

*Intercultural Communication: Globalization and Social Justice*, 2nd edition

## **Autobiography of Racialized Body (40 points)**

Due: October 1

Length: 4 to 5 pages (no shorter than 3.5 pages and no longer than 5.5 pages)

*Note: This assignment is adapted from McKinney (2008) and developed by Dr. Yea-Wen Chen.*

Everyone has some racial and/or ethnic heritage, which may be more visible and/or important for some and less so for others. In this paper, you will reflect on and write about your personal life story/stories, or autobiography, focusing on experiences that you have had with race and/or ethnicity. Since identities are multiple, overlapping, and intersecting, your experiences with race might relate to other relevant identities such as sex and gender, sexuality, class, and so on. The aim of this assignment is not to reinforce racial/ethnic categories but to expose hidden, or unconscious, assumptions about race and/or ethnic groups that hinder productive intergroup interactions.

Throughout your paper, use as many specific, concrete, and detailed examples and write about as many experiences, memories, and stories as you can. Choose stories from your life when you were most aware of race and/or ethnicity. Use details to try to describe and process your thoughts and experiences as thoroughly as possible. This paper should read like a common autobiography but with a particular focus on issues of race and/or ethnicity. Reflect on things that have happened to you. First, tell a story about something that has happened to you, and then add something you learned from it. *This paper is about your personal experiences with race/ethnicity, not what you think about issues of race/ethnicity or current racial issues of most interest.* Focus on occurrences like change, turning points, memorable moments, feelings, conflicts, and recurring themes.

Write about specific instance that you remember as being significant to you with regard to your race and/or ethnicity. *What I am looking for is the budding awareness, shifts, progression, or other development of your racial/ethnic consciousness.* Be specific. It helps to work and write chronologically from the first time you remember becoming aware of your or someone else's race/ethnicity to the present. Below are some guiding questions to help you start:

- ◆ What are some of your first memories of becoming aware of racial/ethnic differences and your place in a racial/ethnic group?
- ◆ What messages did your family communicate to you about your own race/ethnicity as you were growing up?
- ◆ What messages did your family communicate to you about members of other racial/ethnic groups as you were growing up?
- ◆ Does/did your family have specific traditions related to your racial/ethnic heritage? How do you think this compares with other families or your same race/ethnicity? How about with other families of other races/ethnicities?
- ◆ How, if at all, have your ideas about race/ethnicity changed through the years?
- ◆ What specific world events, personal incidents, relationship with significant others, environmental factors, media images, and so on, have had an effect on your ideas about race, ethnicity, and racism?
- ◆ What are some experiences that have made your race/ethnicity most visible to you?
- ◆ Have you been subjected to discrimination based on race/ethnicity? If so, what happened?
- ◆ How do you think demographic changes that are currently underway will affect your experiences and attitudes related to race, ethnicity, and racism?

- ◆ Do you think racism is becoming more of or less of a problem in the United States? If you think it is a problem, what do you think the best solution(s) is(are)?

You will be graded on the depth of your reflections and on whether you follow the directions for the assignment. Be sure to (a) meet the page length and formatting requirements for the paper; (b) proofread your essay flawlessly; (c) focus on stories, instances, and experiences, not opinions; and (d) demonstrate careful thought in the context of things that we have been discussing in class.

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**COMS 4100**  
**Rubric for “Autobiography of Racialized Body”**

*This paper is about your personal experiences with race/ethnicity, not what you think about issues of race/ethnicity. What I am looking for is the budding awareness, shifts, progression, or other development of your racial/ethnic consciousness.*

