Course Overview

McDonalds, Starbucks, and the Gap are now common features on the street corners of Europe, South America, and Asia. Arnold Schwartzneggar enjoys unprecedented popularity in the Far East while, in the U.S., we are fascinated by karaoke and Indian films. Does this globalization of production and consumption mean that we are all becoming the same? In this course, we will explore the globalization of social life. We will examine the different ways in which economic, political, and cultural arrangements are organized in the increasingly interdependent world in which we live, compare them to those in the past, and explore their impacts. We will analyze the degree to which social life still takes place within national borders and discuss the new kinds of concepts and methods we need to understand these dynamics.

The course also has a larger, intellectual goal. I would like students to understand that there are multiple answers to every question. I also want students to strengthen their analytical and critical thinking skills so they can evaluate different intellectual positions in a rigorous way. Most of our discussions about the readings will focus on the same set of questions - what is the question the author are trying to answer? What is the argument? What are his or her underlying assumptions? What is the evidence he or she brings to bear? What are the argument’s strengths and weaknesses?

I place great emphasis on students’ ability to write clearly and convincingly. Organization, grammar, and logic count. There will be two short 3-5 page writing assignments during the term -- more in-depth descriptions and guidelines will follow. In addition, there will be an in-class mid-term and final exam held during exam period. Students are expected to attend class, complete the readings, generate questions for class discussions and participate actively in them, and produce high-quality, well-written
responses to the assignments. Please bring a copy of the readings with you to all classes. Finally, I expect each student to visit me at least once during office hours before the middle of the term.

Course grading is as follows:

Class Participation 15%
Assignment One 20%
Assignment Two 20%
Mid-Term Exam 20%
Final Paper 25%

- Assignments turned in late will be automatically marked down

THE BROAD FOUNDATIONS


Chapter 1

METHODOLOGICAL CHALLENGES


“Assimilation and Transnationalism:
Determinants of Transnational Political
Action among Contemporary Migrants,”
by Luis Eduardo Guarnizo, Alejandro
Portes and William Haller

17-47 Traveling cultures

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES

1-40

Chapter 1: 3-42

Selections from Chapters 1-5

Selections from: Introduction, chapter 1 and 2

QUESTIONS OF IDENTITY

1-33

1-29
91-101

79-105

MIGRATING LIVES AND COMMUNITIES


RELIGIOUS LIVES ACROSS BORDERS


Vasquez, Manuel A. *Globalizing the Sacred: Religion across the Americas*. Rutgers University Press, c 2003, 34-64 I WILL DISTRIBUTE

INTRO AND PROLOGUE FROM BOOK MY BOOK.

ARTS AND CULTURE


THE DIFFUSION OF IDEAS, VALUES, AND CULTURE


CAPITALISM, CLASSES AND CORPORATION


SOCIAL MOVEMENTS, NON-STATE ACTORS AND CIVIL SOCIETY
  Chapter 1

  Preface
  199-217

### 11. VIOLENCE, CRIME, AND SECURITY


  Chapter 1 (3-14)
  Chapter 7 (140-152)

  Introduction (1-12)
  Chapter 6 (112-137)
  Chapter 7 (138-152)

Williams, Phil. “Strengthening Cooperation Against Transnational Crime.” *Survival*, 1998