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Office Hours: Thursday from 10: 00AM to 12:00 PM

ANG6930 (sec.2D69)/ANT4930 (2D70) & AFS6905 (sec. 2E34) /ANT4935 (2E32)

“Global Connections”

Fridays, period 3-5 (9:35AM to 12:35PM),

Room: RNK 0210

COURSE DESCRIPTION

What is globalization? Is it an observable set of facts? Or is it a process of social transformation with identifiable actors behind its force (Multinational Corporations, International Organizations, transnational Non-governmental Organizations, or powerful nation-states?) Is globalization a historical context marked by unprecedented connections through a set of medium between people, communities, and nations-states across geographical, linguistic, religious, and ethnic boundaries? What are the effects of the globalization process on the day to day life of “remotely located” communities?

A critical perspective on globalization needs to take it not as a given but as a problematic concept that require a carefully specification of its meaning. Many ongoing social, economic, and political changes have been attributed to globalization without a rigorous analysis of the correlation between local and national happening with global actors and forces. The evocation of globalization as an explaining category hides more than it reveals about the complexity of transnational social, economic, and political dynamics connecting global cities to “remotely located villages in Africa, Asia, or Latin America.

This seminar takes globalization as a process by which national economies, societies, and cultures have become more and more integrated through a globe-spanning network of communication and exchange. This seminar intends to review and discuss the anthropological literature focusing on the flows of people, goods, money, technologies, ideas, and cultural forms and practices between countries and continents. It explores the transnational lives of migrants, the global governance of international institutions, the cultural resistance of ethnic and religious groups when confronted global capitalism expansion, the attitudes and behavior of global corporations in new local frontiers.

Through ethnography and the larger social theory perspective, the seminar introduces students to the new approaches in anthropological research on the social, economic, cultural and political and ethical dimensions of globalization. Some of the themes used to shed light in the numerous global connections include the following:

- Transnationalism and diasporic belongings
- Citizenship and deterritorialized national identities,
- Global governance, global flows and their ethical dilemmas
- Social and economic exclusion at the global level,
- New forms of collective actions across national borders,
- Technologies of communication and socio-political activism,
- Religious and ethnic identities and the homogenizing global culture,

Objectives:

1-introduce students to the current academic debates and public discussions around the effects of globalization on local and national communities.

2-Arm student with the conceptual and methodological tools to critically analyze global processes and their empirical manifestations in the everyday lives of local communities and peoples.

3-Engage students in the discussion of ethics and politics at the heart of global social movements focusing on the environment and global economic inequalities.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Participation: 20 points

Each student will be expected to participate in class discussion. Students will be evaluated for their familiarity with required readings and their productive contributions to class debate.

Dossiers 60 points

The dossier will be a semester long investigation under the supervision of the instructor on a topic chosen right at the beginning of the semester. Students are required to use at least six references (books, articles, chapters). Students are encouraged to talk to the instructor before the end of the third week to discuss their topic. The dossier will be presented in class during the last two weeks of class.

Oral Presentation: 20 points

Each student will be expected to give 1 oral presentation of the required readings for one class and then lead a discussion on the issues addressed in the reading materiel. To prepare for theses presentations and discussions the student must not only read the assigned text, but also complementary readings pertinent to the questions and themes at study. (It is not a requirement but those who want to talk to me about their presentation or their strategy for stimulating and leading discussion can come to me during my office hours).

Précis's of Reading: 30 points

Each student is required to write a précis for seven classes. A précis is a relatively brief (1-2 pages) summary of critical thought that arise during your reading. It should include: (1) the primary argument of the text (s); (2) note on the object of analysis and kinds of evidence; (3) the intellectual, disciplinary, and /or political context of the work. These should be sent by e-mail to the instructor on each Thursday before 4:00PM.

Questions on readings: 10 points

Each student will be expected to write 3 questions that he or she found important about the required readings. The questions have to be asked in class. Students have to send by e-mail their three questions each Thursday before 4:00PM.

Research Paper: 60 points

Each student will be expected to write a research paper of 15 pages. The paper should be double-spaced, in 12 pt font, with 1" margins on all sides. This paper may review some substantive matter of interest to the student, or directly address a theoretical issue of relevance to one of the themes highlighted in the course description. Please talk to me about your topic and focus by the end of September. This paper will be due on the last day of class (April. 22 by 4:00pm). Please send an electronic copy of your paper to my e-mail address: akane@ufl.edu.