TOTALS	/40	COMMENTS
<b>Organization</b> Organize the essay <i>logically</i> and <i>coherently</i> . <b># 4 points</b>	____ Exemplary (4/4) ____ Above average (3/4) ____ Average (2/4) ____ Below average (1/4) ____ Unsatisfactory (0/4)	
<b>Introduction</b> Introduce your essay, including <i>thesis statement</i> and <i>preview statement</i> . <b>#4 points</b>	____ Exemplary (4/4) ____ Above average (3/4) ____ Average (2/4) ____ Below average (1/4) ____ Unsatisfactory (0/4)	
<b>Autographical Reflections</b> 1. Reflect on a minimum of <i>three</i> significant stories, instances, or experiences about your awareness of your racialized body. 2. Apply a minimum of <i>three</i> relevant course concepts to help make sense of your reflections (e.g., body politics, social construction of race, etc.). <b># 24 points</b>	____ Exemplary (22–24) ____ Above average (19–21) ____ Average (16–18) ____ Below average (13–15) ____ Unsatisfactory (0–12)	*Refer to pages 7–8 for guiding questions and additional information.
<b>Conclusion</b> Discuss implications for intercultural communication and what you have learned from your autographical reflections. <b># 4 points</b>	____ Exemplary (4/4) ____ Above average (3/4) ____ Average (2/4) ____ Below average (1/4) ____ Unsatisfactory (0/4)	
<b>Clarity, Grammar, and Punctuation</b> 1. Tighten wordy sentences. 2. Proofread. 3. Balance parallel ideas. 4. Edit, edit, and edit. <b># 4 points</b>	____ Exemplary (4/4) ____ Above average (3/4) ____ Average (2/4) ____ Below average (1/4) ____ Unsatisfactory (0/4)	*Edit your essay to be within 4.5–5.5 pages in length.

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**Due October 1 in Class**

## **Chapter 2**

### **Understanding the Context of Globalization**

#### **Lecture Notes: Chapter Overview, Objectives, and Outline**

##### *Chapter Overview*

This chapter situates everyday intercultural interactions within the broader macro context of globalization. The central role that history plays in defining and shaping interactions among cultural groups today is highlighted. A brief review of world migration since the colonial period underscores how our current context of globalization is inextricably intertwined with the past. The chapter also introduces the importance of relationships of power for understanding intercultural communication.

The chapter begins with a set of scenarios that illustrate the complexity of intercultural communication in the context of globalization. The fast-paced, rapidly changing, interconnected, and inequitable context of globalization has a tremendous impact on intercultural communication today. Globalization is defined as the complex web of forces and factors that have brought people, cultures, cultural products, and markets, as well as beliefs and practices into increasingly greater proximity to and interrelationship with one another within inequitable relations of power. Particularly, salient forces that propel globalization include the advances in communication and transportation technologies as well as changes in economic and political policies in the past 30 years. The resulting global web of interdependence leads to shared interests, needs, and resources, as well as greater intercultural misunderstanding, tension, and conflict. Intensified interaction and magnified inequities among people from diverse cultures couple with historic legacies of colonization, Western domination, and U.S. hegemony to shape intercultural relations today.

Three facets of globalization—economic, political, and cultural—are examined with a focus on the intercultural communication dimensions of each. The role of global governance, “alter-globalization” movements, democratizing processes, and ideological wars, as well as cultural imperialism and cultural hybridity are addressed. These global dynamics shape our identities, influence who we interact with, frame our attitudes about and experiences of each other, and structure our intercultural interaction in relationships of power.

##### *Chapter Objectives*

1. Describe the complex and contradictory influences of globalization on intercultural communication.
2. Explain the important role history plays in shaping intercultural communication today.

3. Explain how relationships of power affect intercultural communication in our everyday lives.
4. Identify the intercultural dimensions of economic, political, and cultural globalization.

**Key Terms** \*Indicated in bold and italicized letters below

Globalization	Neoliberalism
World Trade Organization (WTO)	Culture as de-territorialized
Historical legacy of colonization	Political globalization
International Monetary Fund (IMF)	Culture as re-territorialized
First, second, and third Worlds	Cultural globalization
World Bank (WB)	Remittances
Developing/developed countries	Diasporic communities
Ideology	Economic liberalization/free Trade
Global South/Global North	Cultural imperialism
Democratization	Free Trade Agreements
Economic globalization	Hybrid cultural forms
Earth Democracy	NAFTA

**I. Introduction**

- a. Five scenarios of globalization
- b. All scenarios illustrate the dynamic movement, confluence, and interconnection of peoples, cultures, markets, and relationships of power that are rooted in history and are redefined and rearticulated in our current global age.
- c. This chapter introduces
  - i. the central roles that history and power play in intercultural communication.
  - ii. the broader context of globalization within which intercultural communication occurs today: economic, political, and cultural globalization.

