

## Political Science 749

Fall, 2007

### International Politics of Population, Technology and Resources

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**Office:** WRI - B215

**Hours:** Mon., Wed., 2:15 - 3:30, Tues. 4:00 - 5:30, and by appointment.

#### **Required Books:**

L. Brown, *Outgrowing the Earth*  
M. Brown, *Grave New World*  
Friedman, *The World is Flat*  
Florini, *The Coming Democracy*  
Marlin-Bennett, *Knowledge Power*  
Pirages and Cousins, *From Resource Scarcity to Ecological Security*

In this seminar we explore many of the critical and contentious human security issues that are associated with ongoing demographic changes, shifting resource availability, and the more rapid diffusion of new technologies in an era of deepening globalization. The six paperback books required for the seminar are listed above. They, as well as a selection of key journal articles, will provide most of the reading for the course. In addition, each participant is expected to choose two books from those listed as recommended, and write a short (1000 word) review of each book, which will be shared with other participants. A final research paper of approximately 5,000 words will be due the first day of finals week. Additionally, each participant will be asked to assume the role of discussion leader for one seminar session during the semester, furnishing a short synopsis of key issues for discussion as well as a brief bibliography of information sources. The final paper will account for forty percent of the course grade, the two book reviews for twenty percent, and class participation and discussion leadership for forty percent.

**Aug. 28:** Seminar overview - New ways of conceptualizing security - Human security - Ecological security - From international to global politics - The ecological challenges of industrialization and deepening globalization - A need for anticipatory thinking - Three key drivers of global change - Demographic shifts - Technological innovation - The constraints of nature - A framework for thinking about future global issues.

**Sept. 4:** Building inclusionist theory - Demographic shifts, access to resources, and technological innovation as causes of change and conflict - Two kinds of evolutionary processes - Four dimensions of ecological security - Security as

dynamic equilibrium - The decline of the state - Human populations as a basic unit of analysis - Nature's challenges and human responses - Globalization and ecological security.

Assignment: Pirages and Cousins, Chapt.1; Pirages, Chapt. 1.

Recommended:

Hilary French, *Vanishing Borders: Protecting the Planet in an Age of Globalization*.

James Rosenau, *Distant Proximities: Dynamics Beyond Globalization*.

William Durham, *Coevolution: Genes, Culture, and Human Diversity*.

Alfred W. Crosby, *Ecological Imperialism: The Biological Expansion of Europe 900-1900*.

Henry Hobhouse, *Forces of Change*.

Jared Diamond, *Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies*.

Jared Diamond, *Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed*.

Frances Cairncross, *The Death of Distance*.

Peter Corning, *Holistic Darwinism*.

**Sept. 11:** Demographic change and issues of human insecurity - Five aspects of demographic change - The population explosion - A theory of demographic transition - demographic momentum - The impact of differential population growth - Gender imbalances - The coming population implosion - The contentious politics of graying and entitlements - The global demographic divide - Globalization and migration .

Assignment: Pirages and Cousins, Chapt. 2. 3; M. Brown, Chapt. 9; Toft, "Differential Demographic Growth"; "Transitions in World Population" (PRB); "2007 World Population Data Sheet" (PRB).

Recommended:

Peter G. Peterson, *Gray Dawn*.

Roberta Cohen and Francis M. Deng, *Masses in Flight: The Global Crisis of Internal Displacement*.

Michael S. Teitelbaum and Jay Winter, *A Question of Numbers: High Migration, Low Fertility, and the Politics of National Identity*.

Barry Bosworth and Gary Burtless, eds., *Aging Societies: The Global Dimension*.

Paul Ehrlich and Anne Ehrlich, *The Population Explosion*.

Julian Simon, *The Ultimate Resource*.

Laurence Kotlikoff and Scott Burns, *The Coming Generational Storm*.

Valerie Hudson and Andrea den Boer, *Bare Branches: The Security Implications of Asia's Surplus Male Population*.

Peter S., Heller, *Who will Pay?*

**Sept. 18** Resource challenges I. - Energy and ecological security - Three perspectives on the world energy problem - World reserves and depletion patterns - The question of peak oil - Energy as a security concern - Relations between energy producers and consumers - OPEC and world energy markets - The current agenda of OPEC

and friends - Price cycles - The impact of Chinese consumption - The political economy of alternative energy sources.

Assignment: Pirages and Cousins, Chaps. 6, 7; Friedman, “The First Law of Petropolitics”; Zweig and Jianhai, “China’s Global Hunt for Energy”; Yergin, “Ensuring Energy Security”.

Recommended:

Kenneth S. Deffeyes, *Hubberts Peak: The Impending World Oil Shortage*.

Anthony Sampson, *The Seven Sisters*.

Amory Lovins, *Brittle Power*.

Amory Lovins, *Soft Energy Paths*.

Arjun Makhijani and Scott Saleska, *The Nuclear Power Deception*.

