

17.918

**New Global Agenda:
Exploring 21st Century Challenges through
Innovations in Information Technologies**

READINGS

READINGS BY WEEKLY SESSION

LEC #	TOPICS	READINGS
Week 1: Introducing Technology in International Relations		
1	<p><i>Introductory Session and Trade-Networking Presentation</i></p> <p>Focus: Course overview. We will also discuss how countries are becoming more economically intertwined and what such interconnectedness might mean for international relations.</p>	
2	<p><i>Examples of Technology Advances</i></p> <p>Focus: We will discuss recent technology advances and how they may affect international relations and policies.</p>	<p>Angell, Norman. <i>The Great Illusion</i>. New York, NY: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1912, chapters 1-2.</p> <p>Friedman, Thomas. "The Ten Forces That Flattened the World." Chapter 12 in <i>The World is Flat</i>. New York, NY: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2005. ISBN: 9780374292881.</p>
3	<p><i>Global Agenda! Simulation</i></p> <p>Focus: We will discuss the development of a computer simulation designed to teach students about international relations. We will also brainstorm international relations technology and policy issues and discuss the final project.</p>	<p>Global Agenda!</p> <p>Hughes, Barry. International Futures Web site and demonstrations.</p>
Week 2: Technology in Government, and Vice Versa		

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4	<p><i>Governing the Internet</i></p> <p>Focus: In the previous class we discuss how technology affects governments; in this class we talk about how governance structures should be formed to regulate technology. We will specifically discuss how one developing technology, the Internet, should be regulated.</p>	<p>Palfrey, John G., Jr. "The End of the Experiment: How ICANN's Foray into Global Internet Democracy Failed." <i>The Berkman Center for Internet and Society at Harvard Law School</i>, no. 02 (January 2004). (PDF - 1.1 MB)</p> <p>Siochru, Sean O., Bruce Girard, and Amy Mahan. <i>Global Media Governance</i>. New York, NY: Rowman and Littlefield, 2002, chapters 10-11. ISBN: 9780742515666.</p> <p>Talbot, David. "The Internet Is Broken." <i>Technology Review</i>(December 2005/January 2006): 62-69.</p> <p>World Summit on the Information Society.</p>
5	<p><i>Technology for Government Accountability: Dangers and Opportunities</i></p> <p>Focus: We will discuss how advances in IT are changing government structures and its implications for international relations.</p>	<p>Hague, Barry N., and Brian D. Loader, eds. "Digital Democracy: An Introduction." In <i>Digital Democracy; Discourse and Decision Making in the Information Age</i>. New York, NY: Routledge, 1999. ISBN: 9780415197380.</p> <p>Malina, Anna. "Perspectives on Citizen Democratisation and Alienation in the Virtual Public Sphere." In <i>Digital Democracy; Discourse and Decision Making in the Information Age</i>. Edited by Barry N. Hague and Brian D. Loader. New York, NY: Routledge, 1999. ISBN: 9780415197380.</p>
6	<p><i>System Dynamics and International Relations</i></p> <p>Focus: We have discussed how interconnected the world is becoming. System dynamics can be a useful way for capturing the complexities of such changing international</p>	<p>Choucri, Nazli, Christi Electris, Daniel Goldsmith, Dinsha Mistree, Stuart E. Madnick, J. Bradley Morrison, Michael Siegel, and Margaret Sweitzer-Hamilton. "Understanding</p>

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	relations. Travis Franck will present the latest World-3 Model, a policy analysis tool that allows for simulation of alternative futures.	<p>and Modeling State Stability: Exploiting System Dynamics." MIT Sloan Research Paper No. 4574-06TBD. (January 2006)</p> <p>Meadows, Donella, Jorgen Randers, and Dennis Meadows. <i>Limits to Growth</i>. White River Junction, VT: Chelsea Green Publishing, 2004, preface. ISBN: 9781931498586.</p> <p>Meadows, Donella. <i>The Global Citizen</i>. Washington, DC: Island Press, 1991, pp. 15-17 and 28-33. ISBN: 9781559630580.</p>

Week 3: Wrap-Up

7	<p><i>Knowledge and Information for Sustainable Development</i></p> <p>Focus: Presentation and available opportunities through the Global System for Sustainable Development.</p>	<p>The GSSD Site will be the basis of the discussion. Please browse through it and get a sense of what it's for, and how it can be used.</p>
8	Presentations for Assignment 3	