ANTH 2520 / UGEC2990  
Globalization and Culture  
Spring 2020

Lecture: Thursday 1:30-3:15, NAH 115  
Teacher: Gordon Mathews, NAH 409, cmgordon@cuhk.edu.hk  
Tutor: Daichi Ishii daichido@gmail.com  
Tutorial Schedule: Th, 4:30-5:15, 5:30-6:15,

Introduction
Globalization is economically transforming the world, as national borders become increasingly irrelevant before the global flow of money and goods. But globalization also has a great impact on cultures across the globe, as products from Coca-Cola to Facebook, and ideas from human rights to standards of beauty to ideologies of terrorism, intrude everywhere. This transforms the meanings of culture, as increasingly we no longer belong to a society based in a certain place, but to a global society, and a global “cultural supermarket.” This course examines how globalization is transforming the meanings of culture in today’s world.

Course Objectives
The course objectives are to enable you to:
1) gain insight into the globalization of culture, a process taking place across the world today and shaping all of our lives;
2) obtain a broad understanding of different aspects of the globalization of culture, including those involving recent history, economics, consumption, immigration, terrorism, nationalism, and cultural identity;
3) comprehend both the costs and benefits of contemporary processes of globalization to individuals, societies, and the world.

In order to fully meet these objectives, you will need to attend all classes and do all class readings and watch all class videos. Grades will be based on the extent to which you can analytically utilize the readings, videos and lectures of the course in engaging in the questions posed by the course.

Course Requirements
The course will be graded as follows:
--take-home midterm examination ((6-7 pages long: 30% of grade), handed out March 12, due March 26.
--take-home final examination ((10 pages long: 50% of grade), handed out April 23, due May 11.
--class participation (20%)

Course Materials
--There is one required text for the course: Manfred Steger, Globalization, a Very Short Introduction (Oxford University Press. 2013); please buy it at the Campus Bookstore. Newspaper and other articles, as well as all other readings, are available on Blackboard.

Plagiarism
Students are required by university policy to submit all papers to VeriGuide (the Chinese University Plagiarism Identification Engine System). Please check the website http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/ for more information on how to submit papers through VeriGuide.
Grade Descriptors

A  Outstanding performance on all learning outcomes, through work that has creatively synthesized course materials and key ideas, to the extent that you show a depth of understanding as great as or greater than my own. Your arguments in your work are logical and cohesive, the discussion is well-organized, and the writing is clear. All relevant course materials have been fully utilized in your work, and additional material as well has been used from your own research.

A- Outstanding performance on all learning outcomes, through work has creatively synthesized course materials and key ideas. Your arguments in your work are logical and cohesive, the discussion is well-organized, and the writing is clear. All relevant course materials have been fully utilized in your work, and perhaps additional material as well from your own research.

B+  Substantial performance on all learning outcomes. Your arguments in your work are largely logical and cohesive, the discussion is generally well-organized, and the writing is clear. Most relevant course materials have been fully utilized in your work. There are areas for improvement with respect to building a cohesive argument, organizing the discussion, communicating clearly, and/or identifying relevant evidence and using all course materials, but by and large you have turned in good, solid work.

B  Satisfactory performance on all learning outcomes, OR high performance on some learning outcomes which compensates for less satisfactory performance on others, resulting in overall satisfactory performance. Your arguments in your work are somewhat logical and cohesive, the discussion is somewhat well-organized, and the writing is somewhat clear. Much relevant course materials have been fully utilized in your work. There are areas for improvement with respect to building a cohesive argument, organizing the discussion, communicating clearly, and/or identifying relevant evidence.

B- Adequate performance on all learning outcomes, OR satisfactory performance on some learning outcomes which compensates for less satisfactory performance on others, resulting in overall largely adequate performance. Your arguments in your work are partially logical and cohesive, the discussion is partially organized, and the writing is somewhat clear. Some relevant course materials have been fully utilized in your work. There are areas for improvement with respect to building a cohesive argument, organizing the discussion, communicating clearly, and/or identifying relevant evidence.

C+ Adequate performance on the majority of learning outcomes. Your written work shows some effort, but course materials have not been sufficiently engaged. The argument and the writing is not clear, and/or there is less than full evidence for statements and claims made. There are areas for improvement with respect to building a cohesive argument, organizing the discussion, communicating clearly, and/or identifying relevant evidence.

C, C- Barely adequate performance on a number of learning outcomes. These grade will be awarded to students who have missed a large number of classes and have failed to use course materials in their written answers.
Jan. 9: Introduction
--Karolina Follis, “North Sentinel Island and the Right to Be Left Alone” (Sapiens, Dec. 11, 2018)

Jan. 16: Key Concepts for Understanding Globalization
--Video: “Globalization Theories | Society and Culture | MCAT | Khan Academy” 2014, 5:46

Jan. 23: Globalization in History: Imperialism, Colonialism, Capitalism;

Jan. 30: Chinese New Year Holiday
(Interruption: Coronavirus)

Feb. 20: The Globalization of the World Economy
--Video: “Capitalism, by Joseph Stiglitz” (2013, 41:03)

Feb. 27: “Low-End Globalization”/“Globalization From Below”

March 5: Globalization, Consumption, and Ecology
--Amber Dance, “How Halloween Has Traveled the Globe” (Sapiens, Oct. 26, 2018)
--Thomas Hylland Eriksen, “How Globalization Has Broken the Chain of Responsibility” (Sapiens, August 9, 2018).
--“This Has Been the Best Year Ever” (New York Times, Dec. 28, 2019)
--Video: “Consumption in a world of 32:1” (2012, 2:49)
March 12: Globalization, Media, and Cultural Values
--“In Search for the New Supermodel, Cultures Collide” (International Herald Tribune, April 23, 2003); “Web Freedom Is Seen as a Growing Global Issue” (New York Times, Jan. 1, 2015);

(Take-home midterm exam handed out March 12, due March 26)

March 19: Globalization and Immigration

March 26: Globalization and Tourism
--“The Tourism Trap” (Time, July 26, 2018); “Rude Awakening: Chinese Tourists Have the Money, but not the Manners” (South China Morning Post, Dec. 31, 2014); “Luang Prabang” (International Herald Tribune, April 13, 2008).

April 2: Reading Week

April 9: Globalization and Terrorism

April 16: Globalization, Politics, and Nationalism
--Gordon Mathews, Eric Kit-wai Ma, and Tai-lok Lui, “How American, Chinese, and Hong Kong University Students Understand ‘Belonging to a Nation’”, in Hong Kong, China; Learning to Belong to a Nation (London: Routledge, 2008), p. 115-13
--Justin Lau, “When Harmony Silences Resistance: The recent violence in Hong Kong has stunned the world, but one anthropologist sees a much less visible threat.” Sapiens, 27 Nov. 2019.
April 23: Cultural Identity in a Globalizing World
--“In Changing South Korea, Who Counts as Korean?” (New York Times, Nov. 29, 2012);
“Free Tibet’ Flags Made in China” (BBC, April 28, 2008); “As Hong Kong Tightens Screws on Rebellion, Democracy Moves Further Out of Reach” (CNN, Jan. 2, 2019).

(Take-home final examination handed out April 23, due May 11)

April 30: Assessing Globalization: Is It Helping Or Hurting the World?
--Discussion of take-home final