Introduction

This doctoral seminar is designed to explore significant themes and contributions to the globalization literatures, particularly work pertaining to global and transnational sociology. We review and critique some of the core debates and trends in studying the main drivers, consequences, and challenges of the increasing interconnected and fragmented world.

Globalization is an inherently interdisciplinary endeavor. Throughout the seminar you are expected to read across disciplines and genres, and particularly to engage sociological and historical ideas and perspectives to reinterpret studies from other social science disciplines. Still, it is impossible to include all the important topics. Neither is there one general theoretical or synthetic text to sum up the field. A key goal of this seminar is to produce a framework for your own research. Another goal is to develop a transnationalized sociological imagination, i.e., the ability of connecting and thinking together phenomena and ideas that tend to be treated separately and addressing context-specific logics of practice and actors’ point of view.

Resources

Given this challenging time, you might find this link useful with a lot of resources and information:

https://recalibrate.berkeley.edu/one-click-mode/one-click-graduateprofessional-students

Requirement

By the end of the course, I want you to have (1) a solid understanding of major theoretical approaches in global and transnational sociology; and (2) made substantial progress in developing an empirical research paper or grant proposal on globalization that can be submitted either for a grant application or publication.

To this end, your grade will be based on the following:
• seminar participation in discussions (15%)
• post comments on weekly readings (15%)
• two mini-lectures on readings, lead class discussion (20%)
• one final literature review OR research paper (initial outline 5%; class oral presentation 5%; final version 40%)

**Seminar participation**

You are expected to come to class well prepared, which means you will have read all the readings and thought critically about them. This is a reading-intensive class. No background in sociology or globalization is required. You are not expected to understand all the material in your first reading neither. That is what class discussion is for. But commitment to completing readings and preparing for discussion is mandatory. Perfect attendance is not expected, but significant absenteeism will be penalized.

**Weekly Reading Comments**

In order to make the most of our class time, you are required to post some thoughts the readings in the “Discussion” section of the Sociology 280Y on bCourse no later than 5PM on Monday every week except the week of Mar 22. Posts aren’t expositions of your positions on the issues; they are just an indication of what issues you find most interesting, most problematic in the week's material or most worth attention during class. Limit your posts to 150 words as the maximum. Keeping posts short ensures that everyone will have a chance to read everyone else’s posts.

**Lead the Class**

You will sign-up to lead the discussion and provide a mini-lecture twice. Consider this to be practice in developing a class session for a small to mid-sized upper-level undergraduate class. You will need to communicate the key substantive information all students must have to engage in discussion (i.e., key points from your reading summaries) and you will want to draw from your analysis to develop discussion items for the class. In leading the class, you may present PowerPoint slides, choose a video clip, develop an in-class worksheet or use any other pedagogical approach to lead our understanding and discussion of class readings.

**Final Paper**

The central piece of required work is a research paper or proposal about 20-25 double-spaced pages. This piece of writing will be the most important single element in your grade in the course. Different kinds of papers are possible. The precise topic and modality are open. Possibilities include a literature review in the style of an *Annual Review* article (summarizing what has been said in the literature is not enough for this kind of paper), a dissertation proposal (literature review, research question and research design), a grant proposal, or a research paper with original empirical data or data analysis.
Whichever kind of paper you do, you must consult with me by Week 7 and submit a 1-2 proposal outlining what issues you want to address and what kind of literature and evidence you plan to use in addressing them on April 2.

Each student will be given 15-20 minutes during our last class (Apr 28) to present their final paper and receive feedback from the whole class. The nature of the presentation will depend on what you decide to do for your final paper. Consider this a chance to bounce around ideas with a friendly audience.

Your final paper should be submitted on bCourse by 5PM on May 12th. Upon the department’s request, I will give no incompletes, except in extraordinary circumstances.

**Required Readings**

I will try my best to provide electronic versions of articles and key chapters of selected books on the course website.

**Course Schedule**

(*optional readings)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Introduction</th>
<th>Week 1 (Jan 20)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“The State,” A Point of Departure</td>
<td>Week 2 (Jan 27)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


The International: Realism vs. Liberalism vs. Constructivism

Week 3 (Feb 3)


The Global 1: World System

Week 4 (Feb 10)


The Global 2: World Society

Week 5 (Feb 17)


**The Global 3: Historical Path-Dependence**  
Week 6 (Feb 24)


***Final paper idea consultation, Mar 3***

**The Transnational 1: Rediscovering the Global South**  
Week 7 (Mar 3)


**The Transnational 2: Epistemic Networks**


**The Transnational 3: Rules and Norms**


***Spring Recess***

No Class (work on your final paper outline)  
Week 10 (Mar 31)

***Final paper outline due, April 2***

The Transnational 4: Corporations and Economy  
Week 11 (Apr 7)


**The Future of Globalization 2: Environment and Resource**


***Final paper due on Wednesday, May 12, 5 PM***