Globalization is arguably the defining rubric of our era. Thomas Friedman’s *The World Is Flat* is a resounding best-seller (and was the 2006 UMCP First Year Book); most history textbooks employ the word in their final chapter titles; and academics across a wide range of disciplines have devoted countless conferences and monographs to the topic.

But what does the term really mean? Is globalization a recent phenomenon, or do its roots penetrate deep into the past? Are technology and markets the key drivers of globalization? Is culture an impediment? Does globalization tend to favor advanced economies over developing nations, or the other way around? Has it always expanded, or has it unfolded in a cyclical pattern? Who has opposed globalization, and why? What do past trends suggest about the future?

We will investigate each topic through multimedia presentations, discussions, and required readings. All readings listed on the Schedule of Topics and Readings below are required and will be on electronic reserve through the ELMS course website. The course book – *The Wealth and Poverty of Nations*, by David Landes (1998) – is available for purchase at the University Book Center.

**Course grades** will be calculated as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Date due</th>
<th>percent of course grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>class participation</td>
<td>each class</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>brief response essays</td>
<td>eight of ten</td>
<td>20 (2.5 percent each)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>midterm exam</td>
<td>March 31</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>research project</td>
<td>April 30</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>final exam</td>
<td>May 18</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Class participation.** Classroom discussions are one of the most important components of the course. The best way to earn high marks for discussion is to complete each week’s required reading **before** class meetings; bring to class specific questions and issues for discussion; and participate regularly and constructively in class discussions.

**Brief response essays.** Weeks 4-15 (inclusive), discussion questions will be posted on the course website. One of them will be marked with an asterisk. Write a 300-400 word essay in response to the marked question. Essays are due at the beginning of class each
Thursday unless indicated otherwise. Each student must submit a total of eight essays, so can skip two.

**Midterm and final exams.** Each of these exams will ask you to identify and state the significance of four terms and write one essay. The final will address post midterm material; it will not be comprehensive.

**Research project.** Each student will research a community somewhere in the world during the last three centuries to assess the impact (or not) of globalization on that community. Separate instructions will be issued for this assignment.

**Make-up Exams and Late Papers.** If for any family or medical reason you find it absolutely necessary to miss an in-class examination, you must contact the instructor before the examination to obtain his consent to your absence if you wish to take a make-up exam. Papers are due *in class* on their due dates. Unless you make other arrangements with the instructor, late papers will be penalized one full letter grade for each day of tardiness.

**Students with Disabilities.** Please inform the instructor at the beginning of the semester if you require any disability-related special accommodations.

**Religious Observances.** The University System of Maryland policy provides that students not be penalized because of observances of religious beliefs, but rather shall be given an opportunity, whenever feasible, to make up within a reasonable time any academic assignment missed due to individual participation in religious observances. Please inform the instructor at the beginning of the semester if you are going to miss any assignments due to religious observances by personally handing him written notification of the projected absence at the beginning of the semester.

**Academic Integrity.** Essential to the fundamental purpose of the University is the commitment to principles of truth and academic honesty. The Code (see [http://www.shc.umd.edu/code.html](http://www.shc.umd.edu/code.html)) prohibits students from cheating on exams, plagiarizing papers, submitting the same paper for credit in two courses without authorization, buying papers, submitting fraudulent documents, or forging signatures. Following the recommendation of the University Senate, students in this course will be required to write the following signed statement on each examination or assignment: *I pledge on my honor that I have not given or received any unauthorized assistance on this examination (or assignment).*
Schedule of Topics and Readings

Week 1 (Jan. 27 & 29): **Introduction**
- Landes, chs. 1-3.

Week 2 (Feb. 3 & 5): **Theoretical Approaches**
- Landes, ch. 4.

Week 3 (Feb 10 & 12): **The Columbian Exchange**
- Landes, ch. 5.

Week 4 (Feb. 17 & 19): **The Atlantic System**
- Landes, chs. 6-8.

Week 5 (Feb. 24 & 26): **Empire and Imperialism**

Week 6 (March 3 & 5): **Western Industrialization**

Week 7 (March 10 & 12): **Industrialization Spreads ... and Doesn’t**
- Landes, chs. 20.

Week 8 (March 24 & 26): **The Great Divergence**
- Landes, chs. 21-24.

Week 9 (March 31 & April 2): **International Capital Markets**
- Midterm exam – March 31, in class
Week 10 (April 7 & 9): **Multinational Firms**


Week 11 (April 14 & 16): **The Great Contraction**


Week 12 (April 21 & 23): **Critics and Protests: Anti-Globalization**


Week 13 (April 28 & 30): **The Global in the Local**

- Segment of film “Local Hero” (Produced by David Puttnam, 1983).
- Lauretta Clough, oral history interview with Emile Jaubert.
- Lauretta Clough, oral history interview with Etienne Sanillac.
Week 14 (May 5 & 7): China and India Today


Week 15 (May 12): In Retrospect

- Landes, chs. 27-29.

Final exam – Monday, May 18, 10:30-11:45 a.m.

Revised May 11, 2009