

LDSP 307 Leadership in International Contexts

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Fall 2006
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Purpose

The purpose of this course is to examine leadership in an international or global context.

Course Objectives

- + survey the geography of the world and the political leaders in it
- + understand the common origins of leadership
- + examine leadership *in* other cultures and *across* cultures
- + understand how cultural values, environment, and history shape leadership

Course Description

This course looks at leadership in the context of geography, culture, and history. It examines globalization as a means of understanding the requirements of leadership locally and internationally. The course is divided into four main areas. The first concerns the role of leaders in conflicts that exist in today's world. The second area examines the origins of leadership in human society and the varieties of leadership in human history. The third segment is about who runs the world and how various leaders fit in the context of their geography, history, and environment. The last part looks at how globalization impacts on the way that people think about leaders and leadership. The course will entertain a variety of questions, such as: Do leaders shape history and culture or do history and culture shape leaders? How do people in other cultures define leadership and what do they consider good leadership? What kinds of people lead countries in today's world? Is democratic leadership best for people in all cultures? The class is designed as an exploration course. Students will be doing research that contributes to the class throughout the semester.

Required Texts

P. O'Meara, H.D. Mehlinger, and M. Krain, eds., *Globalization and the Challenges of a New Century: A Reader*, (Bloomington, IN: University of Indiana Press, 2000). Referred to as "text".

Jarred Diamond," *Guns, Germs, and Steel* (New York: Norton, 1999). Referred to as "Diamond".

Wole Soyinka, *Death and the King's Horseman*, (New York: Hill and Wang, 1994).

Additional course readings will be provided. Referred to as "ACR".

Requirements

Film Assignment	10%
2 Exams (20% each)	40
State of World Leadership Project	40
Participation	10
Geography test	P/F Jan. 24 & Jan. 31
Additional maps at	http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/americas.htm

Grading Policy: All assignments will be handed in at the beginning of class. Late assignments will not be accepted. Computer and printer malfunctions are not excuses for late papers, so be careful. Unexcused absences, late arrival to class, will affect participation grade.

Course Schedule

Jan. 17 I. Course Overview
http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/world_maps/world_pol_2005.pdf

Part I. Global Tensions

Jan. 19 "The Clash of Civilizations?" by Samuel Huntington text, pp. 3-22
"The Summoning," by Fouad Ajami, text pp. 63-70

Jan. 24 Geography Test I (study site www.sheppardsoftware.com)
"Jihad vs. McWorld," by Benjamin Barber, text pp. 23-33
"The Myth of Global Ethnic Conflict," by John R. Bowen, text pp. 79-89

Jan. 26 Case Study: John Bolton, U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations
Letter: Diplomats Against John Bolton
<http://www.diplomatsagainstbolton.com/>
"Why John Bolton is Right for the United Nations," by Brett D. Schaefer
<http://www.heritage.org/Press/Commentary/ed040805e.cfm>
"International Organizations," The Heritage Foundation
<http://www.heritage.org/research/features/Issues2004/intl-org.cfm>
"Bolton in A China Shop," by Jennifer Senior
<http://newyorkmetro.com/nymetro/news/politics/international/features/15457/index5.html>
The Melody Townsel Letter
<http://www.dailykos.com/story/2005/4/15/101542/050>
Reservations about the United Nations
http://www.americans-world.org/digest/global_issues/un/un6.cfm

Jan. 27 **Students are required to attend the talk by UN Ambassador John Bolton at 11:45 Jepson Alumni Center**

Jan. 31 Geography Test II
"The Politics of Globalization," by Kofi Annan, text pp. 125-130
Visitor: Dr. Valter Moreno from Ibemec, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Feb. 2 "The Rise of the Region State," by Kenichi Ohmae, text pp. 93-100
"Organized Chaos," by David Keen, text pp.140-148
"Postmodern Terrorism," by Walter Laqueur, text pp. 149-158

