

*Payne, chapter 1*

- Understand what we mean by global politics and policy interdependence, and globalization.
- Concept of state or national sovereignty, what it traditionally has meant, and how globalization *may* be challenging and weakening it.
- Notion of non-state actors—including, *e.g.*, NGOs, corporations, institutions, and IGOs—and their potential capacity to influence the decisions of and interactions between states.
- Be able to recall *and* explain some of the examples of non-state actors identified *throughout* the chapter.
- Know the different forms of globalization, and be able to explain some of their possible causes.
- Start thinking about whether or not you believe that the virtues or benefits of globalization outweigh the problems that critics have attributed to it.

*Payne, chapter 2*

- Understand some of the factors that determine a country's power or level of influence in the global system, and think about why states might want to increase their power.
- Be able to explain the difference between a unipolar, bipolar, and multipolar world order.
- Know how economic growth relates to economic power, and how economic power relates to both military power and political influence (China's alleged increase in political power is especially relevant here).
- The role of alliance-formation in preventing individual states from growing too powerful.
- Some of the chief causes why America was allegedly able to establish itself as a hegemonic power, and how the U.S. was able to successfully maintain this status.
- Start thinking about whether or not you believe that the U.S. can and will remain a dominant power in international politics.

*Marber – "Globalization and Its Contents" (2004)*

- This reading introduces some of the issues with international trade and trade liberalization (or greater free trade) that we will discuss in greater detail in week 4.
- Thus, focus on Marber's explanation about how trade liberalization (the diffusion of free-market principles) is a central component of globalization.
- What are some of the effects of globalization that Marber notes?
- What form(s) of globalization (Payne chapter 1) does Marber's discussion speak to?
- Be able to explain some of the chief challenges to the alleged benefits of globalization.