typically revolve around conversations of the assigned material. With so much weight resting on classroom conversations, it is essential that these conversations be civilized and respectful to everyone in the class and relevant to the topic under consideration. Most educational conversations are the products of attentive listening. As the Chinese Proverb reminds us, "to listen well is as powerful a means of influence as to talk well, and is essential to all true conversation." When you are disrespectful towards others you only ensure that they will stop listening and therefore that you will stop learning.

Clickers, Attendance and Oops!

Attendance is mandatory. You can miss up to three classes without penalty but beyond this you will lose five percentage points from your final grade for each class you miss. There are no exceptions to this policy.

This class uses Turner Clicker technology to track attendance and to encourage in-class discussions. You are responsible for registering your Clicker and bringing it with you to class. You can obtain a clicker at the circulation desk on the 3rd floor of Cofrin Library. Because everyone makes mistakes, you will also receive one Oops! per semester. That is, you can forget your Clicker once per semester without penalty. To receive your Oops! simply contact your instructor either immediately before or after class. You can only receive an Oops! of the day of the infraction.

Course Requirements

Exams (20% each)

There are two exams: a mid-term and final. Exams consist of 50 multiple-choice questions and the final is not cumulative. If you miss an exam you will automatically receive an "F" for the semester. You may use one 3x5 index card as a reference during the exam.

Quizzes (5% each)

You are required to complete five quizzes on the assigned texts. For each quiz you will have ten minutes to answer ten multiple-choice questions. In addition, you are also required to take three quizzes on the assigned geography text (details are forthcoming). Reading quizzes will be available on D2L; geography quizzes will be administered in class. A word of caution: once you begin a quiz on D2L there is no turning back, so only start the quiz when you are prepared to take it. To learn more about the quiz deadlines please consult the course calendar in D2L.

Essay (20%: 2.5% for stages one and two, 15% for stage three)

You are required to write a six page argumentative essay that examines the goal of securing universal education. Your assignment is to answer the following question: "what is the foremost barrier to achieving the Millennium Development Goal of universal education and what is being done to overcome this problem?"

To get you started and keep you on track, this essay assignment develops in three stages. The first stage simply requires you to write a brief thesis statement. To reach this point you should do some initial research, make a preliminary decision about the challenge you want to highlight, and begin sketching out your argumentative strategy. The second stage requires you to submit a detailed outline and brief bibliography (4 sources). At this stage you should accumulate a wealth of information, organize this information into a coherent framework, and develop a sense of how you plan to weave this data into your essay. The final stage consists of writing and submitting your final draft. Detailed instructions are available on D2L.

Statement Concerning Students with Disabilities

Consistent with federal law and the policies of the University of Wisconsin, it is the policy of the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay to provide appropriate and necessary accommodations to students with documented physical and learning disabilities. If you anticipate requiring any auxiliary aids or services, you should contact me or the Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities at 465-2841 as soon as possible to discuss your needs and arrange for the provision of services.





Grading Scale

| | |
|----|--------|
| A | 93-100 |
| AB | 87-92 |
| B | 83-86 |
| BC | 77-82 |
| C | 73-76 |
| CD | 67-72 |
| D | 60-66 |
| F | 0-59 |

Required Texts

Maude Barlow (2009). *Blue Covenant: The Global Water Crisis and the Coming Battle for the Right to Water*. New Press. ISBN 1595584536

Ishmael Beah (2008). *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier*. Farrar, Straus and Giroux. ISBN 0374531269

Carolina Maria de Jesus (2003). *Child of the Dark: The Diary of Carolina Maria de Jesus (50th Anniversary Edition)*. Signet. ISBN 0451529103

Patricia McCormick (2006). *Sold*. Hyperion Book CH. ISBN 0786851724

Anthony Weston (2008). *A Rulebook for Arguments, 4th ed.* Hackett. ISBN 0872209547

Hammond Compact Peters World Atlas: The Earth in Its True Proportions. (2002). Longman. ISBN 0843718323

Course Schedule

- 9/6 Course Introduction
- 9/8 Introductory Remarks: The Millennium Development Goals
Read: [The United Nations Millennium Declarations](#) (D2L, under the "Links" tool)
- 9/13 Poverty and Hunger: overview
Read: "Millennium Development Goal 1: Overview" (D2L link); begin *Child of the Dark*
- 9/15 Ending Poverty and Hunger: the system level
No assigned reading - continue *Child of the Dark*
- 9/20 Ending Poverty and Hunger: the state level
No assigned reading - continue *Child of the Dark*
Quiz #1: Geography of Latin America - Hammond pages 22-31 (in class)
- 9/22 Ending Poverty and Hunger: the individual level
Quiz #2: Child of the Dark (D2L)
- 9/27 Universal Education: overview
Read: "[Millennium Development Goal 2: Universal Education - Fact Sheet](#)"
- 9/29 Universal Education: system, state, and Individual level
Read: TBA
Thesis Statement Due
- 10/4 TBA
Read: begin *Sold*
- 10/6 Gender Equality: the state level
No assigned reading - continue *Sold*
- 10/11 Gender Equality: the individual level
Quiz #3 Sold (D2L)
- 10/13 Child Health: Overview
Read: TBA
- 10/18 Child Health: the system level
Read: UNICEF (2010). "[Narrowing the Gaps to Meet the Goals](#)"
Outlines Due
- 10/20 Child Health: the state and individual level
Read: Doctors Without Borders "Voices from the Field":
["Making a Career of International Field Work as a Nurse-Midwife"](#)
["Afghanistan: Working to Improve Pediatric Care in Helmand"](#)
and ["International Activity Reports 2009: Sierra Leone"](#)

- 10/25 **Exam 1**
- 10/27 Maternal Health: overview
Read: TBA
- 11/1 Maternal Health: system, state and individual level
Read: Excerpts from Nicholas D. Kristoff and Sheryl WuDunn (2009). *Half the Sky*. "Maternal mortality-one woman a minute" and "Women in Childbirth" (D2L)
- 11/3 Combatting HIV/AIDS: overview
Read: TBA
Quiz #4: A Rulebook for Arguments (D2L)
- 11/8 Combatting HIV/AIDS: system level
Read: No assigned reading
- 11/10 Combatting HIV/AIDS: state and individual level
Read: Excerpts from Nicholas D. Kristoff and Sheryl WuDunn (2009). *Half the Sky*. "Family planning and the 'God Gulf'" (D2L)
Quiz #5: Geography of Asia - Hammond pages 51-71 (in class)
- 11/15 Environmental Sustainability: overview
Read: TBA; begin *Blue Covenant*
- 11/17 Environmental Sustainability: system level
No assigned reading - continue *Blue Covenant*
- 11/22 Watch film in class.TBA
Final Drafts Due
- 11/24 Environmental Sustainability: state level
No assigned reading - continue *Blue Covenant*
- 11/29 Environmental Sustainability: individual level
Quiz #6 Blue Covenant (D2L)
- 12/1 Global Partnership/Conflict: overview
Read: TBA; begin *A Long Way Gone*
- 12/6 Global Partnership/Conflict: system level
No assigned reading: continue *A Long Way Gone*
Quiz #7: Geography of Africa - Hammond pages 36-49 (in class)
- 12/8 Global Partnership/Conflict: state level
No assigned reading: begin *A Long Way Gone*
- 12/13 Global Partnership/Conflict: individual level
Quiz #8: A Long Way Gone (D2L)
- 12/20 Final Exam - 8am in our usual room. This is not a comprehensive exam.

* As your instructor I reserve the right to modify this syllabus at any time. It is your responsibility to keep up on course changes. Changes will be announced in class and via email.