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**Submission for CIES 2006**  
**Globalization and Education SIG**  
**Session 2: Teaching About Globalization**

This summer, Northwestern University offered a new comparative education course. The graduate level elective, "MS ED 451 Comparative Higher Education: The Impact of Globalization" was offered through the Master of Science in Education Program at the School of Education and Social Policy. The creator and instructor of the course was Dr. Bernhard T. Streitwieser (Columbia University, 2000), the Associate Director of Northwestern's Study Abroad Office. The introductory course was geared toward graduate students preparing for careers as university teachers, administrators, and educational policy makers and looked at how higher education systems in a selection of other countries and regions have confronted the challenges of globalization over the past decade. Particular focus was on the European Community, India and China, but other countries were also analyzed through weekly student country study presentations. Issues examined included internationalization; massification; scholar and student exchange; disparities in access, equity, accountability; reform movements and management challenges; and the implications of pending trade agreements on the exchange of educational goods and services. Guest speakers were also invited from Germany, China, Argentina, India, Serbia, Nigeria & Ghana, and the Russian Federation. The reading consisted of Philip Altbach's *1998 Comparative Higher Education: Knowledge, the University, and Development* (Ablex Publishers) and a Course Reader with selections from the 1998 ASHE Reader Series *Comparative Education*, articles in higher education and comparative education journals, and chapters in the 2005 Forest and Altbach *International Handbook of Higher Education, Volumes I and II* (Springer).

My presentation of the course will briefly review the course structure, teaching goals and methods, and student feedback received. I will also discuss a number of the challenges I faced while structuring the course and how I overcame these with the help of resources and contacts in the field. A final goal will be to share ideas with others in the group and gain feedback that can be incorporated into course improvements for the future.

To help illustrate my course, the first five pages of the syllabus follow.

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Northwestern University

## **Comparative Higher Education: The Impact of Globalization**

**School of Education and Social Policy**

**MS ED 451-27**

**Northwestern University**

**June 22-August 3, 2006**

**Annenberg 303**

### **SYLLABUS\***

#### Course Description

This course introduces students to the higher education systems of other countries and regions and how each is confronting the challenges of globalization. Particular focus is on the European Community, India and China, but other countries will also be analyzed. We examine issues and their implications related to internationalization; massification; scholar and student exchange; disparities in access, equity, accountability; decision-making power within the worldwide knowledge network; reform movements and management challenges; and the implications of pending trade agreements on the exchange of educational goods and services between center-periphery/North-South nations. This survey course will be of practical value for those considering careers in administration, policy, government, international education, teaching and research.

#### Teaching Method

Interactive lecturing; discussion and analysis of readings; student presentations; in-class assignments.

#### Evaluation

- Attendance, participation, in-class discussions & debates, interaction with guest speakers (20 pts)
- Leading discussion of one of the readings (20 pts)
- In-class presentation of a country study (25 pts)
- Final paper (35 pts)

#### Course Readings

- **Textbook (at NU Bookstore)**
  - Altbach, P. (1998). *Comparative Higher Education: Knowledge, the University, and Development*. Greenwich, CT: Ablex Publishing Corporation.
- **Course Reader (at Quartet Copies, 825 Clark St., Evanston)**
- **Library Electronic Reserve (links to further readings)**

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\* Subject to minor changes

Both include selections from:

- Forest, J.L., and Altbach, P. (2006). *International Handbook of Higher Education. Volumes I and II*. New York: Springer.
- Texts on comparative and higher education research and analysis
- Higher education and comparative education journals
- Academic internet sites
- Media sources

#### General Organization of Class Meetings

- Lecture on topic by instructor
- Student presentations of readings
- Student presentations of individual country studies. (Depending upon final enrolment, one or several students per class will present on a country)
- Group discussions of topic based on readings and lecture questions
- Group work on in-class exercises
- Structured debates on specific issues/problems, followed by whole-class discussion
- Guest speakers knowledgeable about the higher education system of another country will present on their country and take student questions
- Viewing of films dealing with foreign higher education (if possible)
- Discussion and preparation of take-home assignments

#### Course Objectives

It is my hope that in taking this course, you will:

- come to understand the myriad issues tied to globalization and what impact they currently and in future may have on higher education, both in the United States and abroad;
- become versed in the literature and sensitive to the major issues affecting higher education in a variety of international contexts today; and
- in understanding these issues, become empowered to effect reform as researchers, practitioners and agents of change in the future;
- come to understand the basic scholarly purposes and practical value of adopting a comparative approach to the study of higher education; and
- learn about the perspectives held by those living and working outside the United States and of the impact their views have on higher education in their countries and also more broadly in the world.

# SYLLABUS

## Note on the readings

**Bold** = Reading required, questions will be posed for in-class discussion

**Bold red** = Each student selects one reading, summarizes and leads one class discussion

Un-bolded = Library Electronic Reserve link: Optional but strongly encouraged selective reading

## **Class meeting 1 (Thursday, June 22)**

Welcome; administrative issues (course layout, expectations, readings, assignments, grading, etc.)