**II. The Role of History in Intercultural Communication**

- a. European expansion and colonization
  - i. The European conquest starting in the 16th century transformed global migration patterns in ways that continue to affect us today.
  - ii. People moved from Europe to the Americas, Oceania, Africa, and Asia for the purpose of conquest, economic expansion, and religious conversion.
- b. Transatlantic slave trade
  - i. Between the 1600s and the 1850s, 9 to 12 million people were forcibly removed from Africa and transported to the colonies—primarily in the Americas—to serve as enslaved laborers.





hemisphere and poorer, developing nations (formerly colonized countries) in the southern hemisphere.

### **III. The Role of Power in Intercultural Communication**

- a. Consider how global movements of people, products, cultural forms, and cultural representations are shaped and controlled by relationships of power.
  - i. Who controls the media? Who are in charge of global institutions?
- b. Access, availability, and visibility of different cultures reflect power relations among cultures.
  - i. Introductory scenarios in this chapter illustrate inequitable positions of power that shape intercultural interactions.
  - ii. Example: Shah Rukh Khan, an international star from Bollywood, is largely unknown in the United States.
  - iii. Example: Occupy Wall Street garnered tremendous mainstream and social media attention by late September 2011 and was reported by media outlets as a call for increased regulations and taxes on millionaires; however, the vast majority of Occupy Wall Street organizers were calling for the end to capitalism.
- c. Textbox: Intercultural praxis: Communication and power
  - i. The textbox provides a conceptualization of power as an integral part of intercultural communication.
  - ii. Discussion on how to utilize intercultural praxis to analyze, critique, and transform relations of power in intercultural communication.

### **IV. Intercultural Communication in the Context of Globalization**

- a. The context of globalization within which intercultural communication occurs is characterized by
  - i. *an increasingly dynamic, mobile* world facilitated by communication and transportation technologies, accompanied by *an intensification of interaction and exchange* among people, cultures, and cultural forms across geographic, cultural, and national boundaries.
  - ii. *a rapidly growing global interdependence* socially, economically, politically, and environmentally, which leads both to shared interests, needs, and resources and greater tensions, contestations, and conflicts.
  - iii. *a magnification of inequities* based on flows of capital, labor, and access to education and technology, as well as the increasing power of multinational corporations and global financial institutions.
  - iv. *a historical legacy of colonization, Western domination, and U.S. hegemony* that continue to shape intercultural relations today.
- b. Intercultural communication is central in our current age.



- i.** Our assumptions and attitudes based on differences in physical appearance condition our responses and shape who we communicate with and build friendships and alliances with.
- ii.** The increased exposure today through interpersonal and mediated communication to people who differ from ourselves deeply affects how we make sense of, constitute, and negotiate our own identities as well as the identities of others.
- iii.** Histories of conflict among groups, structural inequities, and ideological differences frequently frame and inform our intercultural interactions.

**c. Globalization**

- i.** Refers to the complex web of forces and factors that have brought people, cultures, cultural products, and markets, as well as beliefs and practices into increasingly greater proximity to and interrelationship with one another within inequitable relations of power.
- ii.** Used to address both the processes that contribute to and the conditions of living in a world shaped by
  - a.** advances in technology that has brought the world's people spatially and temporally closer together.
  - b.** economic and political forces of advanced capitalism and neoliberalism that have increased flows of products, services, and labor across national boundaries.
  - c.** cultural, economic, and political ideologies that "travel" through public campaigns, the mass media, consumer products, and global institutions.

**V. Intercultural Dimensions of Economic Globalization**

**a. Global business and global markets**

**i. Economic globalization**

- a.** Characterized by a growth in multinational corporations.
- b.** An intensification of international trade and international flows of capital.
- c.** Internationally interconnected webs of production, distribution, and consumption.
- d.** Economic globalization has magnified the need for intercultural awareness, understanding, and training at all levels of business.
- e.** Cultural differences in values, norms, and behaviors play a significant role in team building, decision making, job satisfaction, marketing, and advertising.
- f.** Examples: The popular Pepsi slogan "Pepsi Brings You Back to Life." The slogan, translated into Chinese, reads, "Pepsi Brings Your Ancestors Back From the Grave." Or Umbro, a sports manufacturing firm, had to

withdraw its new sneakers called the Zyklon after learning that zyklon was the name of the gas used on Jews in the Holocaust.

g. Example: “Konglish” in corporate slogans damages the image of Korean companies.

