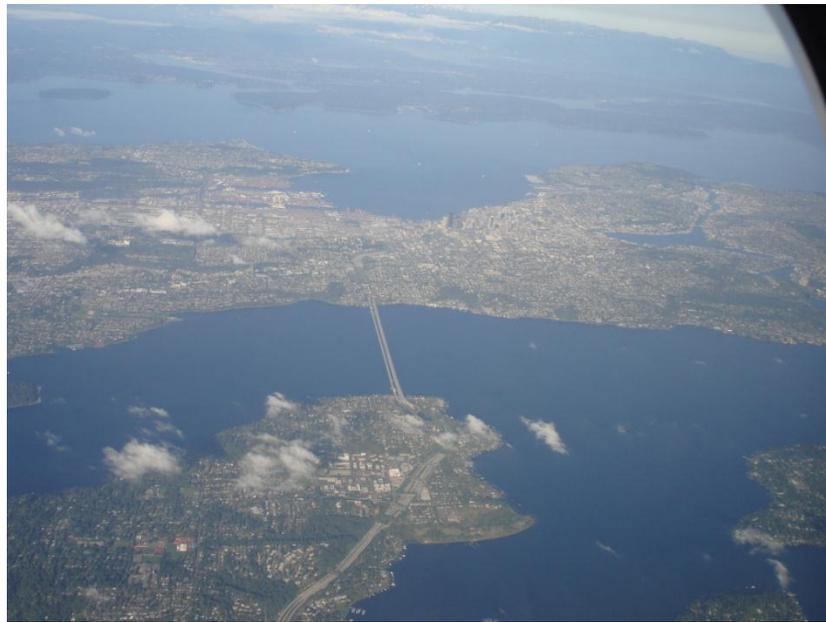


FIELDING GRADUATE UNIVERSITY

HOD DOCTORAL PROGRAM

🌐 ASSESSMENT CONTRACT 🌐

KA*716 – GLOBAL STUDIES



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ASSESSMENT BEGIN DATE: 1 MARCH 2008

ASSESSMENT COMPLETION DATE: 1 JUNE 2008

AGREEMENT IS FOR CREDIT

LEARNING GOALS:

Through the course of this study, I will:

- Enter into an investigation of the broad and timely topic "globalization."
- Become familiar with recent resources - books, journal articles, websites, etc. - that are worth consulting.
- Select one sub-issue within "globalization" - in particular "Peak Oil" - to pursue and comprehend more thoroughly.
- Draw attention to the intrinsic relationship between the Age of Oil and the phenomenon of globalization, such that the following research question may be approached and appreciated: "What will become of globalization in a period of energy descent?"
- Participate in the global discussion of "sustainability" by elaborating projections for the design and development of sustainable settlement models during the anticipated coming scenarios of both energy descent and de-globalization.

READINGS: TEXTS, JOURNALS, AND WEB RESOURCES:

The readings for this Knowledge Area will be distributed among the various interrelated sub-goals of the study, such that understanding will be gleaned from a well-rounded diversity of scales, angles, proportions - and of course, sources.

Approaching the theme of "globalization" most generally, the content of the following texts will be made known:

- Giddens, A. (2000) *Runaway world*. London: Routledge
- Grieder, W. (1999) *One world ready or not: The manic logic of global capitalism*. New York: Penguin
- Korten, D.C. (1999) *The post-corporate world: Life after capitalism*. West Hartford: Kumarian Press [already read]
- O'meara, P., et al., eds. (2000) *Globalization and the challenges of a new century*: Indiana University Press
- Stiglitz, J. (2003) *Globalization and its discontents*. New York: Norton
- Wallerstein, I. (2006) *World-systems analysis: An introduction*. Durham: Duke University Press [already read]

These solid texts by respected authors will provide a strong foundation for understanding the implications, direction and extent of globalization, especially at that critical seed-time - the turn of the millennium. Also, for a general overview that can contribute more directly to conversation with my peers, I will read the "HOD 716 - Selected Introductory Readings" collection that was distributed within the Global Studies seminar at Winter Session 2008.

In order to capture an awareness of where the globalization discussion/debate/justification has arrived in our current day, I will resort to surveying recommended web sources. Of these, five stand out as most influential:

The Globalist: (<http://www.theglobalist.com>)

The Economist: (<http://www.economist.com>)

The World Bank: (<http://www.worldbank.org>)

The United Nations Development Program: (<http://www.undp.org>)

The United Nations Human Settlements Program (UN-HABITAT)
(<http://www.unhabitat.org>)

In order to balance these 'established' voices with a healthy amount of dissent and worldview coverage, the following sources stand out in relief, and will be consulted:

Democracy Now: (<http://www.democracynow.org>)

Al Jazeera: (<http://www.english.aljazeera.net>)

The Guardian: (<http://www.guardian.co.uk>)

As a consequence of previous studies at Fielding, I'm already in the midst of an extended investigation of the phenomenon "Peak Oil" - including the more inclusive study "Energetics" - and so during this current study I will review and refer to some particularly incisive texts, and will indulge afresh a few more, including:

Deffeyes, K.S. (2005) *Beyond oil: the view from Hubbert's peak*.
New York: Hill and Wang

Campbell, C.J. (2004) *The coming oil crisis*. London: Independent
Publishers Group

Heinberg, R. (2003) *The party's over: Oil, war, and the fate of industrial societies*. Gabriola Island, B.C.: New Society [already read]

