University of Gondar
College of Social Sciences and Humanities
Department of Civics and Ethical Studies

Assignment for Global Trends

Total Marks: 30 %

1. International Relations is often criticized for its state-centric approach, i.e., assuming that the state is the most significant actor on the international stage. Is that a safe assumption in a global era? In what instances are non-state actors (foundations, nongovernmental organizations, international organizations) just as important as, or even more important than, states? Given their influence, what could be done to manage, respond to, control, or limit their role esp. in developing countries such as Ethiopia? (6 Pts.)
2. Why do countries trade with one another? What are the advantages and disadvantages of international trade? What are the types of barriers countries erect to manage trade? Do you believe international trade is a net positive for everyone? (6 Pts.)
3. What is the democratic peace theory? What are its limitations? (6 Pts.)
4. Define multipolarity, bipolarity, and unipolarity, using a historical example to illustrate each. What best describes today's world: Is it unipolarity, bipolarity, or multipolarity? Why? (6 Pts.)
5. What do you believe are the best and worst aspects of globalization? Whom has it helped and whom has it hurt? Can anything be done to promote the positives of globalization and mitigate the negatives? (6 Pts.)