**b. Free trade and economic liberalization**

**i. *Economic liberalization***—also known as trade liberalization, or *free trade*.

a. Economic policies that increase the global movement of goods, labor, services, and capital with less restrictive tariffs (taxes) and trade barriers.

b. The movement of goods, labor, services, and capital is increasingly unrestricted by tariffs (taxes) and trade barriers.

c. Developed nations, or first world nations, used protectionist policies (taxation of foreign made products and service) until they accumulated enough wealth to benefit from free trade.

i. Until the past 35 to 45 years, the United States opposed “free trade” policies in an effort to protect U.S. jobs, products, and services.

d. ***Free Trade Agreements*** liberalize trade by reducing trade tariffs and barriers transnationally.

e. ***Neoliberalism*** is an economic and political theory promoting free trade, privatization of natural resources and institutions, reliance on the individual, and minimal government intervention or support for social services.

a. The use of the term *liberalism* is often confused with the term *liberal*, but the two are most often at opposite ends of ideological spectrums in relation to political and economic policies.

f. Moving manufacturing sectors and service sectors to offshore locations with cheaper labor and less business and environmental regulations.

g. ***NAFTA*** (The North American Free Trade Agreement) by Canada, Mexico, and the United States was signed in January 1994 to support the free movement of goods, services, and capital without trade or tariff barriers.

i. The implications of its policies remain highly controversial and contested.

ii. It is important to be aware of the broader economic context that propels and shapes intercultural interactions today.

- iii. It is critical to underscore how different actors on the global stage experience and make meaning about economic globalization in vastly different ways.
- c. Global financial institutions and popular resistance
  - i. **World Trade Organization (WTO)**
    - a. In 1995, the WTO was formed as a successor to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.
    - b. WTO supervises and liberalizes international trade.
    - c. General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (now the WTO), the IMF, and the WB were set up immediately following World War II to maintain global economic stability and to address poverty through development.
    - d. Economic globalization has resulted in
      - a. increased business transactions.
      - b. economic interdependence.
      - c. a need for intercultural communication skills in business and workplace.
      - d. increased economic disparities between the wealthy and the poor not only globally but also within the United States.
  - d. Textbox: Communicative dimensions: Communication and globalization
    - i. The textbox addresses the relationship between three types of globalization (cultural, economic, and political) and communication.
    - ii. The focus is on the central role and impact of communication in globalization.

## **VI. Intercultural Dimensions of Political Globalization**

- a. Democratization and militarism
  - i. **Democratization** refers to the transition from an authoritarian to a democratic political system that ensures the universal right to vote.
  - ii. Francis Fukuyama (1992) argues that Western liberal democracy has been universalized and human history has reached the end of ideological evolution.
  - iii. In 1974, 39 of the world's 165 countries were democracies. By 1990, that number had risen to 76. By 2008, 121 of the 193 countries were technically seen as democracies using popular sovereign elections as the sole criteria to define "democracy".
    - a. While a correlation between free market capitalism and democratic governance exists, there is also evidence that the two are in conflict.
    - b. True free market capitalism inevitably results in the inequitable distribution of wealth and resources, which

is fundamentally undemocratic and tends to produce tension and unrest that destabilizes democracies.

**iv.** Advances in communication technologies, like the Internet and social media sites, connect and mobilize protestors both within and across cultures.

**a.** Vandana Shiva coined the term *Earth Democracy*, which refers to democracy grounded in the needs of the people and a sustainable, peaceful relationship with the planet, as opposed to free market democracy, which relies on wars against the Earth, the natural resources, and the people.

**b.** Ideological wars

**i. Ideology:** A set of ideas and beliefs reflecting the needs and aspirations of individuals, groups, classes, or cultures, which form the basis for political, economic, and other systems.