Part II. The Origins of Leaders and Ideas of Leadership

Feb. 7 "Yali's Question" & "Up to the Starting Line" and "A Natural Experiment of History," Diamond pp. 13-15 & 35-66

Feb. 9 "Public Goods and Private Gifts," by Matt Ridley from *The Origins of Virtue* (Penguin Books, 1996) pp. 103-124 ACR

Feb. 14-16 "The Origins of Pristine States," by Marvin Harris from *Cannibals and Kings* (Random House, 1977) pp. 69-82 ACR
"From Egalitarianism to Klepocracy," Diamond pp. 265-292
http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/australia/oceania_ref02.jpg
Video Case: Disappearing World Series: The Kawelka

Feb. 21 "International Economics: Unlocking the Mysteries of Globalization," by Jeffrey Sachs, text pp. 217-226
"The Rise of Illiberal Democracy," by Fareed Zakaria, text pp. 181-195

Feb. 23 "Summary of The GLOBE Study," by Mansour Javidan, Robert J. House, and Peter W. Dorfman from *Culture, Leadership and Organizations: Globe Study of 62 Societies* (Sage, 2004) pp. 9-27 ACR
Review for Exam

Feb. 28 **Exam**

Part III: Leaders of the World

Mar. 2 No Class: Ethics Bowl (Made-up on January 27)

Mar. 7 &9 Spring Break

Mar. 14 *Death and the Kings Horseman*, by Wole Soyinka (all of it)

Mar. 16 &21 "How Africa Became Black," Diamond pp. 376-401
Leaders in Africa map site
http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/africa/africa_pol_2003.jpg

Mar. 23 "Defining Leadership," from *Leadership: An Islamic Perspective*, (Amana Publications, 1999) pp. 5-36 ACR
Leaders in the Middle East Map site
http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/middle_east_and_asia/middle_east_pol_2003.jpg

Mar. 28 & 30 "How China Became Chinese," Diamond pp. 322-333
Leadership in Asia map site
http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/middle_east_and_asia/asia_pol00.jpg

Apr. 4 Readings to be announced
Leadership in Europe
http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/europe/europe_ref04.jpg

Part IV. Is there An Emerging "Global Culture" of Leadership?

Apr. 6 "Neo-Liberalism and Globalization," by the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement, text pp. 282-286
"Hemispheres Colliding," Diamond pp. 354-375
Leadership in South & Central America
http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/americas/south_america_ref04.jpg
http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/americas/central_america_ref02.jpg
Last date for film paper

Apr. 11 "The gender and Labor Politics of Postmodernity," by Aihwa Ong, text pp. 253-281
"Global Women Political Leaders: An Invisible History, An Increasingly Important Future," Adler, Nancy J., *Leadership Quarterly*, 7(1), (JAI Press, 1996), pp. 133-161 ACR

Apr. 13 No class (Made up by film assignment.)

Apr. 18 "Four Faces of Global Culture," by Peter Berger text pp. 419-427
"English Rules," Madelaine Drohan and Alan Freeman, text pp. 428-34
"The New Linguistic Order," text pp. 435-442

Apr. 20 "Was Democracy Just a Moment?" by Robert D. Kaplan text pp. 196-214
"In Praise of Cultural Imperialism," by David Rothkopf, text pp. 443-453
"Culture Wars," by *The Economist*, text 454-460

Apr. 25 **Exam**

Apr. 27 Conclusion

Assignments

General Instructions for Writing Papers

All papers should be typed and double-spaced. Papers will **not** be accepted via email unless by permission of the professor. Papers should **include page numbers**, appropriate citations, and a signed honor pledge at the end. To get a passing grade, you must follow the instructions for the assignments. If you do not understand the instructions, ask the professor. Late papers **will not be accepted** and computer problems are not a valid excuse for late paper.

