

PSCI 222 Fall 2008
Problems of the Global Community

Unit 1: Bottom-Up Foreign Policy

This unit of the course has two goals:

1. to assess effect of each of these types of non-state actors on international outcomes
2. to attempt to develop a theory, collectively, of when and how these types of actors can influence international outcomes.

You will have assigned reading for each type of actor, but in addition *you will need to do independent research for each class* on the effect of these actors on international outcomes. Consider this part of your homework/reading assignment and come prepared to discuss the evidence you've found at each class meeting. Document your sources; the credibility of your claims will rest on them.

On Thursday, September 11, we will have a guest expert join us for discussion. Ms. Carmen Iezzi is the executive director of the Fair Trade Federation of the United States. She will also give a public talk on fair trade issues on Thursday evening (time and location TBA).

You should generally do the reading in the order listed.

T, Aug 26 Orientation and Overview
Topic brainstorm.

Assignment: Visit Woodle after 5 PM today to vote. It will show up as an assignment of some sort under the first week of class. Voting is open until 9:30 AM Thursday.

R, Aug 28 No class – Prof. Powner at American Political Science Association meeting.

Assignment: View the documentary *Black Gold* on your own time (on reserve in at the Media Library).

Write a 1-2 page critical response paper. Due Tues, Sep 2, at start of class. What's the point? Why are we watching this film in this class? Do you find the story – and its proposed solution – credible?

T, Sep 2 Intro to Bottom-Up Foreign Policy

Read: Keck and Sikkink, Ch 1 (ER)

Browse the website of Amnesty International at <http://www.amnesty.org>. Be sure to read the “Who We Are” section and especially pieces on ‘About Us’ and the organization’s history.

R, Sep 4 Celebrity Activism

Read: Richey and Ponte. “Better (RED) than Dead? Celebrities, Consumption, and International Aid” (W)

Read the collection of news articles on Woodle.

Browse the website of the UN Secretary General’s “Messengers of Peace” (on Woodle). Be sure to check out the past MOP’s and the Goodwill Ambassadors.

Assignment: For your research for this class, pick a particular celebrity and attempt to determine if s/he has influenced policy making or outcomes on a given issue. Please register your celebrity choice on Moodle (in the Forums) to avoid duplication. Think creatively – this may be easier for celebrities/cases that occurred a number of years ago.

T, Sep 9

Jubilee 2000

Read: Browse the websites of the US and UK Jubilee 2000 campaigns:
<http://www.jubileeusa.org/> and <http://www.jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk/>.
Donnelly, “Proclaiming Jubilee” (ER)
Busby, “Bono Made Jesse Helms Cry” (ER)

Assignment: What countries wrote off debt? Which countries had debt written off? What governments have actually acted on their pledges and passed the necessary legislation?

R, Sep 11

Consumer Movements

Guest Discussant: Ms. Carmen Iezzi, Executive Director, Fair Trade Federation

Read: James and Clayson excerpts from *The Global Activist's Manual* (ER)
TBA

Assignment: TBA.

T, Sep 16

“Corporate Social Responsibility”

Read: TBA

Assignment: TBA.

R, Sep 18

Synthetic Discussion

Paper 1 assignment out. Due Thurs, Sep 25, at start of class.