

Bard High School Early College
Section 2: Period 1
M, T, R, F: 9-9:50 AM

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Social Sciences Office: Room 408

GLOBAL STUDIES COURSE SYLLABUS [SPRING 2008]

We live in a global world: our daily lives are increasingly connected in a myriad of ways – economic, political and cultural – to the lives of other peoples across the world. The most fundamental questions of our identity – our understandings of who we are and what we are doing – are shaped by our place in this global world. This course will take the form of a set of inquiries into the emergence of this global world, with a focus on the study of the historical dynamics at work. Our goal will be a better understanding of what it means to be global citizens of this world, and of the rights and responsibilities that global citizenship bestows upon us. We come to global citizenship as Americans, and so a particular focus will be understanding the role of our nation in the global world. An emphasis will be placed on the study of political ideas in global development – especially different conceptions of citizenship – in order to inform our own understanding of what it means to be a global citizen.

To be an active citizen, shaping your world for the better, you must possess a set of skills upon which we will focus in this class: the ability [1] to think critically, [2] to analyze political, economic and cultural developments and ideas from a number of different perspectives, reaching your own reasoned conclusions, [3] to write and to speak persuasively, using logical argument and supporting evidence in support of your position and [4] to engage in dialogue and intellectual exchange as part of a community of scholars. Particular attention will be paid to the study and analysis of written documents and texts from the periods and societies being studied.

The fall term of this course focused on what might be called the traditional world – the development of the classical civilizations of Africa, the Middle East, Asia and Europe. The spring term will focus on the emergence of the modern world in Europe and North America, and the encounters and conflicts between that modern world and the other peoples of the world.

One of the most important concepts we will study is the idea that the rights and benefits we have as citizens carry with them obligations and duties to the community. The rights you have as a student in this class also carry with them certain obligations and duties, and you must fulfill those obligations and duties to continue to exercise your rights as a member of the class.

1. Class Attendance:

- A. Everyone must come to class on time. All lateness and unexcused absences will be recorded. Each student is allowed a **maximum** of four lateness and four unexcused absences in a term. Excessive lateness and unexcused absence will result in points being deducted from your grade.

2. Class Participation:

- A. Class discussions are a central and essential part of this class. You should come to class having done your homework, prepared to participate in the class discussion with questions and comments. You should be an active participant in **every** class discussion. Learning how to engage intellectually in oral discussion and debate – presenting your thoughts and ideas clearly and concisely, responding thoughtfully to your classmates' statements – is just as important as learning how to express your thoughts and idea in writing.
- B. Class participation – both asking and answering questions, joining in class discussions – makes up 25% of your grade.
- C. Participation in class discussion involves respect for your fellow students. You should never interrupt another student when she or he is speaking, and you must not use personal insults or epithets in class discussions. Different points of view and different judgments are an important part of the discussion and learning process – the key is expressing disagreements in a civil and respectful way, and learning from our differences.

3. Homework and Quizzes:

- A. Homework is regularly assigned for every class. It will have a reading component, and questions to be answered in writing.
- B. You should always be prepared for a quiz on your homework. You will be allowed to consult your written homework answers to answer a quiz.
- C. Homework and Quizzes will account for 15% of your grade.
- D. The purpose of homework is to prepare you for the next day's lesson. It should be used and referred to during class to answer questions and participate in the discussion.

4. Current Events Journal/Memoir Analysis:

In the first marking period, you will be required to keep a weekly journal with analyses of current global events. A full description of the journal is provided below. In the second marking period, you will do an analysis of a political memoir. An explanation of that assignment will be given out at the start of the second marking period. These assignments are worth 10% of your final grade.

5. Journal and Homework Notebook:

You will need to keep a journal and homework notebook specifically for this class. It will be collected and graded twice – on March 20 and on June 2. You are to keep your written homework and current events journal in this notebook. Each entry should be properly titled, as homework or journal, and dated. It is recommended that you use a large permanently bound notebook. As well, you will be receiving many class handouts and homework handouts. You should have a folder where you collect those handouts.

6. Your class textbook will be *The Earth and Its Peoples: A Global History*. Please acquire a copy from the book room. You can leave your textbook home.

7. Exams and Response Essays:

- A. There will be four exams. These exams will be divided between an essay portion, worth 3/4 of the grade, and a definition of terms portion, worth 1/4 of the grade, except for the final exam, which shall be two essays.
- B. There will be four take home response essays, 2 to 3 typewritten pages long.
- C. The dates for the exam and the due dates for the response essays are included in the calendar of lessons. These dates have been scheduled to distribute the work you will have to do evenly across the term. It is your responsibility to make sure you have adequate time to study for your exams and to hand in your response essays on the due dates.
- D. Make up exams will only be provided in cases of documented illness and emergency. Late response essays will result in lowered grades.
- E. Together, the exams and response essays will count for 45% of your grade.