Jose Goldemberg, ed., *World Energy Assessment: Energy and the Challenge of Sustainability*.

Michael T. Klare, *Blood and Oil*.

Paul Roberts, “*The End of Oil*.”

Julian Darley, *High Noon for Natural Gas*.

**Sept. 25:**

Resource challenges II. - The international politics of feast and famine - An increasing fossil fuel subsidy - The political economy of the contemporary food problem - The over fed and under fed - Population growth and food production - Trading food for fuel - Food, trade, and agricultural subsidies - U.S. food policy - Who will feed China? - Conflict over “Frankenfoods”.

Assignment: L. Brown, all; Pirages and Cousins, Chapt. 5; Victor and Runge, “Farming the Genetic Frontier”; Strauss, “When Malthus Meets Mendel”; Shiva, “The Future of Food”.

Recommended:

Laurie DeRose, Ellen Messer, Sara Millman, eds., *Who’s Hungry? And How Do We Know*.

Brewster Kneen, *Farmageddon: Food and the Culture of Biotechnology*.

Howard Leathers and Phillips Foster, *The World Food Problem*.

Vaclav Smil, *Feeding the World: A Challenge for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*.

Lester R. Brown, *Who Will Feed China?*

Cynthia Rosenzweig and Daniel Hillel, *Climate Change and the Global Harvest*.

Vandana Shiva, *Stolen Harvest: The Hijacking of the Global Food Supply*.

Robert Paarlberg, *The Politics of Precaution*.

**Oct. 2:**

Resource challenges III. - Preserving environmental services - Local, regional, and global environmental challenges - Managing the oceanic commons - New stresses on the atmospheric commons - Dealing with ozone depletion - The politics of the Montreal Protocol - Science and politics - The impending impact of global warming - Beyond the Kyoto protocol.

Assignment: M. Brown, Chapt. 8; Pirages and Cousins, Chaps. 4, 8, 9, 10;

Ostrom et al., "Revisiting the Commons"; Swing, "What Future for the Oceans?"; IPCC, "Climate Change 2007".

Recommended:

Elinor Ostrom, *Governing the Commons*.

William Ophuls, *Ecology and the Politics of Scarcity*.

Dennis Pirages, ed., *Building Sustainable Societies*.

Robert T. Watson, ed., *Climate Change 2001: Synthesis Report*.

Karen T. Litfin, *Ozone Discourses: Science and Politics in Global Environmental Cooperation*.

Thomas F. Homer-Dixon and Jessica Blitt, *Ecoviolence: Links among Environment, Population, and Security*.

Al Gore, *An Inconvenient Truth*.

Nicholas Stern, *The Economics of Climate Change: The Stern Review*.

**Oct. 9:**

Preserving biosecurity - Emerging biodiversity issues - Globalization and bioinvasion - The fragile dynamic equilibrium with pathogenic microorganisms - Disease and history - New and resurgent diseases - A coming plague? - Disease and security - The political and economic costs of disease - The AIDS pandemic - The threat of avian flu - The potential for future biological warfare - Globalization and biosecurity - Political responses to growing disease challenges.

Assignment: Pirages and Cousins, Chapt. 11; Lamptey, "The Global Challenge of HIV/AIDS" (PRB); Osterholm, "Unprepared for a Pandemic"; Bright, "Invasive Species: Pathogens of Globalization"; Pirages, "Infectious Disease: North and South in an Era of Deepening Globalization".

Recommended:

Chris Bright, *Life Out of Bounds: Bioinvasion in a Borderless World*.

William McNeill, *Plagues and Peoples*.

Tony McMichael, *Human Frontiers, Environment, and Disease*.

Laurie Garrett, *Betrayal of Trust: The Collapse of Global Public Health*.

Sheldon Watts, *Epidemics and History*.

Andrew Price-Smith, *The Health of Nations*.

Andrew Price-Smith, ed., *Plagues and Politics*.

David P. Fidler, *SARS, Governance, and the Globalization of Disease*.

**Oct 16:**

Population growth, environmental deterioration and human conflict - Demographic change and conflict - Environmental stress and conflict - State failures - North-South dimensions of environmental conflict - Industrialization and insecurity - Will it be the rest against the West?

Assignment: Kaplan, "The Coming Anarchy"; Connelly and Kennedy, "The Rest Against the West"; Kahl, "Demographic Change, Natural Resources and Violence: The Current Debate"; Brennan-Galvin, "Crime and Violence in an Urbanizing World"; Victor, "Recovering Sustainable Development".

Recommended:

Robert D. Kaplan, *The Ends of the Earth*.  
Norman Myers, *Ultimate Security: The Environmental Basis of Political Stability*.  
Thomas F. Homer-Dixon, *Environment, Scarcity, and Violence*.  
Michael Renner, *Fighting for Survival: Environmental Decline, Social Conflict, and the New Age of Insecurity*.  
Jyrki Kakonen, ed., *Perspectives on Environmental Conflict and International Politics*.  
Colin Kahl, *States, Scarcity and Civil Strife in the Developing World*.

