

Interrogating Gender and Globalization

Fall 2005 – Friday, 1:30-4:30

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This course investigates interactions between gender and economic globalization, considering ways in which economic globalization is at play in constructions of masculinity and femininity, along with ways in which gender has shaped and inflected globalization.

We begin by considering alternative approaches to theorizing gender and economic globalization so as to establish a set of common terms and frames of reference. We then look at their interplay by exploring the impact of gendered assumptions on global capital and by thinking about the link between conventions of masculinity and the behavior of global decision-makers. From there, we consider work that addresses the “feminization of labor” in transnational production, with a focus on the differential impact of this form of globalization on women, men and on gender equity. We explore studies that examine the movement of capital, export-processing, domestic labor, sex work, and deindustrialization in “the north.” In each instance, we will be alert to the uneven, unequal and occasionally surprising impact of these processes on women and men and the potential for feminist transformations.

Course Reading

A photocopy packet of course readings is available. In addition, the following books should be purchased.

David Harvey, *The Condition of Postmodernity* (Blackwell 1989)

Deborah Barndt, *Women Working the NAFTA Food Chain. Women, Food, and Globalization* (Second Story Press, 1999)

Radhika Balakrishnan, ed., *The Hidden Assembly Line. Gender Dynamics of Subcontracted Work in a Global Economy* (Kumarian Press 2002)

Charlotte Hooper, *Manly States: Masculinities, International Relations, and Gender Politics* (Columbia University Press 2001)

Course Requirements

1. Class attendance, participation, preparedness and thoughtful completion of written commentaries account for 50% of the final course grade.

As a reading seminar, the primary requirement for this course is to complete the assigned reading in a manner that prepares you for class discussion. To prepare for class discussion, you are to write a short commentary/informal “thought piece” on the class readings. These commentaries should be typed and about 2 pages long.

Regular class attendance and participation in class discussion are expected.

2. Analytical Essays and/or Research Paper account for 50% of your final course grade.

There are two “formal writing” options:

1. 2 analytical essays (10+ pages each)

The first due on 10/28 (week 7). The second due at the end of the semester.

2. An independent research paper (20-30 pages)

You are responsible for defining a topic early in the course, putting together a bibliography, and meeting with one of us to discuss your paper at least 3 weeks prior to the end of the semester.

Course Outline

9/16: Introduction

Film: “Who’s Counting? Marilyn Waring on Sex, Lies and Global Economics” (1995, 53 min, VC 2129)

9/23: Gender

Joan Scott, “Gender: A Useful Category of Historical Analysis” in *Gender and the Politics of History* (Columbia University Press 1988), 28-50.

Cynthia Enloe, C1 “Gender Makes the World Go Round” in *Bananas, Beaches and Bases* (University of California Press 1989), 1-18.

Ann Laura Stoler, C1 “Carnal Knowledge and Imperial Power: Gender, Race, and Morality in Colonial Asia” in *Gender at the Crossroads of Knowledge*, ed. di Leonardo (University of California Press 1991), 51-101.

Anne McClintock, *Imperial Leather: Race, Gender, and Sexuality in the Colonial Conquest* (Routledge 1995), 1-74.

Zine Magubane, “Which Bodies Matter? Feminism, Poststructuralism, Race, and the Curious Theoretical Odyssey of the ‘Hottentot Venus’,” *Gender and Society* 15(6), December 2001: 816-834. (on-line journal access)

9/30: Economic Globalization

Held and McGrew (eds), “The Great Globalization Debate: An Introduction,” parts I (Conceptualizing Globalization) and IV (A Global Economy?) in *The Global Transformations Reader* (Polity Press 2003), 1-8 and 18-27.

David Harvey, *The Condition of Postmodernity*, parts II-IV (Blackwell 1989), 121-359.

