



**COURSE DESCRIPTIONS Summer Session 2005**  
**Graduate Program in International Affairs**  
**The New School**  
**New School University (04.18.2005)**

- CLASSES BEGIN MONDAY, JUNE 6TH
- ROOM ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE LISTED IN THE LOBBY OF 66 WEST 12<sup>TH</sup> ST.

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**I. CORE COURSES**

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- **NINT 5000/CRN1270 - Comparative Development Experience**

David Gold  
T/R 6:00-7:50 pm

This course will examine why some countries have been more successful than others in reducing poverty and inequality and generating economic growth. Different approaches to conceptualizing development will be introduced. The course will analyze important changes in debates in development theory and their implications for shifts in operational policy and practice. The changing role of the state, the importance of social networks, debates around international trade and international finance, the possible relation between globalization and poverty and inequality, and links between development and conflict are among the topics covered. The role of private sector and inter-governmental institutions and non-governmental organizations will be discussed. A research paper comparing the development experience of two countries is required and there will be additional written assignments. The course, Economics in International Affairs (NINT 5109), or its equivalent, is a pre-requisite for taking this course.

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- **NINT 5001/CRN1207- Global Flows and the International Community**

TBA  
M/W 4:00-5:50pm

This class is an investigation into the key tensions and forms of power at the heart of contemporary global transformations. Taking 1492 as our starting point for the modern world, we explore the paradoxes of colonial encounters and examine the legacy of colonialism in relation to the development of the nation-state system. The relation of self to other is closely

connected to assumptions about space and time. We trace how these assumptions become institutionalized in the nation-state system and how they are challenged by reformulations of that system today (under the buzzword of “globalization”). We end with a discussion of how individuals and states are adapting to changing spatial and temporal flows and giving form to new versions of global encounters.

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## II. OTHER REQUIRED COURSE

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- **NINT 5109/CRN2467- Economics in International Affairs**

Goncalo Fonseca  
T/R 6:00-7:50pm

This course aims to provide a working knowledge of the global economy and the conceptual toolkit necessary to address some of the pressing economic issues of today. In the first part of the course, we will focus on the economy itself -- its scope, its measurement, its institutional structures, its governance, and its evolution in a national and international context. In the second part of the course, we will examine the competing analytical theories of the determination of economic activity, international trade and growth, and how these have informed modern policy debates at home and abroad. Throughout the course, we will address the various specific challenges which national governments and international organizations face at every turn, and evaluate the arguments and methods by which they have proposed to resolve them.

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## III. ELECTIVE COURSES

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- **NINT 5002/CRN1208 - Culture, Diversity, and the Media**

Kristine A. Roome  
T/R 4:00-5:50pm

The central question we ask in this course is: How do we get information and learn about other people and other places? According to Stuart Hall, events have no meaning until they are represented. And the way in which they are represented determines their meaning. So much of what we know about the world around us is “mediated” through some form of electronic, visual or aural media. For good or bad, these sources are owned, operated and strategically located by individuals and

multinationals with their own worldviews and agendas. Thus, everything we read, see and hear should be considered against a backdrop of what is not there, with an open mind towards understanding how and why that came to be.

The media sources we will explore include: print media and journalism, television and radio, documentary and feature films, and visual resources including photography and museum exhibitions. Each week particular theoretical concepts will be introduced and these concepts will be analyzed and applied in relation to real world situations and experiences. Informed by weekly readings, we will discuss how we learn about “Others” through these different forms of media.

As students are assigned to follow current events in newspapers and on the Internet, they will discover how the media defines and controls the content of its reporting, which in turn affects what people learn about their own lives as well as other places. In relation to these mainstream sources of information, “alternative,” “indigenous” or “non-mainstream” sources of information which are often overlooked will be presented in an effort to challenge students taking this course to uncover other points of view from other areas of the globe. Specifically, we will explore the way in which the U.S. media represent other areas of the globe and compare that to the way in which people living in those areas represent themselves. In addition, by following the “global flows” and distribution of different types of media, the emphasis of this course is to “de-center” traditional media theory beyond a reductionist “US/Them” or “West/Other” dichotomy.

It is assumed that international affairs students at this level of their career are fully engaged in the world around them. As such, the instructor expects students to participate in discussions around ideas presented in class and to draw from their own personal experiences to facilitate an on-going conversation with their peers.

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- **NINT 5003/CRN1992 - Managing Institutions for Development**

Nidhi Srinivas  
T/R 6:00-7:50pm

This course examines how good intentions can lead to credible consequences in international development, particularly how practitioners, staff, leaders or volunteers can contribute to sustainable and balanced development. The course frames development as a process of expanding human freedoms (in terms of economic benefits, cultural liberty and human rights) through mediating organizations (known as institutions) and applied knowledge (from the field of management).

The course is divided into three main sections. The first and second section outline different conceptions of development and institutions. These include market institutions, such as free trade regimes, property rights, and the informal economy; state institutions, such as the public sector and government legislation; citizen institutions, such as non-governmental organizations and customary groups.

The third section showcases some development issues that illustrate the challenges of managing institutions. For each issue student groups will develop profiles of two relevant institutions, identifying their policy contribution.

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- **NINT 5152/CRN2364 - Human Rights**

Michael Osborne  
M/W 6:00-7:50pm

The seminar will survey the development of international human rights over the last 100 years, considering in particular the tension between traditional concepts of sovereignty and the liberal vision of individual human rights. Four themes which exemplify the working out of that tension will be examined, with two of the themes illustrated by way of case studies. Students will be expected to make a short presentation about one of the case studies listed below, and to introduce the class discussion of that case.

- 20th Century Developments in International Law: the individual emerges as a subject of the Law of Nations
- The Interventional Reparations Movement:
- Holocaust reparations and the U.S./German peace treaties
- Claims by Korean “comfort women” against Japan for WWII atrocities
- Claims by apartheid victims: International law and U.S. foreign policy concerns.
- Humanitarian intervention: The end of sovereignty?
- Rwanda
- Somalia
- Bosnia
- Kosovo
- Afghanistan
- Iraq
- The Ideology of International Human Rights: Universal Ethic or Liberal Hegemony?