**ii.** International conflicts are caused by, or framed as, the clash of ideologies.

**iii.** Examples: 9/11 attacks, “war on terror,” and the histories of U.S. intervention in the Middle East.

**iv.** Example: Islamic State in Iraq and Syria.

**v.** Globalization is shaped by the tension between contradictory ideologies of inclusion and exclusion.

**vi.** Ideological wars

**a.** impact intercultural communication.

**b.** employ false dichotomies to galvanize the public.

**c.** often scapegoats one group for the challenges and ills of a society.

**c.** Global governance and social movements

**i.** Questions of governance at global, national, state, and local levels are closely linked to intercultural communication.

- a. It is important to address the question of who gets to govern whom, what kind of decisions are made, and how.
  - b. Developed nations control the decision-making process of the IMF and the WB.
  - c. Individuals and groups have also come together to organize movements against the domination of global financial and political institutions.
- ii. Global governance is shaped by contradictory forces of democratization, Western dominance, and grassroots resistance.

## **VII. Intercultural Dimensions of Cultural Globalization**

### **a. Migration and cultural connectivities**

- i. We live in “a world in motion,” where people and cultures move across places (Inda & Rosaldo, 2001, p. 11).
- ii. ***Culture as de-territorialized***: Culture in the context of globalization where cultural subjects and cultural objects are uprooted from their situatedness in a particular physical, geographic location.
- iii. ***Culture as re-territorialized***: Culture in the context of globalization where cultural subjects and cultural objects are relocated in new, multiple, and varied geographic spaces.
- iv. The way people connect with their culture and cultivate a sense of home is changing due to the following reasons:
  - a. Communication technology.
  - b. Frequent trips home.
  - c. International economic and social networks.
  - d. ***Remittances*** or financial support sent to a distant location.
  - e. ***Diasporic communities***: Groups of people who have been forced to leave their homeland and who maintain a longing for—even if only in their imagination—a return to “home.”
  - f. Example: The expulsion and dispersion of the Jews during the Babylonian Exile in 700 BCE.
  - g. Example: The African diaspora that forcibly uprooted and transplanted Africans to the Americas and the Caribbean during the period of British colonization.
  - h. Example: The Armenian diaspora in the early part of the 20th century that resulted in the genocide of approximately 1.5 million Armenian.
- i. Globalization enables a sense of community beyond and across national borders.

- b. Cultural flows and unequal power relations**
  - i. *Cultural imperialism*:** The domination of one culture over others through cultural forms such as popular culture, media, and cultural products.
  - ii. Cultural imperialism is shaped by unequal power relations and cultural flows.**
    - a. Example:** Starbucks has 23,000 coffee houses in 65 countries outside North America.
    - b. McDonald's** spread around the world.
    - c. Coca Cola** is ubiquitous in even the most remote areas.
    - d. Mickey Mouse** the most internationally recognized figure.
  - iii. Unequal and asymmetrical flows of culture have various implications for local and national cultures.**
    - a. Americanization:** Global cultural homogenization by U.S. American culture, such as McDonald's and Disney.
    - b. Local industries** are affected by the dominance of U.S. corporations and products.
    - c. Local traditions and national cultures** are altered or lost due to the presence of American culture.
    - d. Example:** In France, there is an active resistance to how U.S. popular culture, the English language, and fast-food chains have invaded the physical and representational landscape of the country.
    - e. Example:** In China, marketing targeted at children by McDonald's and Disney disrupts cultural norms of parental authority, where children are informed through mass advertising that they can make choices about what they want independent of their parents.
    - f. Example:** In India, the production and consumption of Barbie dressed in a sari (traditional Indian dress) advances notions of universal female subjectivity that is essentially bound to White American norms and values and yet is "veiled" in Indian attire.
  - iv. John Tomlinson (1999)** argues that cultural imperialism in the context of globalization is a continuation of earlier forms of imperialism that existed between the 16th and 19th centuries.
  - v. Cultural imperialism** is a site where the forces of cultural homogenization and resistance coexist.
- c. Hybrid cultural forms and identities**
  - i. *Hybrid cultural forms*:** A new and distinct cultural form that is created by a mix of different cultures and an appropriation of other cultural forms based on local knowledge and practice.
    - a. This notion** describes how U.S. and Western cultural forms get modified and appropriated for the local audience.





