

Global Politics Resources (Edexcel)

Read and Watch

Please see below a list of resources for students who are interested in or already enrolled onto the Global Politics Course. All the resources will help you get a better understanding of the issues we will be studying and most importantly how each part of the course is related to each other.

Please ask permission from your parents/carers for any films above your age.

Textbooks

- Rob Murphy, John Jefferies, Josie Gadsby "Global Politics for A Level" [2017] - You will have access to a copy of this during the course, but if you want to buy instead do so.
- John Jefferies "Global Politics Student Guide 5" [2018]
- John Jefferies "My Revision Notes Edexcel A-level Politics (2020) : Global Politics"
- Andrew Heywood "Global Politics" [2014]
- John Baylis "The Globalization of World Politics" [2016]

More specific studies

For students who really want to engage with the material here are a selection of books that will provoke ideas and stimulate discussion:

- **Amy Chua "World on Fire" [2002]:** World Bank economist argues that the global spread of free market economics creates tension and resentment, which create a much more dangerous, and divided world: possibly vindicated by recent political developments.
- **Amy Chua "Political Tribes – Group Instinct and the Fate of Nations" (2018)**
- **Thomas Friedman "The World is Flat":** Powerful defence of the free market as the route to global prosperity and peace.
- **Henry Kissinger "World Order" [2014]:** A contemporary update of realism by the master of realpolitik.
- **Tim Marshall "Prisoners of Geography" [2016]:** A racy survey of how a nation state's foreign policy is determined by its geographical location. To what extent are world leaders' prisoners of their own geography when they determine foreign policy?
- **Tim Marshall "Divided – Why we're Living in an age of Walls" (2018)**
- **Tim Marshall "Worth Dying For – The Power and Politics of Flags"(2016)**
- **Naomi Klein "No Logo" – (2010)**
- **Naomi Klein "The Shock Doctrine" (2008)**
- **Various authors "System Change not Climate Change" (2019)**
- **Joseph Stiglitz "Globalisation and its Discontents":** Former World Bank vice president condemns the neo-liberal Washington consensus with the zeal of a convert.
- **Guy Verhofstadt "Europe's Last Chance" [2017].** Powerful endorsement of quickening the pace of European integration so that European federalism regains the initiative.
- **Richard Haas "A World in Disarray":** Powerful insight into contemporary politics by the president of the Council on Foreign Relations, "These are no ordinary times. It will not be business as usual in a world of disarray; as a result, it cannot be foreign policy as usual".

Films

War and Conflict

- **Charlie Wilson's War** – Soviet war in Afghanistan and how the Americans were involved in funding the Mujahedeen.
- **Fahrenheit 9/11** – conspiracy theories involving the Bush family and their relations with the Saudi government
- **JFK** – why JFK was shot and the conspiracy theories
- **13 Days** – the Cuban Missile Crisis
- **Black Hawk Down** – conflict in Somalia and US involvement
- **Apocalypse Now** – the Vietnam War (part of a trilogy)
- **The Quiet American** – Vietnam War
- **Heaven and Earth** – part of the *Apocalypse Now* trilogy but from a Vietnamese peasant's point of view.
- **Platoon** – Vietnam War (again! Part 3 of the trilogy!)
- **Goodnight and Good Luck** – the McCarthy era in the USA and communist witch-hunts.
- **Michael Collins** – the IRA
- **The Wind that Shakes the Barley** – politics and tensions in Ireland
- **Tea with Mussolini** – fascism in Italy
- **Che** – two films about the communist revolution in Cuba and the attempted overthrow of Bolivia
- **Motorcycle Diaries**

Poverty and Development

- **The Constant Gardener** – the pharmaceutical industry in Kenya and selling drugs at high rates
- **Syriana** – the oil industry and the ways in which people from LEDCs are exploited
- **Blood Diamond** – Funding of Civil Wars by selling diamonds for guns (links to conflict)

Human Rights and Humanitarian Intervention

- **Hotel Rwanda** – the genocide in Rwanda
- **Shooting Dogs** – the Rwandan genocide
- **Black Hawk Down** – conflict in Somalia and US involvement
- **The Killing Fields** – genocide in Cambodia
- **The Year of Living Dangerously** –
- **Salvador** – American intervention in South American politics
- **The Last King of Scotland** – Human Rights abuses in Uganda under Idi Amin's dictatorship
- **Milk** – about gay rights in America
- **Persephone** – a story about the problems in Iran
- **Waltz with Bashir** – how changes to the leadership in Iran affected people

Environmental Issues

- **An Inconvenient Truth** – Al Gore's take on the impact of climate change
- **The Day After Tomorrow** – What could 'potentially' happen if climate change continues.
- **Children of Men** – the impact of everyone in the world becoming infertile.

Journals

The Economist: very serious journalism with unrivalled global coverage.

Foreign Affairs: Iconic political journal: many of the “great” political theories, such as Samuel Huntington’s “Clash of Civilisations” first appeared in Foreign Affairs.

The New Statesman: Left wing critique of domestic and global politics: usually sensible and non-ideological. Essential reading.

The Spectator: Right wing critique of domestic and global politics: never sensible and highly ideological. Essential reading.

Politics Review – available at HWS

Documentaries

Adam Curtis “The Power of Nightmares” / “Bitter Lake”. [DVD / You Tube]

Errol Morris “The Fog of War”: Eleven lessons from the life of Robert S McNamara [DVD]