Week 1 – Wednesday 7/8/2015
Discourses of Globalization
# Class Teams & Countries

## Grp 1 (Spain):
- Trenton Brendel
- Qi Guo
- Haiping Ji
- Changhao Hu
- Mengni Qian
- Joey Schindler
- Shengye Zang
- Meng Li

## Grp 2 (Indonesia):
- Melodi Au
- Weicong Dong
- Yoichi Kuroiwa
- Yilin Ma
- Sam Ostrin
- Trinh Pham
- Sayaka Shiba
- Yunqi Zhang

## Grp 3 (Nigeria):
- Charlotte Verdier
- Apraham Gomez
- Emma Huang
- Yanzhen Zhu
- Masanori Himeno
- Matthew Schladen
- Mengqi Zhang
- Tongfei Zhu

## Grp 4 (South Africa):
- Sid Agarwal
- Destini Au
- Xiao Chen
- Sejin Lee
- Frederico Ferreira
- Rina Kawakami
- Zhou Qi
- Xinmei Wu
- Xintong Chang
# Class Teams & Countries

**Grp 5 (Egypt):**
- I-Yun Chan
- Hanren Lin
- Yunting Ge
- James Looney
- Tim Guan
- Yoichi Noguchi
- Guiming Han
- Weijia Yuan

**Grp 6 (Qatar or Russia):**
- Zhuo Xi Chan
- Mitchell Lui
- Kyle Zemeir
- Zhenning Ding
- Jay Reddy
- Robin Dosi
- Steven Shi
- Shivani Joshi
- Yakun Sun

**Grp 7 (Mexico):**
- Hojun Kim
- Yichen Tang
- Jiaming Li
- Tianyue Xu
- Frank Luse
- Kejia Yang
- Xi Lin
- Dian Yu

**Grp 8 (Brazil):**
- Caresse Hernandez
- Mana Murakami
- Doh Htoo
- Xiaoichong Zhang
- Joo Hyeong Lee
- Lei Wu
- Jayson Jeon
- Guanxian Peng
WHAT IS GLOBALIZATION?

Group Exercise:
Come up with a ONE-SENTENCE definition of “Globalization.”
WHAT IS GLOBALIZATION?

**Group 1:** ['Globalization’ is] the phenomenon of increasing interdependency between countries.

**Group 2 (The Indonesians):** ['Globalization’ is] The process by which different factors connect to influence the world, politically & economically; thus creating interdependencies between countries & economies.
WHAT IS GLOBALIZATION?

Globetrotters: ['Globalization’ is] The set of all outcomes due to the unity and interdependency between states and regions, coopera=ons and diﬀerences.

Group 4: ['Globalization’ is] The process of a world becoming a unit through the ﬂow of ideas, people, commodities, assets, etc.
**WHAT IS GLOBALIZATION?**

**Cal Pharaohs:** ['Globalization’ is] An increase in interdependence between nations, in the economic, political, cultural, legal, and ecological sectors.

**Group 6:** ['Globalization’ is] the interconnection of produce, commerce, and finance.
WHAT IS GLOBALIZATION?

Group 7 (Team Mexico): [‘Globalization’ is] The process of countries becoming more connected economically and politically, creating interdependency.

Group 8 (The Kakás): [‘Globalization’ is] An uneven system of globally interdependent networks of commodities, labor, money, law, governance, space, culture, & health as a result of technical advancement.
GLOBALIZATION & THE ELEPHANT
SEEING THE GLOBAL ‘ELEPHANT’

• Problem of *Scale*
  – Global: the “system”
  – Local: everyday life
  – National: policy & politics

• What *can we see*?
  – *Material Flows*: Commodities, Capital, People
  – *On paper*: policies, ideas, discourses
  – *Agents*: institutions, politicians, spokespersons, corporations, social movements, NGOs
  – *Lived effects*: local, intimate, far removed from global
DIFFERENT THEORIES, DIFFERENT GLOBALIZATIONS

