

DeSales University
The Salesian Center for Faith and Culture
www4.desales.edu/scfc

Course Syllabus for LS 4003- Spring 2006

Instructor: Dr. Tahereh A. Hojjat
Course: Honors Seminar Program- Conversation about the world (1 credit)
Office: Dolling Hall, Room 271
Office Hours: M, W, F: 10-11 & 2-3 P.M, Or by Appointment, Ext. 1254
E-Mail: tahereh.hojjat@desales.edu

Course Overview and Objectives:

This course will explore diverse element of the “global village” in which we live, and through critical reading and seminar discussion we will enhance our understanding of the complexity of the today’s global economy. Through this engagement we will advance the work of the Salesian Center for Faith and Culture.

Course Description:

Our world, it seems, becomes smaller and more inter-connected every day. This is nowhere more evident than in the economy. Although economic interaction between different regions or nations has taken place throughout almost all of human history, its acceleration and qualitative change in the last few decades make the modern world more globally integrated and interdependent than ever before. The nature of and reasons for this trend, economic and political challenges of such integration will be explored in this course.

Course Format and Requirements:

This course will focus on the development of critical thinking and also on the development of skills for working in groups. Because it is a seminar, there is considerable emphasis on you, the students, actively participating in the seminar in collaborating with other students in the class. My role in this course will not be as a lecturer, instead I will act more as a facilitator, helping to direct discussion and aiding you to meet the course objectives. We will invite **guest speakers** to learn about different religions and faith such as “Islam” and “Bahai faith” and culture. We will view **videos** and will have class discussion of such issue.

Instructor will form four (4) teams and each team will choose a topic on the following countries and will research on **economic and social challenges** facing the countries chosen and then will bring their findings to the class for further discussion.

Team 1: Iran & Syria

Team 2: China & India

Team 3: Estonia & Chile

Team 4: Czech Republic & Slovenia

Required Text (#1) and Other reading material:

1. Real world Globalization, edited by Amy Offner, Chris Sturr, Alejandro Reuss and the Dollars & Sense Coolective, Eight Edition, 2005. ISBN: 1-878585-44-4
2. The Future of Capitalism , by Lester C. Thurow, 1996, ISBN: 0-688-12969-2 (on library reserve)
3. Articles from different publications

Evaluation:

Students receive an “A” and one (1) credit for the course through regular attendance and active class participation in seminar.

Course Outline:

The following is a week-by-week schedule of the course. Use this outline to keep up with the reading material. Deviations like changes in the assignment to be read and video to be viewed is possible.

Day of week	Topic
Week one-1/19	Introduction and review of the course outline Video: A Conversation with President of Iran
Week 2-1/26	Chapter 1: Critical Perspectives on Globalization Chapter 2: Corporate Power and the Global Economy
Week 3-2/2	Chapter 3: Trade, Investment, and Debt
Week 4-2/9	Video: Inside the Money-IMF
Week 5-2/16	Chapter 4: International Institutions
Week 6-2/23	Chapter 6: Economic Development
Week 7-3/2	Team Presentations & Class discussion
Week 8-3/9	Video: The Middle East
Week 9-3/10	Spring Break-No Class
Week 9-3/16	Team Presentations & Class Discussion

Week 10-3/23	Video: Management in Chinese Culture
Week 11-3/30	Guest Speaker: Learning about Japanese Culture
Week 12-4/6	Team Presentations & Class Discussion
Week 13-4/13	Chapter 7: Environment, Health and Agriculture
Week 14-4/20	Guest Speaker: Learning about Islam
Week 15-4/27	Team Presentations & Class Discussion
Week 16-5/4	Chapter 8: Political Economy of War and Imperialism