

11.007 Public Policy Disputes
Essay Assignment #1
Spring 2005
Due Session 5

Arguably, all four of the goals we have been discussing—equity, efficiency, liberty, and security—are at stake in formulating trade policy. How do opposing advocates define the goals of globalization? Drawing on the reading and class discussions to date, write a 4-5 page (5-page maximum, not including a page for references) essay that *makes an argument* about the debate over globalization and the appropriate goals of U.S. international trade policy. (From the essay it should be clear that you have read and understood both Deborah Stone’s arguments about policy goals and the policy pieces on globalization. Your goal is to use Stone’s framework to analyze the globalization debate.)

The bulk of the essay should consist of an *analysis* of the globalization debate, not an argument for one policy or another. However, you may conclude with a normative argument about what you think *should* be the goals of trade policy and why.

--For example, you might make an argument that takes the form: “The opposing sides in the globalization debate have fundamentally different views about the goals of U.S. trade policy. One side thinks...”

Some hints for developing your argument:

- Make sure you define what you mean by the goals you discuss.
- Think about what tradeoffs are being made among goals, if any.
- Remember to support any claims you make with logic and/or empirical evidence.

Style/Format:

- Be sure to re-read the points in the syllabus about format and style and follow them!
- The page limit does not include a cover page (which is optional and not recommended—just make sure your name, the date, and the class number is on the front of the essay). The page limit also does not include the reference list—that can be p.5.

Sources:

- Sources of information on the goals of trade policy/globalization will be handed out in class; others are available on the MIT server for the course. You are free to find other materials as well. Keep in mind, though, that the main purpose of the essay is to apply the concepts we’ve been discussing to a real policy area and, in doing so, to demonstrate your understanding of those concepts. So you don’t want to spend too much time doing research. Your time is better spent thinking about how to formulate a persuasive argument and revising your essay so that it conveys the quality of your thinking.