Globalization and Public Policy
POL S 403A, PB AF 537
Aseem Prakash
Spring 2008

Class Time: Monday and Wednesday, 1:30-3:20 p.m.
Class Location: Parrington 112
Office Hours: By appointment
Office: 39 Gowen
Voice: 206-543-2399
E-mail: aseem@u.washington.edu
Home Page: http://faculty.washington.edu/aseem/

Course Objective
This course investigates how globalization has influenced public policy. “Much debated, less understood” is perhaps an accurate description for the phrase, globalization. While the globalization cheerleaders see nothing but virtue in globalization, the skeptics have a tendency to blame globalization for most of our policy problems. Clearly, there is a pressing policy rationale to carefully define globalization and assess its implications across policy domains. While you will read some theoretical pieces, my main thrust is to expose you to the empirical literature on globalization. With this input, you should develop a better sense of the challenges posed and the opportunities created by globalization for public policy. And eventually, this should empower you to thoughtfully contribute to the various globalization debates.

Readings
The readings have been placed on E-reserves. To access them:
- Please go to the library homepage (www.lib.washington.edu).
- Click on course reserves.
- Select instructor and fill in "Prakash."
- After clicking on "Prakash Aseem" you should be able to click through to the relevant readings for this particular class. You will have to accept electronic copyright restrictions and enter your UW Net ID, etc., but after going through those screens, you will be able to access the readings.

Course Expectations
I will adopt a seminar format. To maximize your learning from this course, it is imperative that you read the assigned articles in advance and actively participate in class discussions. You will be evaluated on the following:

Article Presentations
You will be assigned three (perhaps more) articles to present in the class. Your presentation should last about 10 minutes. After briefly summarizing the article, please highlight the key lessons that emerge from the article and finally comment on its strengths and weaknesses. Please email me a two page (single-spaced) handout a day prior to your presentation. I will share this handout with the rest of the class.

Class Discussion and Memos
If you are not presenting an article, you still have to do the readings. Please email me a one page memo identifying key questions (based on the assigned readings) you will like to discuss in the class. Your memo should reach me a day prior to the class.

Project
Governments seek to encourage economic growth. Attracting foreign direct investment is supposed to be crucial for this task. You will examine the market, political, and regulatory environments of a country, how globalization has influenced them, and consequently, what are the opportunities and the impediments for foreign direct investment. Project outlines are due Monday, May 12, and project reports (5 pages, single-spaced) are due Wednesday, June 4. In-class project presentations (10 minutes) are scheduled towards the end of the quarter.

Project presentations and project reports will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Research skills: Has the individual collected the appropriate and sufficient data?
- Analytical skills: Has the individual adequately analyzed the data by employing the concepts discussed in this course? Have the key market, regulatory and political issues been identified and their implications examined?
- Presentation skills: Is the presentation interesting and creative? Is it focused?

Evaluation
Article presentations: 30 points
Project 30 points
Memo/Questions 30 points
Class Participation 10 points

I will strictly follow UW's policy on plagiarism:
http://depts.washington.edu/grading/issue1/honesty.htm#plagiarism

Class Schedule
Monday, March 31
Introduction

Wednesday, April 2
Globalization
Monday, April 7
The State and Globalization

Wednesday, April 9
Sociological Globalization

Monday, April 14
Economic Development

Wednesday, April 16
Aid
Monday, April 21
Domestic Politics

Wednesday, April 23
Poverty

Monday, April 28
Trade

Wednesday, April 30
NGOs
Monday, May 5

NGOs


Wednesday, May 7

Globalization Across Continents


Monday, May 12 (Paper Outline turned in)

Globalization Across Continents


Wednesday, May 14

Business self-regulation


**Monday, May 19**

**Multinational Corporations**


**Wednesday, May 21**

**Environment**


**Monday, May 26**

**Memorial Day, No class**

**Wednesday, May 28**

**Student Presentations**

**Monday, June 2**

**Student Presentations**

**Wednesday, June 4 (Final paper turned in).**

**Student Presentations**