8. Grading:

Your grades will be computed in the following way:

Elements Of Grade	
A. Exams and Response Essays	45%
B. Homework and Quizzes	20%
C. Class Participation and Class Work	25%
D. Current Events Journal/Memoir Analysis	10%

9. Scholarly Integrity:

The BHSEC Student Handbook contains a statement of academic integrity. You can read it on pp. 13 and 14 of this year's student academic planner. It outlines three basic principles which will be strictly followed in this class: [1] work done at BHSEC will represent original ideas of individuals who have submitted the work, [2] students will never try to pass off another person's idea as their own, and [3] students will neither give nor receive aid on exams. Plagiarism [paraphrasing or quoting another person's work without acknowledging that work] and cheating will be recorded as a zero on the assignment. A second incident will result in a failure in the class, and will result in a permanent letter documenting the plagiarism or cheating being placed in the student's file. You should make yourself completely familiar with this policy.

The BHSEC policy of plagiarism and cheating covers **ALL** of the work you do in this class: your exams, your response essays, your current events journal and your homework.

10. Assistance:

If you have any questions or if you need any help, please do not hesitate to speak to me before or after class or e-mail me. I will be available for tutoring and to answer questions from 8:30 to 9:00 AM on the mornings before our class. If your grades on your exams or response essays are lower than a B-, tutoring will be mandated.

**GLOBAL STUDIES SPRING TERM CALENDAR OF LESSONS AND ASSESSMENTS
DR. LEO CASEY**

DATES	TOPICS	DUE DATES
WEEK OF JANUARY 28 TWO DAYS [1/31, 2/1]	1. Course Introduction	
WEEK OF FEBRUARY 4 FOUR DAYS	1. Different Views of the European Conquest of the Americas 2. The Emergence of the Atlantic System 3. Modern Slavery in the Americas 4. The Emergence of Racism: Europe Confronts The Rest of the World	
WEEK OF FEBRUARY 11 FOUR DAYS	1. The Renaissance: The Birth of the Individual 2. Machiavelli 3. The Reformation: The Claims of Religious Conscience 4. Martin Luther	
WEEK OF FEBRUARY 25 FOUR DAYS	1. Calvin and Calvinism 2. Radical Protestant Dissenters 3. The Dawn of Modernity and Hunting Witches	EXAM: 2/26
WEEK OF MARCH 3 FOUR DAYS	1. Modernity and The Emergence of Absolutism 2. Modernity and The Idea of Individual Rights 3. Thomas Hobbes 4. John Locke	
WEEK OF MARCH 17 THREE DAYS [3/21]	1. The Enlightenment 2. Jean-Jacques Rousseau 3. Immanuel Kant	ESSAY: 3/17 NOTEBOOK: 3/20
WEEK OF MARCH 24 FOUR DAYS	1. The American Revolution: How Revolutionary Was It? 2. Thomas Jefferson 3. Modern Republicanism and the Federalist Papers	MID-TERM EXAM: 3/28
WEEK OF MARCH 31 FOUR DAYS	1. The French Revolution and Radical Democracy 2. The Reign of Terror 3. The Industrial Revolution 4. Capitalism	
WEEK OF APRIL 7 FOUR DAYS	1. Adam Smith 2. The Emergence of the Working Class	ESSAY: 4/11

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Karl Marx 4. Socialism and Anarchism 	
WEEK OF APRIL 14 FOUR DAYS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. European Nationalism 2. Imperialism 3. The “White Man’s Burden” and the Scramble for Africa 4. Imperialism in China: The Opium Wars and The Boxer Rebellion 	
WEEK OF APRIL 28 FOUR DAYS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Imperialism in the Middle East 2. Anti-Colonial Revolution 3. Mohandas Gandhi 4. Mao Zedong 	
WEEK OF MAY 5 FOUR DAYS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Russian Revolution 2. Stalinist Communism 3. Fascism 4. Hitler and Mussolini 	ESSAY: 5/5
WEEK OF MAY 12 FOUR DAYS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hannah Arendt on Totalitarianism 2. Islamism: A New Totalitarianism? 3. World War and Total War 4. The Holocaust 	
WEEK OF MAY 19 FOUR DAYS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Cold War: Different Perspectives 2. The Problem of Genocide and Democide: Armenia, Bosnia and Cambodia 3. Genocide and Democide: Rwanda and Darfur 	EXAM: 5/20
WEEK OF MAY 26 THREE DAYS [5/26]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Are Human Rights A Western Imposition? 2. The Global Sweatshop: A Race to the Bottom? 3. Global Ecology In Crisis 	ESSAY: 5/30
WEEK OF JUNE 2 THREE DAYS [6/5]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Western Democracy and the “End of History?” 2. Women’s Rights in Global Perspective 3. Terrorism 	NOTEBOOK: 6/2
WEEK OF JUNE 9	FINAL EXAM	

