

# PSCI 490/614/GGOV614: International Business and Development

Fall, 2013

AL 209, Wednesday 9:30-12:20

---

**Instructor:** H. Wang

**Email Address:** [h279wang@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:h279wang@uwaterloo.ca)

**Office Location:** Hagey Hall 301

**Office Hours:** Thursday 1:00-3:00 pm

**Course Description:** International business has long been a major force in world economy and politics. In the contemporary era – largely due to the acceleration of economic globalization – its influence has become even more salient. In the first part of this course, we will examine economic globalization and its impact on the development of different parts of world, especially in the global South. Students will be introduced to contending perspectives on this topic. The second part of the course will focus on the evolution and consequences of international business operations in this age of globalization. We will explore the impact of multinational corporations on the international order as well as on the development within different countries. The goal of this course is to develop a nuanced and critical understanding of the differentiated impact that international business has had on the economy, society and politics of the world. At the end of the course, we will discuss ways in which major stakeholders can promote the positive impact of international business while ameliorating its negative impact on development.

**Pre-Requisites:** *A minimum of 0.50 unit of PSCI; Level at least 4A.*

## **Course Objectives:**

By the end of this course, students should:

- Be familiar with major concepts and theories about economic globalization and multinational corporations.
- Have developed a critical perspective on the complex effect of globalized business activities.
- Demonstrate the ability to conduct independent research and make persuasive arguments based on that research.
- Be able to think creatively about ways to solve some of the pressing problems related to development in the host country and home country of multinational corporations.

## University Regulations:

### Cross-listed course:

Please note that a cross-listed course will count in all respective averages no matter under which rubric it has been taken. For example, a PHIL/PSCI cross-list will count in a Philosophy major average, even if the course was taken under the Political Science rubric.

### Academic Integrity:

**Academic Integrity:** In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.

**Discipline:** A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline, Student Discipline <http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71>.

**Grievance:** A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4, Student Petitions <http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70>. In addition, consult Student Grievances <http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/student-grievances-faculty-arts-processes> for the Faculty of Arts’ grievance processes.

**Appeals:** A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read Policy 72 - Student Appeals, Student Appeals <http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72>.

**Academic Integrity website (Arts):** Academic Integrity [http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic\\_responsibility.html](http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html)

**Academic Integrity Office (uWaterloo):** Academic Integrity Office <http://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/>

## **Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:**

**Note for students with disabilities:** The AccessAbility Services (AS) Office, located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the AS Office at the beginning of each academic term.

## **Texts:**

Goldin, Ian, and Kenneth Reinert. *Globalization for Development: Meeting New Challenges*. Oxford University Press, 2012. (Required)

Cohen, Stephen D. *Multinational Corporations and Foreign Direct Investment: Avoiding Simplicity, Embracing Complexity*, Oxford University Press, 2007. (Required)

Texts are available for purchase at the University of Waterloo bookstore.

Texts are also on 3-hour reserve at the Dana Porter Library.

There are additional readings materials, which you can find through the University's library. Items marked with "\*" are required for students enrolled in PSCI614 or GGOV614. All other items are required for all students.

## **Course Requirements, Expectations, and Standards:**

### **Assignments:**

#### *Assignment #1:*

In-class discussion is an important part of learning in this course. You should be prepared to discuss the reading assignments and other materials we will cover. You should also respond constructively to fellow students' presentations. Your performance in this regard will constitute 20 percent of the course grade.

#### *Assignment #2:*

During the first half of the semester, we will examine contending perspectives on the impact of economic globalization on development. Every week have several topics for debate in class. Each student will participate in three debates. You will choose the topic and the "side" of the issue the week before. You will be graded on your debate performance, but it will be helpful for you to prepare a short position paper (1-2 pages) to help your oral presentation. Your argument should be based on the reading materials assigned for that week as well as other credible sources. Each debate will constitute 10 percent of your course grade.

### *Assignment #3:*

During the second half of the semester, we will focus on the role of multinational corporations in development broadly defined. Students will conduct independent research. Students enrolled in PSCI 490 will choose a pair of MNCs and contrast their impact on the economy and society of the home country, or host country, or more generally. Students enrolled in PSCI614 or GGOV614 will choose a thematic topic about MNCs and development and write an original research paper. All paper topics must be approved by the professor. You will present your case study or research paper in class in the last few weeks of the semester. The presentation of your research will account for 20 percent of your course grade; your case study or thematic research paper will account for 30 percent.

### **Late Policy:**

There will be no make up for missed assignments or presentations except special circumstances beyond your control (e.g., illness and other types of emergencies, for which you need to submit written documentation).

### **Schedule:**

#### **Week 1 Introduction**

#### **Week 2 Overview**

Reading 1: Goldin and Reinert, chapters 1-2

Reading 2: \*Wade, Robert. "Is globalization reducing poverty and inequality?." *World Development* 32.4 (2004): 567-589.

#### **Week 3 Trade and Development**

Reading 1: Goldin and Reinert, chapter 3

Reading 2: \*Scott, James, and Rorden Wilkinson. "The poverty of the Doha round and the least developed countries." *Third World Quarterly* 32.4 (2011): 611-627.

#### **Week 4 Finance and Development**

Reading 1: Goldin and Reinert, chapter 4

Reading 2: \*Helleiner, Eric. "Understanding the 2007-2008 global financial crisis: Lessons for scholars of international political economy." *Annual Review of Political Science* 14 (2011): 67-87.

#### **Week 5 Aid and Development**

Reading 1: Goldin and Reinert, chapter 5

Reading 2: \*Wright, Joseph, and Matthew Winters. "The politics of effective foreign aid." *Annual Review of Political Science* 13 (2010): 61-80.

### **Week 6 Migration and Development**

Reading 1: Goldin and Reinert, chapter 6

Reading 2: \*Raghuram, Parvati. "Which migration, what development? Unsettling the edifice of migration and development." *Population, Space and Place* 15.2 (2009): 103-117.

### **Week 7 Ideas and Development**

Reading 1: Goldin and Reinert, chapter 7

Reading 2: \*McNeill, D. (2006), "The Diffusion of Ideas in the Development Theory and Practice," *Global Social Policy*, 6, 3: 334-354.

### **Week 8 Fundamentals about FDI**

Reading 1: Cohen, chapters 3 and 4

Reading 2: \*Cohen, chapters 1, 2 and 5

### **Week 9 Strategies of MNCs**

Reading: Cohen chapters 6 and 7

### **Week 10 MNCs' Impact on International Order**

Reading 1: Cohen chapters 8 and 10

Reading 2: \*Cohen, chapters 9 and 11

### **Week 11 Evaluating MNCs**

Reading 1: Cohen, chapters 12 and 13

Reading 2: \*Cohen, chapter 14

### **Week 12 Conclusion and Policy Recommendations**

Reading 1: Goldin chapter 8

Reading 2: Cohen chapter 15