
Professor Daniel Drache

Week 1: Looking at the Bigger Picture – Moving from Capital Flows to Cultural Flows: The first task is to compare the market-centric view of globalization with global flows perspective. Much of the globalization literature focuses on markets and capital flows. While these things are important, they are not in themselves sufficient to explain globalization.

Friedman, Thomas L. The Lexus and the Olive Tree. New York: Anchor Books, 2000. (Chapters 1,2,5) (45 pages)

Mike Featherstone. (1990). “Global Culture: An Introduction”. In Mike Featherstone (Ed.), Global Culture (pp. 1-14). London: SAGE. (14 pages)


Week 2: Non-Market Flows – The New Global Problematic: In this week we explore the idea of 'problematic' global cultural flows, and the efforts on the part of governments to control those flows. In recent years the tension between terrorism & counter-terrorism, failed states & international intervention, and free trade & border security have emerged as key news narratives. Each of these represents a problematic non-market global flow and the attempt to manage that flow by national governments.


Week 3: Ideoscapes of Religious Fundamentalism &Terrorism: Fanaticism or Empowerment?

This section of the course is concerned with the tangible projections of ideologies and world views as embodied in religious fundamentalism, terrorism, war, humanitarian intervention and nation-building. Each of these projections represents a powerful international and intercultural flow that is both a channel for ideological expansion, and a catalyst for other flows and counter-flows. While the West was globalizing through neo-liberalism and trade liberalization, the East was globalizing through religious fundamentalism. This seminar is looks at the growth of
Global Cultural Flows & Permeable Borders: Ideoscapes, Mediascapes and Citizenship After 9/11  

Islamic fundamentalism in the developing world, its links to terrorism and its legitimacy as a counter-hegemonic movement in the post-colonial world.


Week 4: Ideoscapes of War: The Bush Doctrine – Global Domination or Self Defense? War is a powerful, non-market flow that can reshape societies and states. No single policy captures the dynamic between flow and counter-flow as clearly as the doctrine of 'preemptive strike,' by which the Bush Administration claims the right to attack foreign nations before they attack the United States. This week's seminar examines the Bush Doctrine, and asks whether it is a legitimate defensive tactic in a world of dangerous global flows, or simply a tool of empire.


Week 5: Ideoscapes of Nation Building and Humanitarian Intervention: Collective Security and Collective Humanity – Can Either be Achieved by Force? Both humanitarian intervention and nation building are projections of Western values. Humanitarian intervention projects western ideals of human rights and human dignity. Nation building projects western democratic values into regions in which they might be foreign. This week's seminar explores the tension between global flow of humanitarian and ideological universalism, and counter ideals of cultural relativism and national sovereignty.


Week 6: Mediascapes of Fundamentalism: the Politics of Fear and Loathing or the Clash of Secularisms?
In this week we look at representations of Islamic fundamentalism, terrorism and domestic insecurity in an effort to understand: 1) whether the media representations we see are accurate; 2) whether these representations are manipulated; and 3) how these media images and narratives impact popular perception and public policy in the West.


Week 7: Mediascapes of Humanitarian Disaster: What Suffering Looks Like and Why We Care.
Television in particular is an extremely emotive medium. Images of suffering abroad can cause a domestic groundswell of humanitarian sentiment. This week's seminar explores the way human suffering is represented in the media and the impact this has on popular perception and public policy in the West.


Week 8: Mediascapes of War: Images of the Sanitized War – Patriotism or Manipulation?
Our willingness to engage in war is based on our understanding of war. Our understanding of war is based on our experience with war. In the West, we experience war primarily through the media. Because of this, the media's representation of war is integral to our willingness to engage in war. This seminar explores the portrayal war in the media, and asks what impacts these flows of information and misinformation have on popular perception and public policy in the West.

Week 9: Democratic Values at Large – Global Public Opinion. After 9/11, governments in the United States and elsewhere became painfully aware of the destructive power that uncontrolled flows of people, money and ideas can have. Since then they have gone to great lengths to curb such flows: tightening border security, increasing domestic surveillance, curtailing civil liberties and increasing American military dominance abroad. Since the 1960’s, civil liberty and individual freedom have been the preeminent values of western citizenship. In the months and years after 9/11, national security and collective identity are contesting that preeminence, forcing citizens and governments reevaluate their world view, and redefine what citizenship means. In the weeks preceding the American invasion of Iraq, an unprecedented number of people around the world protested the impending war. These protests failed to stop the war, and in some cases failed to prevent governments from supporting a war that their people opposed. This week's seminar explores the idea of 'global public opinion,' and asks whether or not it will be a powerful force in the years to come.


Week 10: Democratic Values in Canada and the United States. Around the world, civil liberties and citizenship are being reshaped by U.S. Homeland Security. The security laws implemented in after 9/11 allow for increased border security, arbitrary detention, and increased surveillance. Moreover, the political culture has shifted from one that respected dissent as part of the democratic process, to one that increasing associates citizenship with loyalty and adherence. This seminar explores post 9/11 citizenship in Canada and the United States and asks two questions: 1) What has changed since 9/11; and 2) Which of these changes were truly necessary, and which are being imposed on citizens to ease the task of governance.