I. State of the World Leadership Project

In this assignment, you will research the leaders of 10 countries. You will write ten 1-3 page papers on each leader. The basic information about these leaders is easy to find in newspapers, magazines, books, and embassy or country web sites. One place to start is the CIA Factbook, <http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/> another is the online encyclopedia Wikipedia http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page

In this assignment, you will be required to search for what you think is interesting or unique about this leader. A unique aspect of a leader might be his/her background, personality, policies, involvement in current events, and/or behavior. You will also be required to give some basic information about how the leader came into power (elected or other). In class, you will briefly report on the leaders assigned to you. Your report will summarize what you found most distinctive about this leader. You must use at least 5 references for each leader. Make sure that you balance web sites that might be biased with other sources. Leader papers are due in batches of 3 on **3/16, 3/23, and 4/4. The last paper is due on 4/6. Late papers will not be accepted.** Each paper is worth 10 points. The total points from all ten papers will be your grade for the assignment, which is worth 40% of your grade for the class.

II. Film Assignment

View two any two films from the University foreign film series and write a 4-5 page paper on them. You may write about each film individually or discuss them together. Discuss the perspective that the filmmaker takes on his or her subject and reflect on how the film might have been different if it had been made in your country. Discuss any cultural insights that you got from the films. Compare and contrast the behavior and values of the characters in the film with those in your own culture. What values, etc. in the films were universal? The paper should briefly discuss the plot of the film and mainly focus on the assignment questions. Make sure that you use concrete examples from the film to illustrate your observations and impressions of the two films. You should write the paper and hand it in soon after you have seen the second film. **The absolute last day that these papers will be accepted is April 6.**

Kings and Queen (Rois et Riene) France, 2004 Directed by Arnaud Desplechin

January 26, 27, & 29 150 minutes (Not Rated) Language: French

One of the most original and intelligent voices in contemporary film, Arnaud Desplechin traverses the uncharted distance between comedy and tragedy with this exhilarating, two-films-in-one work of intersecting lives and family connections. Invoking everything from Shakespeare and Hitchcock to *Moby Dick*, *A Doll's House*, and *Breakfast at*

Tiffany's, Kings and Queen is the heartbreaking, hilarious melodrama of the intrigues and entanglements of ex-spouses Nora and Ismaël. Nora seems to be a woman in charge of her life: beautiful, accomplished, and ready to embark on a new journey but, she becomes an analogy for the film's theme, a look below the surface shows that what seems to be true isn't always the case. Nora's past is filled with tragedy and she has just learned that her father is dying of cancer. Frantic with grief and consumed with worry, Nora sets out to track down her ex-lover, Ismaël, who has been involuntarily committed to a mental hospital. The story takes a dramatic turn when two *dues ex machine* are introduced and the viewer realizes the story has been filtered exclusively through Nora and Ismaël, two radically self-interested subjectivities. With its vast, kaleidoscopic landscape of motifs and references to mythology, literature, and cinema, *Kings and Queen* is an astonishingly original and thoroughly entertaining treatise on modern human relationships.

A State of Mind United Kingdom, 2003 Directed by Daniel Gordon

February 2, 3, & 5 93 minutes (Not Rated) Language: English

A State of Mind offers a rare and often chilling glimpse into the culture of North Korea, the world's least visited country, where hard-line adherence to Communist ideals is still the order of the day. In documenting the activities of 13-year-old Pak Hyon Sun and 11-year-old Kim Song Yun as they train for the Mass Games, the film offers a perspective on the lives of those around them in a land largely unknown and little understood in the West. Gordon's coverage includes interviews with the girls and their family, giving insight into the North Korean perspective, as they discuss America's invasion of Iraq, the SARS epidemic, and the extreme poverty that took hold of the country after the death of Kim Il Sung in 1994. Whatever political critique the film may contain is left implicit in the jaw-dropping final sequence, a mass celebration of nationalism, athleticism and ideological unity, bringing together more than 100,000 performers, who have spent millions of hours preparing for the event. Huge teams of brightly costumed acrobats tumble and leap in precise unison as children bearing colored flashcards create ever shifting backdrop images of battles, slogans and the omnipresent faces of Kim Il Sung the "Great Leader" who died in 1994, and his son Kim Jong-il, the current leader. The clincher is an irony that doesn't escape Gordon: after prepping all year to serve their Dear Leader at the Pyongyang Games, Kim simply fails to show up.