• Working Def.: Paradigm for ordering the world
  – ‘Regimes’: historically specific set of political / economic / institutional arrangements and social relations
  – ‘Common Sense’: discursive / cultural / value system
  – ‘Territoriality’: spatial *patterning* of economic flows

• Robinson – Theories of Globalization
  – World-systems theory *(Wallerstein)*
  – ‘Global Capitalism’ *(Harvey)*
  – Network Society *(Castells)*
  – Transnationalism *(Anzaldúa, etc)*
  – Modernity / Postmodernity *(Harvey/Jameson/etc)*
  – Global Culture / Global Consciousness *(Kalle Lasn, etc)*
TODAY’S GLOBAL ‘REGIME’

• Late (mature) phase of Capitalism
  – “Neoliberalism”
    • Global “free market” (open to capital)
    • Speed, fluidity; “time-space compression”
    • Networks & Flows
    • Global Supply Chain / Logistics
    • Commodification of everything
    • Homogenization & Quantification (econometric modeling)

• Role of the State / National Politics?
  – ‘Laissez-Faire’ society
    • Withdrawal of the state
  – State serves Capital
    • Neoliberalism as a class project
‘MARKET SOCIETY’ & THE POLITICAL

• Life through Models
  – Separation between ‘politics’ & ‘economics’
  – Abstractions in modeling
    • General Equilibrium: the ‘auctioneer’
    • Non-Linear Complexity: agent-based
    • Historical materialism: class relations

• Gap between theory & history
  – Traveling ideas / policies encounter different contexts
  – Unintended Consequences
  – Reactions / ‘Double Movement’
  – Rupture

• The ‘Political’ Returns – 2011-present?
“There she goes, on and on about the ‘political’ again.”

“Perhaps it is time for a break?”
DISCOURSE & POWER

• “Discursive Formation” (Hall)
  – System of meanings: internal logic
  – Formation of “the subject”
  – Discourses have histories

• Hegemony: Power relations of domination
  – Combination of Coercion & Consent
    • Construction of consensus
    • Naturalization / mystification
  – “Common Sense”
    • Implied norm (Western / industrial / capitalist)
    • System of values
    • Essentialism & Difference – “Self” vs. “Other”; “West” & “the Rest”

• The Uses (or Abuses) of History & Geography
DISCOURSE — GROUP EXERCISE

Friedman & Sachs readings

What’s the implied norm?
Who is the ‘subject’? (whose point of view?)
What is the value system (what has value)?
What are the uses of history?
What’s missing / Critiques?
DEVELOPMENT DISCOURSE

• Implied norms / common ‘wisdoms’ (Sparke)
  – Globalization is new
  – Globalization is inevitable
    • Development = Modernity = Industry = Finance
    • Loss of political control – ‘political-geographical incongruity’
  – ‘Global competition’ = Level playing field

• Metrics / Measures / Indicators
  – GDP (Gross Domestic Product)
  – GNI (Gross National Income)
  – FDI (Foreign Direct Investment)
  – HDI (Human Development Index)
    • Life expectancy + Education + GDP per capita
  – GINI coefficient
DEVELOPMENT DISCOURSE

• Theoretical Assumptions / Worldview
  – Market tendency towards ‘General Equilibrium’
  – ‘Invisible Hand’
  – ‘A rising tide lifts all boats’ (Leveling)
  – The ‘Rational Individual’
    • *Homo economicus* = maximizer of resources
  – TINA (There Is No Alternative)

• Crises: Diagnosis → Solutions
  – ‘Market Failure’ → Market Efficiency (liberalization)
  – Technological/Information Deficit
  – ‘Culture of Poverty’
    • Environmental/geographic *determinism*
  – Scalar / Institutional ‘Gap’ (Goldin)
    • Economy = Global ; Politics = Nation-state
  – Systemic Risk / ‘Contagion’
  – ‘Externalities’
    – ‘Hidden hand’ → ‘Hidden Fist’