The crux of the current global capitalist system is the “trinity” of capital-nation-state. The critical elements of this trinity are capital/market (economic domain), nations/nationalism (social and cultural domain), and the modern state/inter-state system (political domain). They are heterogeneous by their origins and fundamentally contradict with each other. But these elements got linked as a seemingly unified entity only recently through a series of historical flukes. In this course, we go beyond the conventional approach and take globalization as a set of processes which embodies both expansion and transformation of the trinity of capital-nation-state. As Parkinson argues, “perfection of planned layout is achieved only by institutions on the point of collapse,” and this system may be falling into ruin just as it becomes complete. As such, our central question throughout the course is: If globalization is transformative and inexorable, what will be (should be) a new sociopolitical economic system?

In searching for an answer, we need to understand this phenomenon in terms of political, economic, and social/cultural transformations. This upper-level undergraduate course has two main purposes: to equip students with a solid understanding of the origins, historical developments, and consequences of the so-called globalization, and to understand current debates on globalization.

**READINGS**

Each student is expected to read (before class) all the required readings for each session (see the reading assignments below). Required books are:


There are additional readings. These readings are posted on Moodle. All students should have a LSU account for access to Moodle through the PAWS desktop.
REQUIREMENTS

Basically, classes will involve lectures and discussions of the reading materials assigned for each session. I will introduce and explain some issues and concepts that are not in the readings, so attendance is crucial. Participation from students is important and will count toward the final grade.

There will be class participation, midterm/final exams, and five reaction papers.

1) Attendance and participation (20%): Since class meets only once a week, it is extremely important to come to class. It is virtually impossible for you to receive a satisfactory grade if you miss several classes. Attendance will be taken for each session. Students may earn credit for their attendance at each class session, while repeated and unexcused absence will cause deduction in student’s total grade. In addition to attending class, students are highly encouraged to ask and answer questions, and to make appropriate comments on issues covered in class.

2) In-class midterm (20%)
The 11th of March (Tuesday), 4:30 – 7:20 pm in class. The format of the midterm exam will be explained in class.

3) Take-home final exams (20%)
The test will be given in class on the 22nd of April (Tuesday). Students will have approximately two days to complete the test and should email the instructor their answers in a word document by 4:30 pm on the 24th of April (Thursday). The format of the final take-home exam will be explained in class.

4) Five reaction papers (8% each, total 40%): You will write a reaction paper on Marx & Engels, Arrighi, Polanyi, Rodrik, and Blyth. You will write total five reaction papers in this course. A reaction paper is a short paper (no longer than two double-spaced pages), discussing some aspect of the reading. In the reaction paper you must briefly summarize the reading and evaluate some central aspect of its discussion. Note: “evaluate” means that you must identify some central aspect of the author’s analysis, explain why you think this aspect is interesting/important, and present your evaluation of the author’s position (note that you must try to make an argument, simply asserting your agreement or disagreement will not be sufficient). The reaction papers are due in class on the date scheduled for discussion of the readings (or, put it in my mailbox before 4:00 pm on the due date if you have to miss a class). You should submit a hard copy. Since we will discuss the readings, late papers will not be accepted.

NOTICE: If you do not take any of the examinations, or if you do not submit any of the reaction papers, you will automatically receive an F. No “make-up” examinations will be given for any reason. No late reaction papers will be accepted for any reason.

IMPORTANT DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-class midterm exam</th>
<th>Tuesday, March 11</th>
<th>4:30 – 7:20 pm</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Take-home final exam</td>
<td>Thursday, April 24</td>
<td>4:30 pm via email</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Reaction paper</td>
<td>Tuesday, January 28</td>
<td>In class</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Reaction paper</td>
<td>Tuesday, February 11</td>
<td>In class</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Reaction paper</td>
<td>Tuesday, March 18</td>
<td>In class</td>
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<tr>
<td>4th Reaction paper</td>
<td>Tuesday, March 25</td>
<td>In class</td>
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<tr>
<td>5th Reaction paper</td>
<td>Tuesday, April 08</td>
<td>In class</td>
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2
READING ASSIGNMENTS AND SPECIFIC TOPICS

WEEK 1 (01/21) INTRODUCTION
Scope and roadmap of the course.

WEEK 2 (01/28) NEW EPOCH: “ALL THAT IS SOLID MELTS INTO AIR…”


WEEK 3 (02/04) WHAT IS GLOBALIZATION?

Lecture. No required reading.

WEEK 4 (02/11) THE MODERN STATE AND THE RISE OF CAPITAL

Arrighi, *The Long Twentieth Century*, Introduction, Chapter 1 and Chapter 2. Reaction paper due in class.

WEEK 5 (02/18) THE LONG TWENTIETH CENTURY

Arrighi, *The Long Twentieth Century*, Chapter 3, Chapter 4, Epilogue, and Postscript.


WEEK 6 (02/25) NATIONS AND NATIONALISM


WEEK 7 (03/04) MARDI GRAS
No class meeting.
WEEK 8 (03/11) MIDTERM EXAM

4:30 – 7:20 pm in class.

WEEK 9 (03/18) MARKET SOCIETY DYNAMICS


WEEK 10 (03/25) POLITICAL TRILEMMA OF THE WORLD ECONOMY


WEEK 11 (04/01) NEOLIBERAL GLOBALIZATION AND ITS CONSEQUENCES


WEEK 12 (04/08) WHAT IS TO BE DONE?

Blyth, Austerity. Reaction paper due in class.

WEEK 13 (04/15) SPRING BREAK

No class meeting.

WEEK 14 (04/22) CONCLUSION: “THE FUTURE IS ALREADY HERE”
“New medievalism.” Transnationalism, deterritorialism, and regionalism. Capital, social force, and political power; and, the transformation of the trinity revisited. “One world.” Blueprints: desirability, feasibility, transformability, and sustainability. Blueprints and actual conditions.

Lecture. No required reading.

Final take-home exam is given in class. The deadline of the exam is 4:30 pm on the 24th of April (Thursday) via an email attachment.