Brothers (Brodre) Denmark, 2004 Directed by Susanne Bier

February 9, 10, & 12 110 minutes (Rated R)

Winner of the Audience Award for World Cinema at the 2005 Sundance Film Festival, Danish filmmaker Susanne Bier's gripping psychological drama examines shifting dynamics between two very different brothers. Michael is a caring husband and father who rose to the rank of major in the Danish Army, while Jannik is an alcoholic with a violent streak. Jannik has just been released from prison when Michael learns he is being deployed to Afghanistan. Within a short time, Michael's helicopter is shot down and his wife Sarah is told he was killed. His presumed death changes the balance of power virtually overnight. Jannik summons previously untapped maturity and tries to do what he sees as his duty: To be kind to Sarah, to be a good uncle to the children, and to help around the house. Sarah and Jannik grow closer and their mutual dependence and admiration intensifies, but a world away, Michael is alive, enduring the unimaginable in hopes of surviving to return home. He is treated badly by his captors and dealt a grave punishment when he is forced to make an impossible choice. Eventually Michael is freed

and returns home, to find things different. He is no longer able to subtly condescend to his screwed-up little brother, because Jannik has changed. And Michael has changed, too, distraught, guilty and no longer in total control, the changed power triggers his suspicion and boiling jealousy.

The Edukators Austria/Germany, 2004 Directed by Hans Weingartner

February 16, 17, & 19 124 minutes (Rated R)

Berlin student Jule is hopelessly indebted due to a rich businessman after hitting his Mercedes with expired insurance. Evicted from her flat, she moves in with her boyfriend Peter and learns that Peter and his flat mate, Jan, break into luxurious mansions at night to fulfill their anti-globalization agenda. Rather than stealing, as the Edukators, they stack furniture and collector's pieces in piles and leave obscure notes. Jule convinces Peter and Jan that they should hit the home of Hardenberg, the businessman to whom she is paying off the onerous debt. The plan goes awry when Jule realizes she left her cell phone behind and the group is forced to return. Hardenberg has unfortunately also returned and the threesome becomes accidental kidnappers, fleeing with their seemingly heartless captain of industry into the mountains of Austria. When their "capitalist pig" hostage outs himself as a former commune dweller and a radical leftist, the Edukators find themselves reexamining their own motives and actions. A sweet, funny and gripping romantic adventure, *The Edukators* is about the limitations of political activism and the state of political idealism.

The Other World (L'Autre Monde) ALgeria/France, 2001 Directed by Merzak Allouache

February 23, 24, & 26 97 minutes (Not Rated)

Having received word that her lover, Rachid, a French soldier sent to Algeria, has disappeared in the dangerous countryside, French-born Algerian, Yasmine, decides to leave Paris to search for him. Though only a couple of decades have passed since her parents left Algeria for France, the country of her ancestors is wholly foreign to her, Islamic fundamentalism has swept the country, and Yasmine finds herself caught somewhere between her open-minded attitudes as a modern French woman and the Algerian Muslim traditions with which she was raised. After receiving a tip from an army officer that Rachid was last seen in the desert region, an area dominated by extremist Islamic insurgents, she journeys to the area despite his stern warnings and inability to speak Arabic. Yasmine immediately finds herself in a series of dangerous misadventures, the only positive encounter she has is with a smitten young terrorist, Hakim, who protects her through her journeys. But, when Yasmine is finally reunited with her handsome lover, Hakim's resulting jealousy has tragic repercussions. A tense and timely thriller that also serves as a political and moral allegory, The Hollywood Reporter's Frank Scheck describes *The Other World* as "a powerful portrait of the sort of apocalyptic culture clash that is resulting in an increasingly dangerous and fragmented world."

