ASA TRAILS Resources

*Our Social World 6e*

# Chapter 12: Politics and Economics: Probing Power; Dissecting Distribution

1. [Globalization and World Systems Theory: An Introduction](http://trails.asanet.org/Pages/Resource.aspx?ResourceID=12966)

Understanding the social world from a global perspective is becoming increasingly important for sociologists. World Systems Theory is a useful framework for explaining some of the macro-level dynamics occurring around the globe. The PowerPoint and lecture notes presentation is designed to be a concise and easy to understand introduction to some of the major concepts in World Systems analysis. It is primarily designed to be used for introductory sociology classes. This resource has a dual focus on the economic aspects of globalization and World Systems Theory, as well as the ecological effects of global economic processes. With both aspects in mind, the resource is designed to introduce one of the approaches sociologists use to frame global economic developments, relationships between countries, and the relationship between society and nature.

**Resource Type(s):** PowerPoint

**Authors(s):** Anthony Jack Knowles

**Date Published:** 12/21/2015

**Subject Area:** Environment Sociology

**Class Level:** College 100

**Class Size:** Any

**Language:** English

2. [Public Sociology for Political Sociology: A Politics and Society Op-Ed Assignment](http://trails.asanet.org/Pages/Resource.aspx?ResourceID=12632)

This assignment requires political sociology students to compose an op-ed piece modeled after those in the most widely respected U.S. and international newspapers. After selecting a particular issue related to politics and public policy, each student compiles sociological research on their topic to make a compelling and publicly accessible argument about the issue, complete with policy recommendations. The assignment requires the sociological expertise of a research paper but demands that students present this expertise to an educated lay audience in an insightful, engaging, thought-provoking, and brief op-ed piece.

**Resource Type(s):** Assignment

**Authors(s):** Hana Erin Brown

**Date Published:** 6/28/2012

**Subject Area:** Political Sociology

**Class Level:** Any

**Class Size:** Any

**Language:** English

3. [Political Knowledge of College Students: A Simple Group Test](http://trails.asanet.org/Pages/Resource.aspx?ResourceID=12513)

Students often come to class with little-to-no awareness of the specifics of the world of politics operating around them. This exercise asks students, without warning, to name the major bills that have been passed in their state’s General Assembly. From past experiences conducting the exercise, students are only able to name a few out of the hundreds of new bills. The lack of political knowledge displayed by students can be connected to numerous sociological theories, concepts, and research findings, especially in the fields of political sociology and public policy.

**Resource Type(s):** Class Activity

**Authors(s):** Timothy Madigan

**Date Published:** 4/29/2011

**Subject Area:** Public Policy

**Class Level:** Any

**Class Size:** Any

**Language:** English