

POL 491: Global Governance
Purdue University
Fall 2022

Tuesday and Thursday, 1:30 – 2:45 pm, Beering 1245

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Office hours: Tuesdays, 3 – 5 pm (sign up in advance [here](#))

Course Description

How does COVID-19 present a global governance challenge? What makes climate change the most serious yet least addressed problem of our times? What impact does Big Tech (Google, Amazon, Facebook, Apple) have on the world? How does the crisis in Ukraine resemble the ongoing Syrian conflict?

Behind the scenes of our everyday lives, there are unseen global connections. This course introduces you to global undercurrents and the main tension in global governance: how to balance freedom and responsibility across the globe without a world government.

You will investigate five global crises: COVID-19, climate change, global inequality, Big Tech, and the Syrian civil war (with a connection to Ukraine). The crises represent different kinds of politics that define freedom and responsibility across the world. You will read long-form journalism and political science research to understand what these crises are, how they became problems, and what the world can do to solve them.

This course ultimately aims for you to see challenges in global governance as not just “problems out there,” but as part of your collective future.

Learning Objectives

At the end of the semester, you should be able to:

- Identify and explain the major crises in contemporary global governance;
- Recognize and critically assess the political, historical, and social context of global challenges in security, political economy, and human rights;
- Apply leading frameworks of international politics to help understand existing and future global governance challenges; and
- Produce original research on a global governance challenge in a final project that invokes both oral and written communication.

Required Texts

No required textbook. All readings will be on Brightspace.

Course Requirements

Reading and Class Participation:	25%	every class
Response Paper 1 (3 pages):	10%	due week 4
Response Paper 2 (3 pages):	15%	due week 11
Final Project:	50%	
Topic selection memo (1 page)	5%	due week 6
Annotated bibliography (1 page)	5%	due week 10
Presentation (7 minutes)	20%	due weeks 15-16
Summary (5 pages)	20%	due with final presentation

Assignments

Reading:

This is a reading-heavy course. You will be assigned close to *50 pages per class*. The readings are carefully selected so you understand current events from different perspectives rooted in long-form journalism and political science research.

Participation:

This seminar is driven by discussions rather than lectures. You are expected to have done the readings and have them ready for reference every class. You should contribute to the conversation thoughtfully and consistently.

Response Papers:

You will write two response papers on the topics covered in the course. Response paper 1 will be on climate change; Response paper 2 will be on either Big Tech or income inequality. More details will follow.

Final Project:

Your final project will introduce a new topic on global governance and explain its significance. The project will require independent research through outside reading.

- ❖ You will give a 7-minute class presentation on your project.
- ❖ You will also write a 5-page (double-spaced) summary of the final project.

Detailed instructions will be available in due course.

Follow this timeline to develop your final project.

Week 5:	Identify 2-3 possible topics
Week 6:	Select topic with consultation from Prof. Srivastava
Weeks 6-10:	Research topic through reading well-regarded outside sources
Weeks 11-14:	Prepare final presentation and summary
Weeks 15-16:	Present in class; submit written summary on Brightspace

Grading

Guidelines for grading correspond to student performance where,

- A — Outstanding achievement
- B — Very good, commendable achievement
- C — Satisfactory achievement
- D — Minimum performance
- F — Failure without credit

Letter grades will be determined as follows:

A = 100 - 93%	B+ = 89.5 - 87.5%	C+ = 79.5 - 77.5%	D+ = 69.5 - 67.5%
A - = 92.5 - 90%	B = 87 - 83%	C = 77 - 73%	D = 67 - 60%
	B- = 82.5 - 80%	C- = 72.5 - 70%	F = 59.5% and below

Policies

1. No use of phones during class. Use of laptops or tablets limited to access readings.
2. Follow the COVID-19 safety measures in the classroom as outlined in [FALL 2022 standard operating procedures](#).
3. Class communication will be through your Purdue email, which I expect you will check at least once a day.
4. I will do my best to respond within 24 hours to your emails, except after 6 pm and on weekends. If you do not hear from me, feel free to check in.
5. If you anticipate or experience physical or academic barriers based on disability, you are welcome to let me know so that we can discuss options. You are also encouraged to contact the Disability Resource Center at drc@purdue.edu or 765-494-1247.
6. Thoroughly cite all paraphrased and quoted material in your written material and presentation. You are responsible for knowing Purdue's policy regarding [academic integrity](#).
7. Be mindful of Purdue's [honor pledge](#) and give others the same respect you would like to receive in our classroom.
8. The syllabus is subject to change with fair notice.

