Getting in touch

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Department of Sociology & Anthropology
http://www.fiu.edu/orgs/socant/

Instructor’s web site
http://www.fiu.edu/~tardanic/

What it’s about

This course is about the interplay between societies and global inequalities, past and present. It focuses on describing this interplay from competing perspectives, and on considering the political and policy implications of the various perspectives for global problems such as poverty, violence, racism, gender inequalities, environment, hunger, and health.

Required Book


Learning Expectations

Each student is responsible for learning all of the material covered in the course—readings, lectures/discussions, videos, writing assignments, and so on—and for doing so according to the semester schedule. Each student is also responsible for doing the assignments thoughtfully and punctually, and for actively and courteously participating in class discussions.

Assignments & Grades

Each week’s reading assignment must be completed and thoughtfully considered before the corresponding class session.

Final grades will be based on the following components, *all of which must be completed in order to be eligible for a passing grade*:

- Attendance, punctuality, and active, courteous, and respectful class participation:
  - *Worth 20% of the final grade.*
• One to two page, double-spaced take-home essays (12-point Times Roman or similar font):
  o Assigned more or less weekly, and due at the start of each class session.
  o Each essay will be graded pass/fail.
  o *Altogether the essays are worth 20% of the final grade* based on the portion of assignments completed: “A” (90-100% of assignments completed); "B" (80-89%); "C" (70-79%); "D" (60-69%); "F" (less than 60%).
  o Late assignments will be accepted only under exceptional circumstances, which must be reported promptly (ideally beforehand) and adequately documented.

• Three equally weighted, multiple-choice exams (about 30 questions each):
  o *Each exam is worth 20% (for a total of 60%) of the final grade.*
  o Grading scale: “A” (90-100% correct); "B" (80-89%); "C" (70-79%); "D" (60-69%); "F" (less than 60%).
  o Study questions will be provided.
  o Make-up exams will be given only under exceptional circumstances, which must be reported promptly (ideally beforehand) and adequately documented. Make-up exams may consist of essay questions, and may be much more demanding than the regular exams.

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**Schedule**

*GPCC: Robbins, Global Problems and the Culture of Capitalism*

Weekly writing assignments are displayed at [http://www.fiu.edu/~tardanic/](http://www.fiu.edu/~tardanic/)

• **January 13**
  Overview

• **January 20**
  *GPCC, Part I (on Money) and Chapter 1, “Constructing the Consumer”*

• **January 27**
  *GPCC, Chapter 2, “The Laborer in the Culture of Capitalism”*

• **February 3**
  *GPCC, Chapter 3, “The Rise of the Merchant, Industrialist, and Capitalist Controller”*

• **February 10**
  *GPCC, Chapter 4, “The Nation-State in the Culture of Capitalism”*
• **February 17 – Exam #1**

Exam #1

*GPCC, Part II (on Polanyi’s Paradox) and Chapter 5, “The Problem of Population Growth”*

• **February 24**

*GPCC, Chapter 6, “Hunger, Poverty, and Economic Development”*

• **March 3**

*GPCC, Chapter 7, “Environment and Consumption”*

• **March 10**

*GPCC, Chapter 8, “Disease”*  
*GPCC, Chapter 9, “Indigenous Groups and Ethnic Conflict”*

• **March 17 – Exam #2**

Exam #2

*GPCC, Part III (on Terrorism) and Chapter 10, “Peasant Protest, Rebellion, and Resistance”*

• **March 24 – Spring Break**

• **March 31**

*GPCC, Chapter 11, “Antisystemic Protest”*

• **April 7**

*GPCC, Chapter 12, “Religion and Antisystemic Protest”; Chapter 13, “Constructing the Citizen-Activist”*

• **April 14 – No Class**

• **April 21 – Exam #3**

Exam #3