REQUIRED BOOKS

- 1- Tsing, A. L., (2005). *Friction: Ethnography of Global Connections*. Princeton University Press.
- 2- Fergusson, J., (2006). *Global Shadows, Africa in the Neoliberal World Order*. Duke University Press.
- 3- Basch, L. G.; Schiller, N. G. & Cristina Szanton Blanc, C. S. (1994). *Nations Unbound: Transnational Projects, Postcolonial Predicaments and Deterritorialized Nation-States*. Gordon and Breach Science Publishers.
- 4- Ong, A. & Collier, S. J., (2005). *Global Assemblages: Technology, Politics and Ethics as Anthropological Problems*. Blackwell Publishing.
- 5- Smith, J. (2008). *Social Movement for Global Democracy*. Johns Hopkins University Press.
- 6- Della Porta, D., Andretta, M., Mosca Lorenzo, and Reiter, H. (2006). *Globalization from Below. Transnational Activists and Protest Networks*. University of Minnesota Press.

Most of These books are available for purchase at the University Bookstore. For the remaining books please consider buying them online.

MEETING SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNED READING (the instructor reserves the right to add more reading materials, films, and documentaries to this schedule).

Week 1: Fri Jan 9:

Syllabus and Seminar Overview

Week 2: Fri Jan 16: Anthropological perspective on global connection

Tsing, A. L., (2005), *Friction: Ethnography of Global Connections*, Princeton University Press, Intro and Part I

Week 3: Fri Jan 23:

Tsing, A. L., (2005), *Friction: Ethnography of Global Connections*, Princeton University Press, Part II and III

Week 4: Fri Jan 30: The Global and its Margins

Fergusson, J., (2006), *Global Shadows, Africa in the Neoliberal World Order*, Duke University Press. Chap. 1 to 3

Week 5: Fri Feb 6

Fergusson, J., (2006), *Global Shadows, Africa in the Neoliberal World Order*, Duke University Press. Chap. 4 to 8

Week 6: Fri Feb 13: Transnational Practices

Basch, L. G.; Schiller, N. G. & Cristina Szanton Blanc, C. S. (1994), *Nations Unbound: Transnational Projects, Postcolonial Predicaments and Deterritorialized Nation-States*, Gordon and Breach Science Publishers, Chap. 1 to 4

Week 7: Fri Feb 20

Basch, L. G.; Schiller, N. G. & Cristina Szanton Blanc, C. S. (1994), *Nations Unbound: Transnational Projects, Postcolonial Predicaments and Deterritorialized Nation-States*, Gordon and Breach Science Publishers, Chap. 5 to 8.

Week 8: Fri Feb 27: Identity and Belonging at the Age of Globalization

Ong, A. & Collier, S. J., (2005), *Global Assemblages: Technology, Politics and Ethics as Anthropological Problems*, Blackwell Publishing, Part I and II

Week 9: Fri Mar 6: Spring Break

Week 9: Fri 13:

Ong, A. & Collier, S. J., (2005), *Global Assemblages: Technology, Politics and Ethics as Anthropological Problems*, Blackwell Publishing, Part III and IV

Week 10: Fri Mar 20: Global Interactions and their Political and Ethical Dimensions

Della Porta, D., Andretta, M., Mosca Lorenzo, and Reiter, H. (2006), Globalization from Below. Transnational Activists and Protest Network, University of Minnesota Press, Chap.1to 4

Week 11: Fri Mar 27: Globalization from Below

Della Porta, D., Andretta, M., Mosca Lorenzo, and Reiter, H. (2006), Globalization from Below. Transnational Activists and Protest Networks, University of Minnesota Press, Chap. 5 to 8

Week 12: Fri Apr 3:

Smith, J. (2008), Social Movement for Global Democracy, Johns Hopkins University Press, Part 1 and 2

Week 13: Fri Apr 10:

Smith, J. (2008), Social Movement for Global Democracy, Johns Hopkins University Press, Part 3

Week 14: Fri Apr 17

Dossier presentation