WELCOME to FLC 301/SOC 393-F
December 9, 2003

Prospects of Justice in an Age of Globalization

At the end of this session, you should be able to understand:
- What has been improved globally over the recent decades?
- What are the global setbacks & continuous problems?
- What scenarios for the global future are discussed?
- What can be done to change or reform the global commons?

Global Progress over recent decades
- Literacy
- Longevity of life
- Access to safe water
- Overall health
- Gender equality
- Environmental sustainability & awareness
- Democracy, human rights, individual liberties, grassroots participation
- International Treaties and Organizations
- Transnational Social Movements, NGO’s, Unions
- Global civil society, rule of law, human rights
- Global awareness
- Access to Technologies

Global setbacks & continuous problems
- Scourge of war, armament, (il)legal arms trade & WMD threat
- Slavery/prostitution/child exploitation
- AIDS, global diseases
- Overconsumption
- Environmental pollution
- Poverty & unequal distribution of wealth within & between nations
- Lack of education (children, women, poor, farmers)
- Terrorism, crime, narcotraffic
- Corruption and government oppression, Human Rights violations
- Lack of economic growth & environmental protection
- Weakness of global institutions vs power of multinational corporations
- Ignorance, lack of knowledge and awareness

Present and future economic challenges
- Major challenges:
  - Globalization
  - Poverty
  - Environment

- Other challenges
  - Detrimental effects of free-trade
  - Debt trap
• Structural adjustment policies
• Capital mobility-unregulated financial markets
• Attack on trade unions
• De-development

The Globalization Challenge
• Fragmentation of international politics vs. Integration of the global economy
• Knowledge replaces mass production as main source of national wealth
• Massive deficit in global public goods

The Poverty Challenge
• Out of 4.4 billion people in developing countries 1.3 billion subsist on less than $1/day
• 3 billion on less than $2
• 15 million people die of poverty-related causes annually
• 1.2 billion lack access to safe water
• 3 billion lack access to basic sanitation
• 2 billion lack access to power

The Environmental Challenge
• Per capita waste generated has trebled over past twenty years in developed countries
• Carbon emissions have quadrupled over past fifty years
• A sixth of land area has been degraded
• Fish stocks down by one quarter
• 350m people live in areas prone to environmental hazards
• Deforestation @ 1 acre/second
• Wild species extinct at a rate 50 times higher than naturally

Crisis of Neo-liberal Globalization and the Rise of Anti-Globalization Movements
• Anti-globalization & Anti-neo-liberalism (from Seattle to Cancun)
• Identity politics
• Cultural survival movements
• Regional autonomy movements
• Social movements

Possible scenarios for the global future (Snarr/Snarr 2002 & Isbister 2003)
• World government
• Regionalism
• Decentralization
• Global Anarchy (Kaplan)
• Status quo

Regulating Global Capitalism (Isbister 2003: 234f)
• Reforming the global commons
• Regulating global capitalism
• “New International Economic Order”
• Wages, Hours, Working conditions, Child labor
• Labor unions
• Nondiscrimination, Human Rights
• Taxation
Disclosure, Banking practices
Crime and corruption
Environmental protection
Capital flow-Tobin tax
International taxation for foreign aid
Cultural protection
Enforcement—International Organizations & Treaties

What Can Be Done?
(Self-) Education
Lobbying-Letter writing
Grassroots democracy
Voting
Joining “global networks”
Recycling products
Buying fair-trade products
Protesting publicly
Be media savvy
Develop a global consciousness
Engage yourself…???