### Topic

- Introduction to Globalization
- The Study of Comparative Higher Education
- Overview of the study of higher education in international context
- **8:00 Guest speaker**, international visiting scholars Britta Rehder and Thomas Saretzki (CICS) on **German** Higher Education

### Readings to complete for today's lecture

Globalization, comparative education, and higher education overview readings

- **Altbach's "Globalization and the University: Realities in an Unequal World" in Forest and Altbach handbook 2006 (reader)**

Comparative Education Readings

- Epstein's "Comparative and International Education: An Overview and Historical Development", in International Encyclopedia of Education (Library Electronic Reserve link)
- Noah's "The Use and Abuse of Comparative Education" (Library Electronic Reserve link)

Overview of study of higher education reading

- **Altbach's "Introduction: Comparative Perspectives for the Twenty-First Century" (textbook)**
- **Altbach's Chapter 1, "Patterns in Higher Education Development" (textbook)**
- **Economist special report, "The Brains Business: A Survey of Higher Education", September 10, 2005 (reader)**

Country Profiles

- Frink's "Germany" in World Education Encyclopedia (Library E-Reserve link)
- **Hüfner's Challenge of Unification and the Reform of Higher Education in Germany (reader)**
- Pritchard's "Trends in the Restructuring of German Universities" (Library E-Reserve link)

### Readings due for next class

#### Globalization and dependency theory readings

- Tilly's "Past, Present, and Future Globalizations (Library E-Reserve link)
- Brawley's "Defining Globalization", in M. R. Brawley, *The Politics of Globalization: Gaining Perspective, Assessing Consequences* (Library E-Reserve link)
- Green, Eckel and Barblan's "The Brave New (and Smaller) World of Higher Education: A Transatlantic View" (Library E-Reserve link)
- Chronicle of Higher Education article (February 17, 2006) "America's Hot New Export: Higher Education" (Library E-Reserve link)
- **Altbach's "The University as Center and Periphery" (textbook)**
- **Altbach's "Gigantic Peripheries: India and China in the World Knowledge System" (textbook)**
- **Altbach's "Twisted Roots: The Western Impact on Asian Higher Education" (textbook)**

#### Country Profiles

- Ting's "China" in World Education Encyclopedia (Library E-Reserve link)
- Zha's "Foreign Influence on Japanese and Chinese Higher Education: A Comparative Analysis" (reader)
- Postiglione's "China's Expansion, Consolidation, and Globalization" (Library E-Reserve link)
- Min's "China", in G. A. Postiglione and G. C. L. Mak (Eds.) *Asian Higher Education: An International Handbook and Reference Guide* (Library E-Reserve link)
- **Hayhoe and Zha's "China" chapter in Forest & Altbach handbook 2006 (reader)**
- Epstein and Kuo's chapter "Higher Education" in D. C. Smith (Ed.) *The Confucian Continuum: Educational Modernization in Taiwan*. (Library E-Reserve link).

### **Class meeting 2**

**(Thursday, June 29)**

#### Topic

- Globalization and higher education
- **7:00 Guest speaker**, international graduate scholar Dingxi Qui on the impact of Globalization on **Chinese** higher education

### Readings due for next class

#### Internationalization of higher education readings

- Neave's "The Bologna Declaration: Some of the Historic Dilemmas Posed by the Reconstruction of the Community in Europe's Systems of Higher Education" (Library E-Reserve link)

- **Van der Wende’s “The Bologna Declaration: Enhancing the Transparency and Competitiveness of European Higher Education” (reader)**
- **OECD Policy Brief “Internationalization of Higher Education” (reader)**
- **Knight’s “Internationalization Remodeled: Definition, Approaches, and Rationales” –(Note: ok to only skim this) (reader)**
- De Wit’s chapter, “The Development of Internationalization of Higher Education in the United States of America and Europe: A Comparison” (Library E-Reserve link)
- **Teichler’s “Internationalization as a Challenge for Higher Education in Europe” (reader)**
- Economist article (September 8, 2005) “How Europe fails its young” (Library E-Reserve link)
- Chronicle of Higher Education article (March 24, 2006) “European Higher Education Falling Behind, Report Warns” (Library E-Reserve link)

#### Country Profiles

- **Garcia de Fanelli’s “Argentina” chapter in Forest & Altbach handbook 2006 (reader)**
- Morris’ “Argentina” in World Education Encyclopedia (Library E-Reserve link)
- **Mollis’ “Latin American University Transformation of the 1990s: Altered Identities” in Forest & Altbach handbook 2006 (reader)**
- Mollis’ “A Decade of Higher Education Reform in Argentina” (Library E-Reserve link)
- Gonzales Rozada and Menendez’ “Higher Education Subsidies in Argentina” (Library E-Reserve link)
- De Ridders’ “On the Europeanization of Higher Education in Europe (Library E-Reserve link)
- Tran’s “Internationalizing French Higher Education” (Library E-Reserve link)
- Klimanovich and Gancheryonok’s “Internationalization in Belarus: The Post-Soviet Experience” (Library E-Reserve link)
- Ordorika’s “Reform at Mexico’s National Autonomous University: Hegemony or Bureaucracy” (Library E-Reserve link)