J. K. Gibson-Graham, “Beyond Global vs. Local: Economic Politics Outside the Binary Frame” in *Geographies of Power. Placing Scale*, eds. Herod and Wright (Blackwell 2002), 25-60.

10/7: Gendered meanings shape theories of the global

Rita Felski, C2 “On Nostalgia: The Prehistoric Woman” in *The Gender of Modernity* (Harvard University 1995), 35-60.

Doreen Massey, C10 “Flexile Sexism” in *Space, Place, and Gender* (University of Minnesota Press 1994), 212-248.

J.K. Gibson-Graham, C6 "Querying Globalization" in *The End of Capitalism (as we knew it). A Feminist Critique of Political Economy* (Blackwell 1996), 120-147.

Carla Freeman, "Is Local:Global as Feminine:Masculine? Rethinking the Gender of Globalization," *Signs*, 26(4), Summer 2001: 1007-1021. (on-line journal access)

Capital Mobility

10/14: Transnational Production

Diane Elson and Ruth Pearson, "The Subordination of Women and the Internationalization of Factory Production" in *Of Marriage and the Market. Women's Subordination in International Perspective*, eds. Young, Wolkowitz, and McCullagh (CSE 1981), 144-166.

Linda Lim, "Capitalism, Imperialism and Patriarchy: The Dilemma of Third-World Women Workers in Multinational Factories." Originally in *Women, Men and the International Division of Labor*, eds. Nash and Fernandez-Kelly (SUNY Press 1983). Reprinted in *The Women, Gender and Development Reader*, 216-229.

Guy Standing, "Global Feminization through Flexible Labor," *World Development*, 27(3) 1999, 583-602.

Melissa Wright, "The Dialectics of Still Life: Murder, Women and Maquiladoras," *Public Culture* 11, 1999: 453-474.

Leslie Salzinger, "From High Heels to Swathed Bodies: Gendered Meanings under Production in Mexico's Export Processing Industry," *Feminist Studies* 23(3), Fall 1997: 549-574. (on-line journal access)

10/21: Globalization and Commodity Chains

Maria, Mies, "The Dynamics of the Sexual Division of Labor and Integration of Rural Women into the World Market" in *Women and Development*, ed. Benería (Praeger Publishers 1982), 1-28.

Women Working the NAFTA Food Chain, ed. D.Barndt (Second Story Press, 1999) –
Harriet Friedmann, C1, "Remaking 'Traditions': How We Eat, What We Eat and the Changing Political Economy of Food," 36-60;
Deborah Barndt, C2, "Whose 'Choice'? 'Flexible' Women Workers in the Tomato Food Chain," 62-80;
Fran Ansley, C7, "Putting the Pieces Together: Tennessee Women Find the Global Economy in Their Own Backyards," 142-160; and
Jan Kainer, C9, "Not Quite What They Bargained For: Female Labour in Canadian Supermarkets," 176-189.

Film: "Tales From the Global Economy: The Cappuccino Trail" (2002, 50 min, VC 2970)

10/28: The Informal Sector

Alison MacEwen Scott, C5 “Informal sector or female sector?: gender bias in urban labour market models” in *Male Bias in the Development Process*, ed. Elson (Manchester University Press 1995), 105-132.

Radhika Balakrishnan, ed., *The Hidden Assembly Line. Gender Dynamics of Subcontracted Work in a Global Economy* (Kumarian Press 2002).

Saskia Sassen, “Global Cities and Survival Circuits,” in *Global Woman. Nannies, Maids, and Sex Workers in the New Economy*, eds. Ehrenreich and Hochschild (Metropolitan Books 2003), 254-274.