The Rider Named Death (Vsadnik Po Imeni Smert) Russia, 2004 Directed by Karen Shakhnazarov

March 16, 17, & 19 106 minutes (Not Rated)

Near the dawn of the 20th century, with the Russian Revolution lurking on the horizon, George is the steely leader of a group of socialists determined to bring down the Russian monarchy through any means necessary-including violence. In the 23-year run-up to

1917, some 17,000 Russian officials and blue bloods were blown up or shot down by rebel groups, but in *The Rider Named Death* the killers are bumbling losers, attempting again and again to take out a particular grand duke. Hesitancy, religious debates, ill-made explosives-Georges watches glumly as his mini-army of four continuously fails, leaving him to complete the task and, naturally, ask himself for what, exactly, he's so determined to spill blood. There is an unmistakably philosophical bent to the group's discussions, often conducted in sumptuous nightclubs over vodka and caviar. The source of the terrorists' financial support is as obscure as the origin of their social outrage, since poverty and oppression are seen only in the abstract. Despite the philosophical burden it assumes, *The Rider Named Death* remains a vaguely political costume drama, based on Socialist agitator Boris Savinkov's autobiographical novel, a museum piece that takes place in an exquisitely recreated Moscow of nearly a century ago.

My Mother's Smile (Il Sorriso di Mia Madre) Italy, 2002 Directed by Marco Bellocchio
March 23, 24, & 26 102 minutes (Not Rated)

Much like his conflicted protagonist, director Marco Bellocchio simultaneously questions his abandonment of faith and skewers the bureaucratic absurdities of the Catholic establishment, drawing a daring and gently comic picture of the ongoing duel between the secular and the religious, the sacred and the profane. *My Mother's Smile* begins with Ernesto, a well-known painter, learning surprising news: three years previously, his aunt initiated beatification hearings for his not-so-saintly mother, who was murdered by his mentally unstable brother. Now, the Vatican wants to hear testimony from Ernesto, a vehement socialist and atheist. While his family attempts to profit from the pending sainthood, Ernesto takes the brave step of insisting that his mother's murderer, Ernesto's own psychotic brother, be beatified, too. But the Church authorities resent Ernesto's ultimatum and Ernesto then refuses to cooperate with their demands. This sets off a chain of events that draws him into a murky, contentious nexus of greedy relatives, decadent priests, deranged aristocrats and one possible savior-his son's ethereally beautiful religion teacher.

Untold Scandal South Korea, 2003 Directed by EJ-Yong
March 30, 31, & April 2 124 minutes (Not Rated)

Writer and director E J-Yong transposes the classic French novel *Dangerous Liaisons* to Korea during the repressive 18th century Chosun Dynasty for his costume drama, *Untold Scandal*. He has set the tale of deception in a period when the worn-out rules of Confucianism were giving way to new expressions of independence. The ruling class lives in incredible comfort and beauty served by countless numbers of underlings. Lady Cho decides to get revenge on her husband when he procures the services of a young, virginal concubine, So-ok. She asks her womanizing cousin, Cho-won, to seduce the girl and impregnate her. Cho-won doesn't see this as enough of a challenge. He has his sights set on an honorable young widow, Lady Chung, nicknamed "The Gate of Chastity," for nine years she has maintained her chastity following the untimely death of her husband. Lady Cho makes a wager with Cho-won, offering herself to him if he provides proof that he has succeeded in seducing the widow. While Cho-won struggles to ingratiate himself to Lady Chung, manipulating her handmaiden, and donating money to her Catholic church, Lady Cho works to get the innocent So-ok in trouble. But things take an unexpected turn when Cho-won begins to develop genuine feelings for his prey.