# **Intercultural Communication: Globalization and Social Justice**

## **Chapter 2: Understanding the Context of Globalization**



# + Chapter Objectives

- Describe the complex and contradictory influences of globalization on intercultural communication.
- Explain the important role history plays in shaping intercultural communication today.
- Explain how relationships of power impact intercultural communication in our everyday lives.
- Identify the intercultural dimensions of economic, political and cultural globalization.



# Scenarios: ICC in the Context of Globalization

- Scenario 1: ICC in Interpersonal Relationships
  - Hamza, an international student from Morocco
  - Cathy, immigrated to the U.S. four years ago from France
  - Immaculee, immigrated from Rwanda seventeen years ago
- What challenges and opportunities can you identify?
- Scenario 2: ICC in International Trade
  - Brazil, Mexico, Argentina and Chile lead Latin America in reducing trade barriers
  - Australia is major trading partner with the countries
- What are the benefits and challenges of international trade?



# Scenarios: ICC in the Context of Globalization

- Scenario 3: ICC through the Media
  - Amitabh Bachchan, internationally revered Indian film
  - Well-known around the world except the U.S.
  - Fans in Russian wear Indian dress and wore the bindi
- What are the ICC issues here?
- Scenario 4: ICC in Activism
  - 1999 Protest against the WTO
  - Environmentalists, labor unions, teachers, students & citizens from around the world
  - “What they all seem to agree on is that giant corporations have gone too far in gaining control over their lives...”

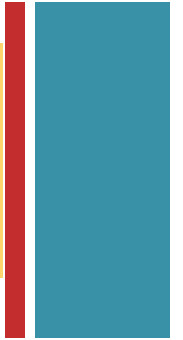


# Scenarios: ICC in the Context of Globalization

- Scenario 5: ICC in Romantic Relationships
  - Grace, a Filipina American, goes to Italy to meet her Italian boyfriend's parents
  - When they meet, his parents say, “But where is your girlfriend—the American? Why did she send the maid?”
- What issues are influencing Grace's interaction with her boyfriend's parents?
- Based on all 5 scenarios, what generalization can you make about ICC in the context of globalization?



# The Role of History in ICC



- Broad historical context is vital for understanding ICC today
- The European Colonial Period
  - Established Europe as center/Colonies as periphery
  - Propelled the development of capitalism
  - Depended upon exploitation of labor (slave trade; servitude)
  - Transformed global migration patterns through trade
- The Era of Globalization
  - Continues notion of the “West and the Rest”
  - Propelled by capitalism
  - Dependent upon exploitative labor and migration for labor
  - Dependent on expanding markets/trade



# The Role of Power in ICC

- Global movements of people, products, cultural forms, representations are shaped/controlled by relationships of power
  - Who controls the media?
  - Who governs global institutions?
  - Whose voices are heard, and whose voices are silenced?
- Access, availability, and visibility of different cultures reflect power relations among cultures
- Examples?



# Globalization

- The complex web of forces and factors that bring people, cultures, cultural products, markets, as well as beliefs and practices into increasingly greater proximity to and inter-relationship with one another.
- What are some of the forces and factors?
- Advances in communication technologies
- Advances in transportation technologies
- Economic and political policies and practices



# Globalization is characterized by:

- An increasingly dynamic, mobile world
- An intensification of interaction
- A rapidly growing global interdependence
- A magnification of inequities
- An historical legacy of colonization, Western domination, and U.S. hegemony
- What evidence do you see of this in your everyday lives?





# Economic Globalization: ICC Dimensions

- Global Business and Global Markets
  - Growth in Multinational corporations
  - An intensification of international trade and flows of capital
  - Interconnected webs of production, distribution, and consumption.
  - Magnified need for intercultural awareness, understanding, and training at all levels of business
- Implications for IC?
- Cultural differences in values, norms, behaviors play a major role in:
  - Team-building
  - Decision-making
  - Job satisfaction
  - Marketing and advertising



# Economic Globalization: ICC Dimensions

- Free Trade/Economic Liberalization
  - Free Trade Agreements
  - NAFTA
- Implications of policies are highly controversial and contested
  - Arguments for NAFTA/Free Trade Agreements?
  - Arguments against NAFTA/Free Trade Agreements?
- Implications for ICC?
  - Propels and displaces people from the cultures/countries of origin
  - Creates inequitable dynamics for intercultural communication
  - Different people on global stage experience globalization very differently



# Neoliberalism

- An economic and political theory promoting:
  - Free trade
  - Privatization of natural resources and institutions,
  - Reliance on the individual and minimal government intervention or support for social services.
- The use of the term “liberalism” is often confused with the term “liberal,” but the two are most often at opposite ends of ideological spectrums in relation to political and economic policies.



