

T427: INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS
(Intensive Writing)
Class # 7790
Fall 2011

Instructor: Harmeet Sawhney
Office: Radio & TV Center, Rm. # 325
Phone: 855-0954

Office Hours: Wed 10:00 – 11:00 am
E-Mail: HSAWHNEY

Course Meetings: Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, and Fri 11:15 am – 12:30 pm, TV 226

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this seminar we will explore how international telecommunications networks have helped tie once relatively isolated countries into an integrated world system and examine the role of telecommunications in its operation. We will then discuss how different countries have positioned themselves within this world system. The discussions will cover questions such as: Why do countries feel compelled to invest in their telecommunications infrastructure? How do they go about creating this infrastructure? What are the implications of the current technological trends? After gaining an understanding of the basic dynamics of international telecommunications, we will explore the implications of these long-term trends for First, Second, and Third World countries. We will end our deliberations by making projections about the future of our increasingly interdependent world.

READINGS

Available via Electronic Reserve. Search under Instructor “Sawhney, Harmeet.”

COURSE GRADE

You will receive two grades for this course: one for your mastery of the course, and another (S/F) for the quality of your writing.

The relative weights of the different components of the final grade for the mastery of the course will be as follows:

Mid Term Exam	17.5%
Final Exam	17.5%
Paper 1	15%
Revised Paper 1	10%
Paper 2	15%
Literature Survey Paper	10%
In-class Exercises	10%
Class Participation	5%

Exams: The in-class exams will consist of objective type and short answer questions.

Papers: You will be asked to write two papers (6-7 double-spaced pages) based on library research. Paper 1 will have to be revised as per the comments provided by the instructor. Detailed instructions for each paper will be provided as separate handouts.

Literature Survey Paper: You will be asked to survey the literature and write a paper (5-6 double-spaced pages) summarizing notable works. Detailed instructions for this paper will be provided as a separate handout.

In-class Exercises: There will be a number of in-class exercises that will carry points.

Class Participation: You are expected to come well prepared and ready to participate. Your participation grade will reflect your contributions to the class discussions.

Final grades will be calculated on a straight percentage scale as follows:

A+	97-100%	C+	77-79%
A	93-96%	C	73-76%
A-	90-92%	C-	70-72%
B+	87-89%	D+	67-69%
B	83-86%	D	63-66%
B-	80-82%	D-	60-62%

Here are a few important points you should keep in mind as you work through the course requirements:

1. No make-up exams will be given except under dire circumstances which are substantiated with written documentation. Any make-up exam, if administered, will consist almost entirely of essay type questions.
2. Incomplete course grades will be given only for end-of-semester illness or accident; they will not be given for poor grades or lack of attendance.
3. Late submissions will carry a stiff penalty.
4. Instances of academic dishonesty will be dealt with as per university rules and regulations.
5. Every effort will be made not to deviate too much from this course syllabus. However, both the calendar and course requirements are subject to change. Each class moves at its own pace and therefore there is a need for a certain amount of flexibility within the course design.

CALENDAR

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic & Readings</u>
Mon / Aug 29	Introduction to the course
	<i>The World as a System</i>
Wed / Aug 31	in-class exercise
Mon / Sept 5	Labor Day (IU classes do not meet)
Wed / Sept 7	Sawhney—“Global Economy and International Telecommunications Networks”
Mon / Sept 12	Global Economy and Decontextualization (class handouts)
	<i>Legacy of the Past</i>
Wed / Sept 14	Moon— "Two Changes of Mind"
Mon / Sept 19	Moon— "Why Europe Shouldered the White Man's Burden"
Wed / Sept 21	Schiller— "Freedom from 'Free Flow'" Masmoudi— "The New World Information Order"
	<i>World System and Trade in Services</i>
Mon / Sept 26	Trade in Services (class handouts)
	<i>Importance of Telecommunications Infrastructure</i>
Wed / Sept 28	Reed— "Letters on the Subject of a Line of Rail-Roads, from Boston to the Mississippi" (separate handout)
	<i>National Styles of Infrastructure Development</i>
	<i>Evolution of Telecom Networks in the United States:</i>
Mon / Oct 3	Sawhney— "The Public Telephone Network: Stages in Infrastructure Development"

Evolution of Telecom Networks in the United Kingdom:

- Wed / Oct 5 Perry— "The British Experience 1876-1912: The Impact of the Telephone During Years of Delay"
Noam— "The Establishment of the PT&T System"

Evolution of Telecom Networks in France:

- Mon / Oct 10 Attali and Stourdze— "The Birth of the Telephone and Economic Crisis: The Slow Death of Monologue in French Society"
PAPER 1 DUE

- Wed / Oct 12 de Gournay— "Telephone Networks in France and Great Britain"
Sawhney — "Circumventing the Center: The Realities of Creating a Telecommunications Infrastructure in the USA"

Evolution of Telecom Networks in Canada:

- Mon / Oct 17 Sawhney — "Patterns of Infrastructure Development in the United States and Canada"
Wed / Oct 19 MID TERM EXAM

Emerging Network Structures

- Mon / Oct 24 class handouts

Evolution of Internet in Japan

- Wed / Oct 26 Johnstone— "Wiring Japan"
Suri and Sawhney — "The Internet and its wireless extensions in Japan: The portentous interface between chaos and order"

World System as a Juggernaut

- Mon / Oct 31 Stephenson— "'No One is Here' Telecommunications in the Soviet Union"

Backwaters of the World System

Wed / Nov 2 Samarajiva and Shields—"Value Issues in Telecommunications Resource Allocation in the Third World"

Global Consequences of a Global Economy

Mon / Nov 7 Reich—"The Origins of Economic Nationalism"
REVISED PAPER 1 DUE

Wed / Nov 9 Reich—"From High Volume to High Value"

Mon / Nov 14 Reich—"The New Web of Enterprise"

Wed / Nov 16 Reich—"The Three Jobs of the Future"
LITERATURE SURVEY PAPER DUE

Mon / Nov 21 class handout

Wed / Nov 23 THANKSGIVING BREAK

Towards a new world system?

Mon / Nov 28 class handouts

Global Economy?

Wed / Nov 30 Mander—"The Dark Side of Globalization"

Mon / Dec 5 Norberg-Hodge—"Break Up The Monoculture"
PAPER 2 DUE

Wed / Dec 7 Stille – "Slow Food"

FINAL EXAMINATION: 10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m., Mon., December 12