Lingnan University
Department of Philosophy – MA in Practical Philosophy Programme

Course Title: Globalization and Justice
Course Code: PHI505
Recommended Study Year: -
No. of Credits/Term: 3
Mode of Tuition: Lecture and Tutorial
Class Contact Hours: 2 hours lecture per week
1 hour tutorial per week
Category in Major Programme: Value Philosophy
Prerequisite(s): -
Co-requisite(s): -
Exclusion(s): -
Exemption Requirement(s): -

Brief Course Description
This course explores the global nature of contemporary social change. It pays particular attention to
the continuing struggle for development in poor countries, the relationship between globalization
and inequality, the fate of cultural diversity in a globalizing world, and issues of economic justice,
the environment, and human rights. Central themes of the course are Individual Responsibility in a
Global Age, World Poverty and Global Economic Justice, Nationalism and Special Allegiances,
Democracy and National Interests, and the Limits of Domestic Political Theories.

Aims
To assist students, through a philosophical approach, to become more aware of the emerging ethical
and political problems in relation to globalization. Students’ ability to think both independently and
critically over these issues will also be enhanced.

Learning Outcomes
This course is aimed at providing to students the analytical as well as critical skills, to gain an
awareness of emerging ethical and political issues in relation to globalization. Students’ ability to
think both independently and critically over these issues will also be enhanced. After completion of
the course students ought to possess a basic foundation central to ethical issues inherent to
globalization. They should also be able to confront a range of issues in a thoughtful and critical
manner.

Indicative Content
Many of us believe that we have obligation to the needy who are residing within the same national
boundary as we do. But how about those strangers who are residing outside our national frontiers?
Do we have the same obligation to alleviate their suffering as we have towards people we know?
The result of globalization connects our fate with the people who live far away from us. How does
this bring about a change in the structure of our moral order in the world? How far would our
treasured democratic values place burden on us towards the eradication of the global poverty that
we confront nowadays? How should we live in order to be responsible agents in the world?

Teaching Method
Lecture and Tutorial

Measurement of Learning Outcomes
The realization of the abovementioned competencies should allow students to better view global
power relationships, as well as the kinds of contemporary global issues that are constantly arising.
Students are expected to demonstrate these skills through the group projects, assignments, and
examination papers within the course.

1. Students will give oral presentations on assigned readings. They are expected to summarize, paraphrase and respond critically to the arguments in these texts.
2. Students will write a philosophical essay, the topics of which correspond to the contents of the lectures. They are expected to present their interpretations and criticisms effectively.
3. The examination will assess students’ basic knowledge of globalization and issues arise from globalization.

**Assessment**
50% Continuous Assessment
50% Final Examination

**Required Readings**
- Peter Singer, One World: The Ethics of Globalization (Yale University Press, 2002).

**Supplementary Readings**
- Peter L. Berger and Samuel P. Huntington, eds., Many Globalizations: Cultural Diversity in the Contemporary World (Oxford University Press, 2002).