Heinberg, R. (2004) *Powerdown: Options and actions for a post-carbon world*. Gabriola Island, B.C.: New Society [already read]
Odum, H.T. (1996) *Environmental accounting: EMergy and environmental decision making*. New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc. [already read]
Smil, V. (1991) *General energetics: Energy in the biosphere and civilization*. New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc. [already read]
Smil, V. (1994) *Energy in world history*. Boulder: Westview Press [in process]
Smil, V. (2003) *Energy at the crossroads: Global perspectives and uncertainties*. Cambridge: MIT Press
Smil, V. (2008) *Energy in nature and society: General energetics of complex systems*. Cambridge: MIT Press

And then, a few especially level-headed, websites - set amongst an unfortunate trend toward sensationalism - that provide a steady fare of interesting articles and perspectives on Peak Oil, Peak Gas, Peak Minerals, etc., and their implications, are:

Energy Bulletin: (www.energybulletin.net)
Post Carbon Institute: (www.postcarbon.org)
Association for the Study of Peak Oil and Gas (ASPO):
(www.peakoil.net)

As far as "sustainability," I've approached that theme for so long from so many multi-disciplinary perspectives, that I find most treatments to be rather superficial. In the context of "sustainable settlements," I find the emerging concept of the Urban Village to be exceedingly useful. In that regard, I will read the following texts in preparation for my writing phase:

Magnaghi, A. (2005) *The urban village: A charter for democracy and local self-sustainable development*. Trans. by D. Kerr.
London: Zed Books
Bell, D. and M. Jayne, eds. (2004) *City of quarters: Urban villages in the contemporary city*. Aldershot: Ashgate Publishing

Also, the following anthologies dealing with the more inclusive theme "sustainable cities" are noteworthy, and will be consulted:

Jenks, M., Burton, E. and K. Williams, eds. (1995) *The compact city: A sustainable urban form?* London: Spon [in process]
Jenks, M. and N. Dempsey, eds. (2005) *Future forms and design for*

sustainable cities. Amsterdam: Elsevier [already read]
Thomas, R., ed. (2003) *Sustainable urban design: An environmental Approach*. London: Spon
Williams, K., Burton, E. and M. Jenks, eds. (2000) *Achieving sustainable urban form*. London: Spon

Finally, to keep abreast of the latest ideas flowing at the leading edge of sustainable settlement thinking, planning, development, and implementation, I will consult regularly the following journals:

Urban Studies: An International Journal for Research in Urban and Regional Studies - University of Glasgow
Urban Morphology: International Seminar on Urban Form - University of Birmingham
Journal of Planning Education and Research: SAGE Publications - University of California at Berkeley
Journal of the American Planning Association - Chicago

And a new journal, whose first issue is due out in April, appears to be very appropriate:

Journal of Urbanism: International Research on Placemaking and Urban Sustainability

"Placemaking," by the way, is one of a professed triage of goals for my non-profit Village Design Institute, stated in sub-heading as "Place-making, Co-worlding, Eco-poiesis."

LEARNING PLAN AND DEMONSTRATION OF LEARNING:

OVERVIEW PHASE: During this Phase, I will become familiar with the available literature. I will begin with a broad overview, going first to the anthologies of selected articles on the general theme "globalization." I will gradually get more specific in my study: after "globalization" I will resume a focus on the sub-issue "peak oil;" yet I won't be surveying peak oil randomly: I will be looking especially for articles that can address the role of oil in the shaping of modern settlement patterns. Perhaps a review of energetics through global history will shed some light on the relationship between "energy regime"

and "settlement pattern" over time? Is there some kind of correlation? What do current theorists of sustainable settlement form have to say? Completing the Overview Phase (though not necessarily chronologically), I will search through the journal literature looking for current ideas or conversations that can be translated into sustainable settlement solutions for a period of energy descent *and* a proposed de-globalization. Reference to the various web resources will be conducted daily.

IN-DEPTH PHASE: For the completion of this Phase, I will write at least a thirty-page scholarly paper detailing the results of my findings. This paper will be, in essence, a synthesis of all the research during the Overview Phase. I would like to hypothesize that this synthesis will reveal a direct correlation, or link, or mutually-determining relationship, between energy regime, settlement pattern, and extent of globalization. In the final analysis, I want to offer some design proposals for retrofitting prevailing settlement patterns - especially in North America - during the coming period of energy descent - which will be, if my hypothesis proves valid, concurrently a period of *de*-globalization.

APPLIED PHASE: For my demonstration of learning, I will present a version of my paper at the upcoming conference: "Ecocity World Summit" in San Francisco, April 22-26, 2008. The presentation will be accompanied with a slide-show to provide visuals that can emphasize my points, perspectives, and conclusions. If successful, this presentation and paper will stimulate discussion among peers and may influence the global dialogue concerning sustainable settlement solutions for the 21st century. From what I have gathered, there has not yet been a proposal that addresses adequately the energy equation. Perhaps my Overview will provide more insight?

SPECIFIC SCHOLAR-PRACTITIONER SKILLS TO WORK ON:

- 1) Awareness of alternative perspectives
- 2) Synthesis of ideas
- 3) Appropriate use of reference format
- 4) Appropriate use of primary and secondary references

EXPECTATION OF FACULTY ASSESSOR:

- 1) Clear and explicit communications regarding faculty expectations at the outset of this study
- 2) Reasonable expediency in evaluating materials at the scheduled completion of this study
- 3) Honest, critical, growth-directed objectivity when evaluating materials