What we understand today by Globalization broadly speaking is a vast reorganization of capitalism on a world scale driven by economic, social, and political processes of mobilization in time and space.

Yet, the arguments surrounding “globalization” are varied. In fact, there seems to be no agreement whether globalization is indeed happening different from the past, whether it’s a Thing, or rather a Process, what it means, and what the effects of this phenomenon might be. Nevertheless, the term has been incredibly popular and persistent in the past 30 years.
The term lends itself to describing a wide range of processes observed in the world today, from new economic organization and social regulation, new forms of political governance, to new forms of ethical regimes and cultural formations of hybrid nature. Enhanced mobility of people but also circulations of cultures, images, narratives have often been cited as the “prime markers of globalization”. And while some discard the “effects of globalization” as overblown and lost on a touch with real life “on the ground,” for others “globalization” seems to imply substantial transformations for human life and once that tend at that to be “uncertain”, “flexible” and “shifting”. There is a big paradox in the fact that while often contradictory and confusing the effects of globalization also seem fairly similar across cultural and social terrains.

In this class discussing “Modern Global Life” we take the Global not as a given, but rather as an invitation to explore the intense and highly unequal exchanges that comprise global processes and their effects on our everyday experiences. One way in which these effects have been felt, especially in the “rich north,” is that life has become more “hurried” transforming everything from the nature of our occupations, personal identity and our relationships with others. Drastic changes have been equally felt in the “global south,” yet to also different effects.

We first look at some of the major topics and debates pertaining to the literature on globalization in anthropology (i.e. capitalist expansion; offshore production, labor and risk; statecraft and rights under globalization; transnationalism and cosmopolitanism; global mobility; commodification; cultural imperialism and hybridization; etc.). The second portion of the course takes specific examples from various parts around the world (some emphasis on Europe) and goes deeper into revealing globalization’s specific articulations with race, ethnicity, gender, belonging and faith.

**Text requirements**

Most of the materials for this class are available in electronic format to download.

1. Note, articles from academic journals can be accessed via the UF electronic database on the UF library web page. **Students themselves are responsible to retrieve these articles.** Should you need assistance in learning how to use the web page, please consult a librarian.

2. Additionally, book chapters and other material will be available from the E-Learning System or directly from the Internet (links are indicated in the syllabus).

3. **If interested,** you can buy two recommended books:


**Course Assignments and Assessment**

The instructor will deliver lectures geared toward providing (historically, politically, and theoretically) contextualizing information. Readings go into certain themes in more detail.
There also will be screenings of films and documentaries, aimed at "visualizing" some of the main debates and common representations related to globalization and changes in the everyday experiences of people discussed in the readings.

**Attendance in class is a requirement!!!**

As an integral part of the course material students are required to attend both lectures and screenings. An attendance sign-up sheet will be circulated periodically. Please arrive promptly and remain until the end of class. If you must miss, please inform me ahead of time. In the event of absence it is your responsibility to contact a classmate in order to obtain notes on the materials covered while away.

**Grading**

The course is designed so as to help students to formulate and express their own ideas on the themes taken up. Therefore, **discussion** is an integral component of the course, and **10% of your grade** will be based on participation in **class discussions**. The quality (not simply the quantity) of your contributions will be weighted out into your overall performance. When making a comment, please make sure to first state your name to facilitate our discussion.

Students will also be expected to give (at least) one **in-class presentation in a group or individually**, which will fill in another **30% of their final grade**. Presenters summarize select articles, identify the article's main questions/theses/ideas and discuss how authors develop their arguments, with the help of what material and what the different methodological and theoretical approaches to globalization taken up are.

**EVERYONE is expected to read the readings for each week!!!**

The remaining **60%** of the class grade will be based on the preparation of **two short reaction papers** (up to 4 pages, font 12, double-spaced) responding to class material, typed up and turned in, as scheduled in the syllabus. Each reaction paper addresses (at least **3** articles/chapters (if coming from books) as listed in the syllabus, critically reflects upon the main purpose of the arguments. The assignment incorporates material from the beginning of the previous due date to the due date of the subsequent assignment.

Additional information on how to write a response paper is available on the class’s E-learning page. If you have never written a response paper and need some additional guidance make sure to look for the assistance of the writing center on campus.

