People, producers and states have made connections across the globe for many centuries, but over the course of the last fifty years, these connections have not only grown in quantity, but have changed in quality as well. Social life is increasingly not only linked but organized on a transnational scale. Important aspects of governance, finance, production, consumption, culture, and daily experience and identity operate across national boundaries. Even for people who never travel outside their own neighborhoods, what they are able or unable to do, what they think, and how they feel, are all increasingly affected by what is going on across the globe. This course will begin to sketch the contours of that emergent world – probing its causes and highly varied and unequal consequences across the globe and individual experiences.

Course Website: There is a Blackboard Vista site for this course. This site includes a link to online course reserves, a copy of the syllabus, and a site for posting readings responses.

Readings: Readings for this course are available online. They may be accessed through the course Blackboard site, or directly from the O’Neill library course reserves website. In addition, the three books listed below are on sale at the BC Bookstore. These will also be available on two hour reserve at O’Neill.


Requirements:
1. Consistent attendance in class.
2. Active, serious and respectful participation in class and small group discussions.
3. Thorough reading of course materials, including note-taking and/or response writing to be referenced in class discussion.
4. On-time completion of all assignments.
5. Strict adherence to campus policies regarding plagiarism and intellectual integrity.
Assessments:
1. Class attendance and participation. 5% final grade
2. 8 thought pieces. 15% final grade
3. Midterm paper (4-5 pages). 25% final grade
4. Final paper (6-7 pages). 30% final grade
5. Final exam. 25% final grade

Weekly Responses: This class deals with complex ideas that require regular completion of the readings and regular lecture attendance. To help you actively process the readings as you do them, you are required to write eight thought-pieces over the course of the semester, of no less than 250 words apiece (see below for due dates and course website for specific prompts). These writings should respond to posted questions and deal explicitly with the readings they reference. They can be quite informal, but thoughtless, cursory or late pieces will not receive credit. Thought-pieces should be posted on the Blackboard website in the Assignments section. These pieces will be contract-graded: doing all eight guarantees you an A for this portion of your grade, but every missing thought-piece will cost you a full step (that is A for eight responses, B for seven responses etc.) for this 15% element of your final grade.

Class attendance is mandatory. Since I don’t want to waste too much time taking attendance, I will not take roll every day. Instead, I will take attendance at random intervals during the semester. If you are not there for one of those classes, you will not be penalized, but after that, unexcused absences will impact your final grade.

Academic Honesty: Students are expected to comply with the standards for academic honesty outlined in the University Catalog (http://www.bc.edu/integrity). Any plagiarism or cheating – including on thought pieces – will result in a grade of “0” and notification of the academic dean.

Course Schedule

Sept. 2:
Introduction

Part I. The emergence of modernity:

Sept 4:

Sept. 9

Sept. 11:

**Post thought-piece #1 by 7 am.**

Sept. 16:


Sept. 18:
“The Declaration of Independence” (July 4, 1776).
“The Declaration of Sentiments and the Resolutions” adopted by the Woman's Rights Convention Held at Seneca Falls, New York (July 18, 1848).

Sept. 23:
Chapters 2 and 3 in Howard Winant, *The World is a Ghetto* (Basic Books, 2001).

**Post thought-piece #2 by 7 am.**

**Part II: Blurring boundaries and shifting scales:**
Sept. 25:


Sept. 30:


Oct. 2:
**Post thought-piece #3 by 7 am.**

**Part III: Transnational production:**
Oct. 7:

**Midterm paper due WEDNESDAY October 8, 12 noon, in McGuinn 409.**

Oct. 9:


Oct. 14:
**Post thought-piece #4 by 7 am.**

**Part IV: Transnational reproduction:**
Oct. 16:


Oct 21:  
**Post thought-piece #5 by 7 am.**

**Part V: Transnational subjects:**
Oct. 23:

Oct. 28:

Oct. 30: Smith. Chapter 4-5.

Nov. 4: Smith. Chapters 6-7.
**Post thought-piece #6 by 7 am.**

**Part VI: Transnational food systems:**
Nov. 6:

Nov. 11: Patel. Chapters 8 and 9.

Nov. 13:

Nov. 18: Jaffee. Pages TBA.
**Post thought-piece #7 by 7 am.**

**Part VII: Transnational meanings:**
Nov. 20:

Nov. 25:

Dec. 2:
**Post thought-piece #8 by 7 am.**

**Final paper due Wednesday, December 3, 4 pm, in McGuinn 409.**

Dec. 4:
Concluding discussion.

**FINAL EXAM DECEMBER 13, 12:30 pm.**