

Khatuna Chapichadze

Ph.D. in Social Sciences (Direction of Political Science)

Associate Professor
Department of Liberal Arts
Faculty of Business-Engineering
Georgian Technical University (GTU)
Address: 77, Kostava Str., 0175, Tbilisi, Georgia
Tel.: +995 322 36 53 79
Mob: +995 599 97 17 87
Web: www.gtu.ge
E-mail: khatuna.khatuna@gmail.com

Invited Professor
International School for Caucasus Studies
Ilia State University
Address: 3/5 K. Cholokashvili Ave.
0162 Tbilisi Georgia
Tel.: +995 322 10 28 94
Mob.: +995 599 97 17 87
Web: www.iscs.iliauni.edu.ge
E-mail: khatuna.chapichadze@iliauni.edu.ge

Room: #...

Days and Time: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 18:50-21:05

Neoliberalism and Globalization

Course Description:

The course offers a comprehensive examination of key concepts of neoliberalism and globalization as of one of the most influential phenomena for every aspect of social life in the contemporary world. Besides addressing all the main issues first of all of neoliberalism and discussing the rule of the market, cutting public expenditure for social services, deregulation, privatization, TINA–concept (“There Is No Alternative!”), eliminating the concept of the “public good” or “community”, as well as John Williamson’s “Washington Consensus”, including his popular ten points, also the effects of neoliberalism changing especially the world economy of the 20th century for forever, when debating on supporting economic liberalism, we will explore how neoliberal policy has influenced on living standards of people, increased the indexes of “happiness”, as well as of perception of “peace” and resulted political freedom in different countries. During our lectures and seminars we will examine the state-centered approach, quite controversial idea first of all among neoliberals. The world’s economic crisis of late 2000s will be analyzed in the context of the crucial crisis of neoliberalism itself and we will attempt to elaborate some valid alternatives to neoliberal economic and political system for the upcoming future on a global scale. Along with introducing wide range of popular definitions of globalization, we will explore the ways how this process can be assessed as a worldwide phenomenon defined as a result of global fostering of the neoliberal doctrine by such global neoliberal actors, as are: IMF, WTO, WB, a diverse variety of transnational corporations, etc. After summarizing neoliberal theory and practice, as well as policy implications and different effects of globalization, we will focus on the case study of Georgia, which became one of the most successful post-communist countries where radical neoliberal reforms were efficiently implemented in the period from 2004 to 2012 following after one of the “Colored Revolutions” of 2000s, the Rose Revolution of 2003.

Course Objectives:

- Raising students’ awareness on neoliberalism and its interconnectedness with globalization;
- Advancing students' critical evaluation skills in regard of neoliberal doctrine and its practice worldwide through consideration of the case study of Georgia;

- Expanding students' abilities to seek and elaborate reasonable alternative scenarios to neoliberal developments.

Evaluation:

Students will be assessed through:

- Midterm exam (individual and/or mini group presentations; the material should mainly come from, but is not limited to class lectures and the assigned readings. The midterm is worth 50% of your mark.);
- Final essay (list of the topics you should choose one from will be provided on AGH's Scholar's Panel. You should send me the essays via my e-mail: khatuna.khatuna@gmail.com; the deadline will be announced on AGH's Scholar's Panel). Final essay is worth 30% of your mark.
- Attendance (regular class attendance is highly recommended. Attendance is worth 5% of your mark.);
- Participation and Assignments (participation in class discussions, including about assigned readings is worth 15% of your mark.)

Reading Materials:

All assigned readings for the course will be provided on AGH's Scholar's Panel.

Class Schedule:

(Please, take into consideration that the schedule is tentative and its change is at the instructor's discretion)

April 6: Key Concepts of Neoliberalism; Key Concepts of Globalization; Rule of the Market; Cutting Public Expenditure for Social Services; Deregulation; Privatization; TINA-Concept ("There Is No Alternative!"); Eliminating the Concept of the "Public Good" and of the "Community"; John Williamson's "Washington Consensus" (Ten Points)

April 9: The Effects of Neoliberalism; Supporting Economic Liberalism; Influence of Neoliberal Policy on Living Standards of People; Increase of the Indexes of "Happiness"; Perception of "Peace"; Results of Political Freedom in Different Countries; State-Centered Approach

April 15: Midterm exam

April 20: The World's Economic Crisis of Late 2000s in the Context of the Crucial Crisis of Neoliberalism; The Question of Alternatives to Neoliberal Economic and Political System for the Upcoming Future on a Global Scale; Popular Definitions of Globalization

April 23: Globalization as a Result of Global Fostering of the Neoliberal Doctrine by Global Neoliberal Actors; Summarizing Neoliberal Theory and Practice; Assessing Policy Implications and Diverse Effects of Globalization; Case Study of Georgia