Attendance

The university is operating under standard academic regulations regarding attendance. You are allowed to miss *two* classes unexcused. Under academic regulations, excused absences may be granted for cases of grief/bereavement, military service, jury duty, parenting leave, and medical excuse involving hospitalization, emergency department or urgent care visits. See below for COVID-19 isolation/quarantine accommodation. If other situations arise that affect your attendance in a prolonged manner, we can explore options to get you on track.

When absences can be anticipated, such as for many University-sponsored activities and religious observations, you should inform me in advance. For unanticipated or emergency conflict, when advance notification is not possible, you should contact the [Office of the Dean of Students \(ODOS\)](#) to request that a notice of the leave be sent to me when a situation involving hospitalization, emergency department or urgent care visits emerges. You can then provide documentation to ODOS as soon as these documents are available.

COVID-19

Do not come to class if you have a fever or display any symptoms associated with COVID-19. If you have symptoms associated with COVID-19, you must isolate, test, and contact the [Protect Purdue Health Center](#). If you must miss class because of quarantine/isolation, Protect Purdue will issue absence notification to me. Please also reach out to me via email so that we can communicate about how you can maintain your academic progress. If you find yourself too sick to progress in the course, notify me and we will make arrangements based on your particular situation.

Course Schedule

❖ Indicates assigned reading *for* that class. Read in the order listed.

WEEK ONE	
8/23	<p>Welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ This syllabus
8/25	<p>Introduction to Global Governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ <i>The Commission on Global Governance, "A New World"</i> (1995) ❖ "Global and Regional Governance" pp. 163-178
WEEK TWO	
8/30	<p>Global Governance Concepts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Stephen Krasner, "Sovereignty: Organized Hypocrisy" (1999), pp. 1-25 ❖ Susan Sell, "Who Governs the Globe?" (2014)
9/1	<p>Application to COVID-19 Pandemic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Tanisha Fazal, "Health Diplomacy in Pandemical Times" (2020) ❖ Rajiv Shah, "The COVID Charter" (2021)
WEEK THREE	
9/6	<p>Climate Change I: The Problem</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ John Van Tigglen, "Cold Comfort," <i>The Monthly</i> (2014) ❖ "Environmental Issues," pp. 365-375
9/8	<p>Climate Change II: Global Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Raffi Khatchadourian, "The Trash Nebula," <i>The New Yorker</i> (2020) ❖ Garrett Hardin, "Tragedy of the Commons" (1968)

WEEK FOUR	
9/13	<p>Climate Change III: Arguments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Peter Singer, “One Atmosphere” (2007) ❖ Scott Barrett, “Why Have Climate Negotiations Proved So Disappointing” (2015)
9/15	<i>No class: Writing day</i>
9/16	***Response Paper One Due***
WEEK FIVE	
9/20	<p>Climate Change IV: Advocacy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Emily Witt, “How Greta Thunberg Transformed Existential Dread Into a Movement,” <i>The New Yorker</i> (2020) ❖ Margaret Keck and Kathryn Sikkink, “Transnational Advocacy Networks in International Politics” (1998)
9/22	<p>Big Tech I: The Problem</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Shoshana Zuboff, “You are Now Remotely Controlled,” <i>The New York Times</i> (2020) ❖ Siva Vaidhyanathan, <i>Antisocial Media</i>, Introduction (2018)
WEEK SIX	
9/27	<p>Big Tech II: Anti-Democratic Network</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Steven Levy, <i>Facebook: The Inside Story</i>, Chapter 14 - “Election” (2020) ❖ Andrew Marantz, “Explicit Content,” <i>The New Yorker</i> (2020)
9/29	<p>Big Tech III: Monopolies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Scott Galloway, <i>The Four</i> - “Amazon” (2017) ❖ Francesca Mari, “Death of a Small Business,” <i>The Atlantic</i> (2020)
9/30	***Final Project Topic Selection Memo Due***