**Oct 23:**

Science, technology, and globalization - Defining science, technology, and engineering - Seven impacts of technology on global politics - Technology and conventional security concerns - Technology and asymmetrical warfare - Cyberwar - Complexity and terrorism - Non-state actors - biotechnology and insecurity - Technology and global economic competition - Technology and gaps among people - Technology and transparency - The growing importance of intellectual property.

Assignment: M. Brown, Chaps. 1-5, 13; Paarlberg, “Knowledge as Power”; Homer-Dixon, “The Rise of Complex Terrorism”.

Recommended:

John Arquila and David Ronfeldt, eds., *In Athena’s Camp: Preparing for Conflict in the Information Age*.  
Joseph Cirincione, ed., *Repairing the Regime: Preventing the Spread of Weapons of Mass Destruction*.  
Thomas Bernauer and Dieter Roloff, eds., *The Politics of Positive Incentive in Arms Control*.  
Bruce Hoffman, *Terrorism and Weapons of Mass Destruction*.  
Jonathan Tucker, ed., *Toxic Terror*.  
William Broad et al., *Germs: Biological Weapons and America’s Secret War*.

**Oct. 30:**

Technology, globalization and economic insecurity - Technology, trade, and a level playing field - The offshoring revolution - Trade, the environment and a race to the bottom - Harmonizing global standards - Four kinds of globalization - Terrorism and globalization - Has globalization peaked? - The U.S. in a global economy - The Chindia question.

Assignment: Friedman, all; Rodrik, “Trading in Illusions”; Abdelal and Segal, “Has Globalization Passed it’s Peak?”;

Recommended:

Dani Rodrik, *Has Globalization Gone Too Far?*  
Edith Brown Weiss and John H. Jackson, *Reconciling Environment and Trade*.  
Jerry Mander and Edward Goldsmith, *The Case Against the Global Economy*.  
Hazel Henderson, *Beyond Globalization: Shaping a Sustainable Global Economy*.  
Saskia Sassen, *Globalization and Its Discontents*.  
Frances Cairncross, *The Death of Distance*.  
Brian Kahin and James Keller, eds., *Coordinating the Internet*.

Thomas Homer-Dixon, *The Ingenuity Gap*.  
Ronen Palan, *The Offshore World*.

**Nov. 6:** Technology and the politics of intellectual property - Historical patterns of technology diffusion and economic growth - The origins of intellectual property protection - the arbitrary nature of copyright - balancing incentives to create with the public good - Patents and innovation - Should life forms be patented? - the Internet and intellectual property - North-South differences on intellectual property issues.

Assignment: Marlin-Bennett, all; Evans, “Who Owns Ideas”?

Recommended:

Michael P. Ryan, *Knowledge Diplomacy*.  
Vandana Shiva, *Protect or Plunder: Understanding Intellectual Property Rights*.  
Peter Drahos and Ruth Mayne, eds., *Global Intellectual Property Rights*.  
Lawrence Lessig, *The Future of Ideas*.

**Nov. 13:** Technology, Knowledge and the future of democracy - Three paradigm shifts - The future of industrial modernization - Changing perspectives on the sacred and secular - Defining sustainable development - The Chindia dilemma - Values and development - Soft power or cultural imperialism? - Fundamentalist responses.

Assignment: Inglehardt and Welzel, all; Mousseau, “Market Civilization and its Clash with Terror”.

Recommended:

World Commission on Environment and Development, *Our Common Future*.  
Denis Goulet, *The Cruel Choice*.  
Paul Hawken et al., *Natural Capitalism*.  
David Pearce et al., *Sustainable Development*.  
Jan Knippers Black, *Inequity in the Global Village*.  
Ankie Hoogvelt, *Globalization and the Post-Colonial World*.  
Jay Mandle, *Globalization and the Poor*.  
Thomas L. Friedman, *The Lexus and the Olive Tree*.  
Benjamin Barber, *Jihad vs. McWorld*.  
Joseph Nye, *Soft Power*.  
Pippa Norris and Ronald Inglehart, “*Sacred and Secular: Religion and Politics Worldwide*”.

**Nov. 20:** Governance and ecological security - The retreat of the state - Protecting the environment - Managing the diffusion of new technologies - Harmonizing standards - Preserving the global commons - Government or governance? - Creating global public goods.

Assignment: Florini, all; Pirages and Cousins, Chapt. 12.

Recommended:

Inge Kaul et al., *Global Public Goods*.

Amitae Etzioni, *From Empire to Community*.

Chadwick F. Alger, ed., *The Future of the United Nations System*.

Joseph S. Nye and John D. Donahue, eds., *Governance in a Globalizing World*.

Susan Strange, *The Retreat of the State*.

Oran R. Young, *Global Governance: Drawing Insights from the Environmental Experience*.

Nov. 27 -

Dec. 4:

Class Presentation of research papers.