

GLOBAL HUMAN ISSUES

Drs. Hoffman & Thomas
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Course Description

This course is an interdisciplinary approach to major world problems, with particular emphasis upon those faced by non-Western peoples. We will be exploring the interdependence between economically developed and underdeveloped parts of the world. We will present you with both sociological and anthropological views on these problems, and we will expect you to think creatively to formulate possible solutions to them. The readings below are essential to the course, and most of them derive from the three main texts: *Global Issues 97-98 (GI)*, *Global Issues: An Introduction (GIAN)*, and *State of the World 1998 (SW98)*. These are listed by chapter number below. Other readings will be articles (identified by author's last name) which will either be given out in class or placed on reserve in the library. Some additional hand-outs may be assigned. There will also be several programs on the Video system at the library and films to be shown in class which will be announced later. We may revise this syllabus to include additional reserve readings.

Your requirements in the course are as follows: regular attendance (5% of your grade), 2 - 3 quizzes (15% of your grade), a mid-term exam (25% of your grade), a final exam (30% of your grade), and a final paper (25% of your grade). The mid-term exam will be on February 25th, and will include both short answer and essay questions. A study guide will be distributed in class. The final paper should be 8-10 pages in length. Choose **any one** of the eleven problems below, and research how it applies to a **particular** non-Western people or country. The paper should include references to both scholarly books and journal articles, and may include some current magazine articles. **At least one** of your references must be to a scholarly book or article published during the last 10 years. You must submit the title of your paper in advance, so we can approve it or suggest changes. Only five students per section may choose any one problem. The due date for paper titles is February 25th. The paper is due on May 13th.

Course Schedule

I. Introduction to the Problems and the Disciplines

1/14/98:

GI 1-2, GIAN Intro, Keys

II. Systemic Issues:

1/21/98 A. The Problem of Population

GI 4-6,8, GIAN 2, SW98 1, Hardin, Commoner

1/28/98 B. The Problem of Food and Hunger

GI 15-17, GIAN 3, SW98 4,5, Diamond, Franke & Chasin

2/4/98 C. The Problem of Conflict and Imperialism

GI 32,33,37-39,41, SW98 8, Galtung, Bodley, Nietschmann

2/11/98 D. The Problem of Tradition and Modernity

GI 3,14,24,25, GIAN 6, Clad, Spindler, Heston

Midterm Exam

3/18/98 E. The Problem of Economic Development

GI 21,22,26,27,30,43, GIAN 1, SW98 9,10, Taussig, Pena, May, Plaza & Tobis

III. Cultural and Quality-of-Life Issues

3/25/98 G. The Problem of Environment and Pollution GI 9-3,20, GIAN 4, 5, SW98 2,3,6,7

4/1/98 H. The Problem of Gender
GI 23,36,49, Heise, McGowan

4/8/98 I. The Problem of Human Rights
GI 45, Barber, U.N. Declaration

4/15/98 J. The Problem of Ethnicity
GI 35, Bay, Hyndman, Weiss

4/22/98 K. The Problem of Religion
GI 46-48, McAlister, Coll & Hoffman

4/29/98 L. The Problem of World Order
GI 40,42,44,51, GIAN 7, Mueller, Urso

Final exam