WEEK SEVEN	
10/4	<p>Big Tech IV: State Power</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Ross Andersen, “When China Sees All,” <i>The Atlantic</i> (2020) ❖ Amnesty International, “Surveillance Giants,” pages 18-26, 39-50 (2019)
10/6	<p>Global Inequality I: The Problem</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Lili Holzer-Glier, “Too Rich to be Poor, Too Poor to Get by,” <i>The Wilson Quarterly</i> (2016) ❖ Karl Marx, “The Communist Manifesto” (1848)
WEEK EIGHT	
10/11	<i>No class: Fall Break</i>
10/13	<p>Global Inequality II: Crises of Capitalism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Rachel Monroe, “The Hardest-Working Kids in Show Business,” <i>The Atlantic</i> (2020) ❖ Thomas Piketty, <i>Capital in the Twenty-First Century</i>, Introduction (2013)
WEEK NINE	
10/18	<p>Global Inequality III: Global Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ <i>Gapminder: Dollar Street</i>, “What Global Inequality Looks Like Based on 240 Families in 46 Countries” ❖ Branko Milanovic, <i>Global Inequality: A New Approach for the Age of Globalization</i>, Chapter 3 – “Inequality Among Countries” (2016)
10/20	<p>Global Inequality IV: Capital Reform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ <i>International Consortium of Investigative Journalists</i>, “The Panama Papers” (2016) ❖ Thomas Piketty, <i>Capital in the Twenty-First Century</i>, Chapter 15 – “A Global Tax on Capital” (2013)

WEEK TEN	
10/25	<p>Covid, Big Tech, Global Inequality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Franklin Foer, “Beware the Digital Cure,” <i>The Atlantic</i> (2020) ❖ Zephyr Teachout, “Monopoly versus Democracy: How to End a Gilded Age,” <i>Foreign Affairs</i> (Dec 2020/Jan 2021)
10/27	<p>Conflict in Syria I: The Problem</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Jean-Philippe Rémy, “Chemical Warfare in Syria,” <i>Le Monde</i> (2013) ❖ Nicholas Schmidle, “Ten Borders: One Refugee’s Epic Escape from Syria,” <i>The New Yorker</i> (2015)
10/28	<p>***Final Project Annotated Bibliography Due***</p>
WEEK ELEVEN	
11/1	<p><i>No Class: Writing day</i></p>
11/3	<p>Conflict in Syria II: Connecting with Ukraine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Film, <i>Ukraine: Life Under Russia’s Attack</i> (2022, PBS Frontline)
11/4	<p>***Response Paper Two Due***</p>
WEEK TWELVE	
11/8	<p>Conflict in Syria III: Political Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Mary Kaldor, <i>New and Old Wars: Organized Violence in a Global Era</i> (2012), Introduction ❖ Wendy Pearlman, “Narratives of Fear in Syria” (2016)
11/10	<p>Conflict in Syria IV: To Intervene or Not?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Dexter Filkins, “The Thin Red Line: Inside the White House Debate over Syria,” <i>The New Yorker</i> (2013) ❖ Martha Finnemore, “Changing Norms of Humanitarian Intervention” (2003)

WEEK THIRTEEN	
11/15	<p>Conflict in Syria V: Moral Ramifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ “A Far-Right Terrorism Suspect with a Refugee Disguise: The Tale of Franco A.,” <i>The New York Times</i> (2020) ❖ Anand Gopal, “Clean Hands,” <i>The New Yorker</i> (2020)
11/17	How to Give a Presentation
WEEK FOURTEEN	
11/22	<i>No class: Final presentation prep</i>
11/24	<i>No class: Thanksgiving</i>
WEEK FIFTEEN	
11/29	***Final Project Presentations I and Summary Due***
12/1	***Final Project Presentations II and Summary Due***
WEEK SIXTEEN	
12/6	***Final Project Presentations III and Summary Due***