Current controversies over globalization take place against a background of severe poverty in much of the world, extreme economic and other inequalities between (and within) rich and poor countries, and profound international effects of domestic policies. To understand these controversies, we must engage both social scientific and normative questions. This interdisciplinary course on global justice integrates approaches from political economy and political philosophy. Foundations of development economics and theories of global justice are introduced and applied to specific issues such as immigration, trade, sweatshops, and climate change.

This course serves to satisfy the gateway requirement for the Social Theory and Practice concentration and for the Peace and Social Justice minor.

The course meets 11-12 MWF in 126 East Quad. Office hours after class at the Rendezvous (before the break) and at Dominick’s (after the break), and by appointment schedulable via 647 4364 or clmurph@umich.ed, or https://www-a1.lsa.umich.edu/AdvAppts/AA_StuSelfSvc1.aspx?ctgy=ECON.

Reading:

Two books are required and are available commercially as well as in the University Reserves:


All other course reading is available on the CTools coursesite.

Writing:

The midterm paper (10% of course grade) will be due on Friday, 25 February. (Topic suggestions will be available on Friday, 11 February.) The term paper (30% of course grade) will be due on the last day of class, Monday, 18 April.
The midterm exam (20% of course grade) will be given in class on Wednesday, 23 February. The final exam (40% of course grade) will be given 4:00-6:00 on Monday, 25 April.

Extra credit or discredit may be due via surprise quizzes in class. Because of the substantial amount of interactive evaluation involved in the course, there will be no make-up exams and late papers will not be accepted. (The midterm and term papers are to be uploaded to the Drop Box on our CTools coursesite by 11 am on their due dates.)

Some aspects of the course can be modified to facilitate full participation and fair evaluation of students with SSD recognized disabilities. Students needing such an accommodation should make this known at the beginning of the course. (Such information will be treated as private and confidential.)

Discussion:

Discussion in class and beyond is strongly encouraged. In particular students are urged to participate via rcssci_226_globalization@ctools.umich.edu.

Outline Schedule of Assignments:

5-7 January: Introduction.

Reading:


Reading:


22-28 January: **Does Within-Country Inequality Matter?**

Reading:


28 January: Film: *Philosophy and Politics*

29 January – 4 February: **Do Rich Countries Have Duties of Justice to Poor Countries?**

Reading:


5-11 February: **A Modest Theory of Positive Duties toward the Global Poor.**

Reading:


10 February: Midterm paper topics distributed.

12-21 February: **A Cosmopolitan Theory of Global Justice.**

Reading:


23 February: Midterm examination.

25 February: Midterm paper due.

7-11 March: **An Intermediate Theory of Global Justice.**


7 March: Film: *Doing the Right Thing* (Hilary Sandison, 2001)

12-18 March: **What Can Be Done to Promote Global Justice?**

Reading:


19-25 March: **Sweatshops and Justice**

Reading:


26 March – 1 April: **Immigration.**
Reading:


2-8 April: **Free Trade**.

Reading:


9-18 April: **Intellectual Property and Access to Medicine**.

Reading:


18 April: Term paper due.

25 April: Final examination (4:00-6:00)