Labor Mobility

11/4: Transnational domestic work

Kimberly Chang and L.H.M. Ling, “Globalization and its intimate other: Filipina domestic workers in Hong Kong,” in *Gender and Global Restructuring. Sightings, sites and resistances*, eds. Marchand and Runyan (Routledge 2000), 27-43

Pierrette Hondagneu-Sotelo and Ernestine Avila, “I’m Here, but I’m There: The Meanings of Latina Transnational Motherhood,” *Gender and Society* 11(5), October 1997: 548-570. (on-line journal access)

Arlie Hochschild: “Love and Gold” in *Global Woman*, 15-30

Rhacel Salazar Parreñas, “The Care Crisis in the Philippines: Children and Transnational Families in the New Global Economy” in *Global Woman*, 39-54.

Pei-Chia Lan: “Maid or Madam: Filipina Migrant Workers and the Continuity of Domestic Labor,” *Gender and Society* 17(2), April 2003: 548-571. (on-line journal access)

11/11 Sex work

Kemala Kempadoo, “Introduction: Globalizing Sex Workers’ Rights” and J. Doezma, “Forced to Choose: Beyond the Voluntary v. Forced Prostitution Dichotomy” in *Global Sex Workers. Rights, Resistance, and Redefinition*, eds. Kempadoo and Doezma (Routledge 1998), 1-28 and 34-50.

Holly Wardlow, “Anger, Economy and Female Agency: Problematizing “Prostitution” and “Sex Work” among the Huli of Papua New Guinea,” *Signs*, 29(4), Summer 2004: 1017-1041. (on-line journal access)

Jacqueline Sánchez Taylor, “Tourism and ‘embodied’ commodities: sex tourism in the Caribbean” in *Tourism and Sex. Culture, Commerce, and Coercion*, eds. Clift and Carter (Pinter 2000), 41-53.

11/18: Emergent challenges to private patriarchy

Wolf, Diane, "Daughters, Decisions and Domination: An Empirical and Conceptual Critique of Household Strategies," *Development and Change* 21, 1990: 43-74.

Pierrette Hondagneu-Sotelo, "Gendered Immigration" in *Majority and Minority*, eds. Yetman and Steele (Allyn and Bacon 1998), 485-496.

Sheba George, "'Dirty Nurses' and 'Men who Play': Gender and Class in Transnational Migration" in *Global Ethnography*, eds. Burawoy, et. al. (University of California Press 2000), 144-174.

Teresa Gowan, "Excavating "Globalization" from Street Level: Homeless Men Recycle their Pasts" in *Global Ethnography*, 74-105.

Thanksgiving Holiday

12/2: Resistance

Chandra Mohanty, C6 "Women Workers and the Politics of Solidarity," in *Feminism Without Borders* (Duke University Press, 2003), 139-168.

Suzanne Bergeron, "Political Economy Discourses of Globalization and Feminist Politics," *Signs* 26(4), Summer 2001: 983-1006. (on-line journal access)

Amy Lind, "Negotiating boundaries: women's organizations and the politics of restructuring in Ecuador" in *Gender and Global Restructuring*, 161-175

Catherine Eschle, "'Skeleton Women'": feminism and the antiglobalization movement," *Signs*, 30(3), Spring 2005: 1741-1770. (on-line journal access)

Women Working the NAFTA Food Chain -- Debbie Field, C10 "Putting Food First: Women's Role in Creating a Grassroots System Outside the Marketplace," 194-205 and Lauren Baker, C14 "A Different Tomato: Creating Vernacular Foodscapes," 249-259.

Millie Thayer, "Transnational Feminism: Reading Joan Scott in the Brazilian sertão," *Ethnography* 2(2), 2001, 243-271.

12/9: Gendered processes shape how globalization operates

Masculinity:

Charlotte Hooper, *Manly States: Masculinities, International Relations, and Gender Politics* (Columbia University Press 2001), 77-231.

Femininity:

Jane Collins, "Mapping a Global Labor Market: Gender and Skill in the Globalizing Garment Industry" *Gender and Society* 16(6), December 2002: 921-940. (on-line journal access)

Salzinger, "From Gender as Object to Gender as Verb," *Critical Sociology*. 30(1), 2004: 43-62.