Syllabus Excerpts from Sociology Courses with an International Focus:

SOCI (329) Globalization and International NGOs—Dr. Laura Heideman
International non-governmental organizations (INGOs) have rapidly increased in number over the last 30 years. In this class, we will examine the emergence of these organizations, the roles that they play in addressing global social problems, and their relationships with social movements, communities, governments, and international institutions.

SOCI (335) Migration – Dr. Abu Bah
Examines the national and international dynamics of migration, the causes and effects of migration, migration policies, and the experiences of immigrant communities in the United States and beyond.

SOCI (352) Population – Dr. Carol Walther
This course explores the field of demography, focusing on theories and the population processes of mortality, fertility and migration with an emphasis on population movement and migration. Special attention is given to the effect of globalization on migration, migration streams, documented and undocumented migration, and assimilation of migrants. This course will focus on understanding the similarities and differences among immigrant groups who migrate with different social and human capital. The course also addresses immigration policies in the U.S. The course specifically focuses upon immigration from Latin American and East Asian countries.

SOCI (361) Race and Ethnicity – Dr. Carol Walther
This course explores the historical and current debates that influence theoretical perspectives between immigration and race relationships.

SOCI (363) Sociology of the Military—Dr. Abu Bah
The course is designed to introduce students to the nature and impact of military institutions at the national and international levels. It examines the nature and organization of the military in relation to democratic/civilian rule and the role of the military in contemporary international security and humanitarian issues. The course also addresses specific social issues that are relevant to the everyday experiences of members of the military.

SOCI (379) Collective Behavior & Social Movements – Dr. Diane Rodgers
This course will provide you with a background in the definitions, theories and analysis of collective behavior and social movements. You will learn how to apply analysis to particular social movements, local, national and international.

SOCI (457/557) Families in Global Perspective – Dr. Kerry Ferris
In this course we examine the global diversity of family forms and experiences from a sociological perspective. We study the relationship between culture and family, and the ways in which family systems differ in cross-cultural, subcultural, and bi-cultural settings. In particular, our focus will be on Hmong and Iranian immigrant families in the U.S. and abroad.

SOCI (459) Political Sociology—Dr. Abu Bah
The seminar explores the nature of political power and the intersections of politics and society at the national and international levels. It provides students advanced introduction to political sociology and connects theoretical works with politically contentious public policy issues. In particular, it addresses notions of power, democracy, state, nation, and security. It also examines the nature of the United States government and politics, including the constitutions, branches of government, electoral system, and federalism. The policy aspects of the course focuses on five politically contentious reform issues, namely: healthcare, education, policing/race, immigration, and national security. The course uses a fine mix of theoretical works, empirical studies, and public information and outreach materials to deepen students’ knowledge and stimulate lively class discussions.

SOCI (495) The Sociology of Terrorism – Dr. Kristopher Robison
This media-intensive course surveys the modern history of terrorism from a global sociological perspective. Videos, readings and writings will be used to develop an understanding of the who, what, when, where, why and how of terrorist groups from around the world.