**To facilitate writing you will be expected to write 10 short (up to 1 page, single spaced) responses for each week of readings.** These critical responses focus on 1 piece of reading per week and will be peer-reviewed by your classmates at the beginning of each class. You then can use these pieces and comments you receive back to write up your 4 page mid-term and final response.

**Grading scale:** (A = 95 and above; A- = 90-94; B+= 86-89; B= 84-85; B-80-83; C+ 76-79, etc.)
**Academic Integrity**

Academic honesty is not only an ethical issue but also the foundation of scholarship. Cheating and plagiarism are therefore serious breaches of academic integrity. Documented plagiarism of a paper will be given a "D" in instances of one or two sentences, and an "F" in more severe cases, and no revision will be allowed in either instance.

**Students with Disabilities**

Please refer to the Disability Resource Center @ http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/: 0020 Reid Hall Phone: (352) 392-8565

**Student Mental Health Services**

Room 245, Infirmary Bldg. Fletcher Drive, UF campus
(352) 392-1171

Please note this syllabus might see some changes as the class progresses, which will be announced in class and updated appropriately on the class's web page in E-Learning!!!

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**Week 1 - 19-21 Aug - Introduction: education for the “globals”**


**Week 2 – 26-28 Aug – Economic Globalization**

Listen to NPR’s Planet Money's T-shirt:
http://www.npr.org/series/248799434/planet-moneys-t-shirt-project

Write up one page of overview and critical points

**Week 3 – 2-4 Sep – Globalization, modernity and development: anthropology and the world in pieces**


**Week 4 – 9-11 Sep - Globalization’s History and the New Risks**


**Week 5 – 16-18 Sep – The Logic of Wealth Distribution**

**Film:** *“The end of Poverty”* by Philippe Diaz


**Week 6 – 23-25 - Labor Mobility and Offshore Production**

David Harvey, 1990. “From Fordism to Flexible Accumulation”. Ch 9 from *The Condition of Postmodernity*


**Film:** *Darwin’s Nightmare* by Huber Sauper.

**Week 7 – 30 Sep – 2 Oct - Overworlds**


Elliot and Urry, 2010 “Mobile Lives” Ch. 4 Available through the UF library in electronic format

**Film:** “*Park Avenue*: money, power and the American dream” by Alex Gibney

**Week 8 – 7-9 Oct - Underworlds**


**Misha Glenny TED:** “How Global Networks work”

**Film:** *Chaos*, 2003. French. Dir: Coline Serreau

**Week 9 – 14-16 Oct - The New Europe: Embracing Migration, Mobility Difference and Diversity**


**Film:** “*The other Europe*” Director, Poul-Erik Heilbuth. DVD 2790. 58 min


Roland, L. Kaifa, 2013 T/Racing Belonging through Cuban Tourism. Cultural Anthropology


First assignment due Oct 28!

Week 11 - 28-30 Oct - Authenticity Desired and Negotiated


Week 12 – 4-6 Nov - The Changing Calculus of Belonging, Recognition and Making Claims (student presentations)


Week 13 – 13 Nov – Between the Secular and the Religious


Week 14 – 18-20 Nov – Global Circulations of Gendered Roles and Labor

Freeman, Carla. 2001 "Is Local: Global as Feminine: Masculine? Rethinking the Gender of Globalization." In Signs 26, 4


Also: http://www.lauraagustin.com/about-laura-agustin

Week 15 – 25 Nov - Globalization’s Contested Futures


Marcus, George 2013. ”Experimental Forms for the Expression of Norms in the Ethnography of the Contemporary”. Special issue, ”Value as Theory” (part 2), HAU:
Week 16 – 2-4-9 Dec - Review

Second assignment due!

Further readings


Levent Soysal. 2003. “Labor to Culture: Writing Turkish Migration to Europe” In: The South Atlantic Quarterly 102 2/3 Spring/Summer

Partridge Damani, 2008 "We Were Dancing in the Club, Not on the Berlin Wall: Black Bodies, Street Bureaucrats, and Exclusionary Incorporation into the New Europe:" In: Cultural Anthropology. Vol. 23. Is. 4. November (Pages 660 - 687)


Shipley, Jesse Weaver 2013 Transnational Circulation and Digital Fatigue in Ghana’s Azonto Dance Craze. American Ethnologist 40(2):
362–381.


Film: Breaking and Entering, UK, Dir. Minghella 2006