Weekly Journal of Analysis of Current Events and Issues

An absolutely central part of developing the skills of a social scientist is the acquisition of a full knowledge of the political, economic and social dimensions of current events and the issues of the day. Just as importantly, one can not be an informed and active citizen who meaningfully participates in political life without the acquisition of such knowledge. Finally, it is the acquisition of such broad, humanistic knowledge that universities, graduate schools and professional (law, business, medical) schools look for when examining applicants.

One aspect of this course in Global Studies, therefore, will be a focus on the acquisition of such knowledge. Knowledge of this nature is primarily acquired by reading regularly weekly magazines/newspapers which interpret politically the news, current events and issues of the day. (A list of appropriate magazines/newspapers are listed below.) It is a requirement of this class that every student read one such news magazine or newspaper a week, starting with this week, and select one current event or issue involving global studies discussed in it for review in your journal. The entry into the journal, consisting of at least two paragraphs of three or more sentences, will relate that event or issue to global studies. It should begin with a title of the topic and a heading which identified the news magazine or newspaper (including date and number or web page) which was read. Some statement of your own view/perspective on the event or issue should be included in the entry. A different event or issue must be selected each week. The journal will be collected on March 20, marked and included in your grade.

It is strongly recommended that you choose a mix of American news magazines and newspapers, American journals of political opinion, international news magazines and newspapers and international journals of political opinion. Such a mix will allow you a window into how the world is seen differently from different regions and nations of the world.

American News Magazines And Newspapers:

The Week in Review Section of the Sunday *New York Times*, *Newsweek*, *Time*, and *US News and World Report*. (The daily editions of the *New York Times*, and the *Daily News*, *Post* and *Newsday* are **not** acceptable for this journal.)

International News Magazines and Newspapers:

Available on the Internet are international news magazines and newspapers in English:

Europe: *Le Monde Diplomatique* [France]; *The Irish Independent* [Ireland]; *The Guardian* and the *London Times* [United Kingdom].

Africa: *Accra Daily Mail* [Ghana]; *Guardian* [Nigeria]; *Mail and Guardian* [South Africa].

Middle East: *Al Ahram Weekly* [Egypt]; *Jerusalem Post* [Israel]; *Turkish Daily News* and *Turkey Post* [Turkey]

Asia and the Pacific: *Sydney Morning Herald* [Australia]; *China Daily* [China]; *South China Morning Post* [Hong Kong]; *Asian Age*, *Indian Express*, and *The Times of India* [India]; *Japan Times* [Japan]; *Daily Times* [Pakistan].

Americas: *Macleans*, *Toronto Globe and Mail* and *Montreal Gazette* [Canada].

American Journals of Political Opinion:

Left Journals	Middle of the Road Journals	Right Journals
<i>American Prospect</i> <i>Dissent</i> <i>The Nation</i> <i>In These Times</i>	<i>The New Leader</i> [On-Line only] <i>The New Republic</i> <i>New York Review of Books</i> <i>Salon</i> [On-Line only] <i>Slate</i> [On-Line only]	<i>Claremont Review of Books</i> <i>Commentary</i> <i>Human Events</i> <i>National Review</i> <i>Weekly Standard</i>

International Journals of Political Opinion:

Canadian Dimension [Canada] New Statesman [UK]		The Economist [UK]
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International Human Rights and Global Justice Journals

The New Internationalist, Amnesty International's *Wire*, Doctors Without Borders' *Alert Magazine*, Global Exchange *Newsletter*; Human Rights in China's *China Rights Forum*; Jubilee USA Network *Newsletter*; TransAfrica's *Globalization Monitor*.

Sample Headings:

Christopher Caldwell, "Germany on Tiptoe Over Terror" in *The Week in Review*, *The New York Times*, September 9, 2007

Eric Reeves, "Genocide Without End? The Destruction of Darfur" in *Dissent*, Summer 2007.