# Economic Globalization: ICC Dimensions

- **Global Financial Institutions and Popular Resistance**
  - **Increased control through global bodies**
    - WTO
    - World Bank
    - IMF
- Popular resistance
- Implications for ICC?
  - Increased disparity within and across cultural groups
  - Increased intercultural alliances for social justice



# Political Globalization: ICC Dimensions

- Democratization
  - Transition from an authoritarian to a democratic political system that ensures the universal right to vote.
- Globalization can have a democratizing tendency
  - Evident in the Middle East (Egypt, Libya)
- Implications for ICC?
  - Increased access and freedom across national cultures
  - Rapid expansion of free market democracy can lead to inter-ethnic conflict



# Political Globalization: ICC Dimensions

- Ideological Wars
- Ideology: a set of ideas and beliefs reflecting the needs and aspirations of individuals, groups, classes or cultures, which form the basis for political, economic and other systems.
- Implications for ICC:
  - International conflicts are caused by, or framed as, the clash of ideologies.
  - Often employ false dichotomies to galvanize the public.
    - “Us” vs. “Them”
  - Often scapegoats one cultural/ethnic group for the challenges and ills of a society.
    - Mexican migrants; Arabs, etc.



# Political Globalization: ICC Dimensions

- Global Governance and Social Movements
- Who is governing? Who is making decisions?
- Developed/ 1<sup>st</sup> world nations control
  - Set up rules that benefit their interests
  - Elites from developing/3<sup>rd</sup> world also benefit
  - Yet, grassroots resistance movements are growing
- Global governance is shaped by contradictory forces of democratization, Western dominance, and grassroots resistance



# Cultural Globalization: ICC Dimensions



- Migration and Cultural Connectivities
- Culture as de-territorialized
  - Culture and people are removed from their geographic location of origin
    - Examples?
- Culture as re-territorialized
  - Culture and people are relocated and adapted in new geographic spaces
    - Examples?
- ICC implications?
  - Connections to cultural “homes” are changing; multiple “homes”
  - Diasporic communities are increasing
  - Multiple cultural identities





# Cultural Globalization: ICC Dimensions



- Cultural flows in the context of unequal power relations
- Cultural imperialism
  - The domination of one culture over others
    - Starbucks has 16,000 coffeehouses in 50 countries outside North America,
    - McDonald's spread around the world.
    - Coca Cola is ubiquitous in even the most remote areas
    - Mickey Mouse the most internationally recognized figure
- Cultural imperialism occurs through cultural forms such as pop culture, media, and cultural products



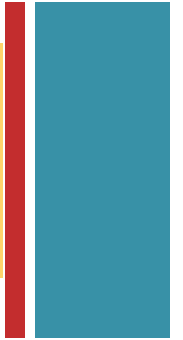
# Cultural Globalization: ICC Dimensions



- Americanization
  - Global cultural homogenization with U.S. American culture
  - Examples: McDonald's, Disney, music, fashion, etc.
- Implications of ICC?
  - Asymmetrical understanding of different cultures
  - Local cultures are lost
  - Resistance to U.S. /Western dominance
  - Expectations of cultural similarity



# Cultural Globalization: ICC Dimensions



## Hybrid cultural forms

- New and distinct cultural forms created by a mix of different cultures and appropriation of other cultural forms based on local knowledge and practice.
- Cultural products (movies, fashion, etc.) are interpreted and used differently by different groups of people. Example: Reggaeton
- Hybrid cultures/hybrid cultural forms as resistance
  - Employed out of fear of total assimilation
  - Means of cultural maintenance



# Summary

- This chapter addressed:
  - The role of history in ICC
  - The role of power in ICC
  - The definition of globalization
  - Intercultural Dimensions of:
    - Political globalization
    - Economic globalization
    - Cultural globalization