Gender and Globalization  
WSTD 335/ Soc 335  
Winter 2012

Class Hours: Tues / Thurs  
4:00 – 5:30 p.m.  
3254 LSA  

Professor: Rachel Rinaldo  
2162 Lane Hall  
rinaldor@umich.edu

Professor’s Office Hours: Wednesday 9:30 – 11:30  
Email for appointments at other times

Overview:  
Our world is becoming increasingly interconnected, through technology, economics, politics, migration, and cultural imaginations. This class will explore how global processes are affecting gender in different parts of the world, how gender itself shapes aspects of globalization, and the potential for feminist transformations. We will begin by considering what it means to think about gender from a global perspective, including post-colonial critiques of feminism. We will continue on to examine themes such as the impact of economic globalization on gender relations, gendered work in the global economy, sex work, how global processes are re-shaping love and family, gender and religion in global context (especially debates over women and Islam), changing masculinities, as well as women’s movements and the impact of transnational feminisms. Students will be encouraged to apply the course material to real world examples of global gender issues.

TEXTS FOR PURCHASE
The following books have been ordered for purchase. Most journal articles and chapters out of other books will be posted on Ctools (subject to copyright restrictions. You may need to use the library to find some readings. All of the reading on the syllabus is required unless it is specifically listed as “recommended.” I will expect you to bring your copies of the readings to each class. Most of these books can be easily bought secondhand for low prices.

Elizabeth Bernstein. 2007. Temporarily Yours: Intimacy, Authenticity, and the Commerce of Sex

Other texts you may want to consider purchasing:  
Padilla and Hirsch, eds. 2008. Love and Globalization: Transformations of Intimacy in the Contemporary World  
Tripp and Ferree, eds. 2006. Global Feminism
Requirements for this class:
Please read this syllabus carefully to familiarize yourself with the expectations of this class. A central requirement of this class is that you will complete the readings. This class has a fairly heavy reading load, and some of the texts will be abstract and theoretical. The class will be a mixture of lecture and discussion, but there will be a lot of emphasis on the discussions. You are expected to do the readings before the lectures in order to be able to ask and answer questions about them. Familiarity with the readings is imperative for your success on the assignments.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING
Group Presentation:  20%
Midterm Exam:  30%
Research Paper: 30%
Class Participation and Attendance: 20%

Class Attendance and Participation. Attendance will be taken, but getting a good grade in this class is not only about showing up. You will need to make comments and ask questions in class. If you are shy, I suggest that you think ahead about questions to ask. Attendance Policy: You are allowed one unexcused absence and one excused absence. Further absences will lower your attendance/participation grade (unless you can prove to me that there was an emergency).

Group Presentation: Students will be assigned to groups of 3-4. Starting in Week 4, groups will make a 5-10 minute presentation (usually on Thursdays) after my introductory comments. Presentations should not summarize the reading, but should analyze some of the major themes, suggest issues for discussion, and/or relate the reading to contemporary events. You are encouraged to make these presentations creative (use handouts, Powerpoint, show a video, etc.)

Midterm Exam: This will be a take-home essay exam. It will be distributed at the end of class on February 21. It will be due on February 24 at noon. Hard copies must be dropped off at Women’s Studies Department Office, Lane Hall. The questions will be analytical and integrative, not tests of memorization. They will focus on the required readings. You will have a choice of questions to answer. Think of it as three short papers of about 600 words (2 pages) each. Those who integrate required as well as recommended readings into the essays will get some extra credit.

Final Research Paper: A case study of the relationship between gender and globalization anywhere in the world. You need to pick a political issue or organization that is relevant for studying gender relations, and analyze how the concepts of the course apply to your chosen case. You can focus on one country, or compare countries. It could be a social movement, an organization, a particular area of interest (nannies or sex workers), a campaign (for policy change such as legalizing prostitution). The paper must make good use of at least three of the books or articles from the syllabus, as well as at least two outside research sources (newspapers or magazines, additional books or journal articles). You need to give me a memo with your proposed topic and possible bibliography by March 15. If I don’t receive this from you, I will take off 5 points from the paper grade.

The length of the paper should be approximately 10-15 double spaced pages. It will be judged on your thoughtful use of concepts from the course, as well as the quality of outside
research done on the particular case you have chosen. You should quote and cite appropriately from both the assigned readings and your outside research. **DUE DATE: April 18 (10 am).**

**Early submissions are encouraged.**

**Policies (Laptops, late work, etc.):**
It is understandable that some students will choose to take notes on their laptops during lectures. However, I request that you not use your laptop or any other device to surf the internet, send/receive text messages, etc. Cell phone ringers should be turned off during lectures and discussion sections. These activities are rude and inconsiderate not only to the instructors, but also to your fellow students. Similarly, students are expected to refrain from carrying on conversations or discussions while the professor is lecturing. If you break these rules, I may ask you to leave the classroom. Finally, arrive on time to lectures. It is disruptive to have students arriving after class has begun, and I will ask you to sign in if you do so.

Late work will be marked down half a grade per day.

**Grading:**
Final grades are not negotiable. This course uses the following grade thresholds:

- 95-99 = A
- 90-94 = A-
- 88-89 = B+
- 84-87 = B
- 80-83 = B-
- 78-79 = C+
- 74-77 = C
- 70-73 = C-
- 68-69 = D+
- 64-67 = D
- 60-63 = D-

**Plagiarism and Cheating:**
You should be aware that academic misconduct might result in severe penalties, including a zero on the assignment in question or the entire course, as well as further sanctions from the provost such as censure, suspension, or expulsion. Academic misconduct—plagiarism—will be treated as a serious offense. Plagiarism is the presentation of the work or ideas of others as your own, and involves not properly citing the work of others as well as more blatant plagiarism such having someone else write a paper (whole or in part) for you, or writing someone else’s paper for them. Any unauthorized reproduction or distribution of course material is a violation of intellectual property rights law and, in some cases, a violation of copyright law. You are expected to know and understand university policy regarding academic misconduct and your rights under the academic misconduct code.
COURSE SCHEDULE
Week 1: Introduction
Thursday, January 5
Overview of the class

Week 2: Thinking about Gender in Global Perspective
January 10

January 12: Theories of Globalization

Week 3: Gender and Colonial Legacies
January 17

January 19

Recommended: Chapter 2 “Restoring History and Politics to Third World Traditions.”

Week 4: Thinking about Gender in Global Perspective
January 24

Recommended:

January 26
In-Class Film: Maquilapolis

Week 5: Gender in Global Factories I  
January 31  

February 2  
Lynch chapters 4-6

Week 6: Gender in Global Factories II  
February 7  

February 9  
Pun Ngai, chapters 4 and 6

Week 7: Carework in a Global Economy  
February 14  

February 16  
Amrita Pande. ‘Not an Angel, Not a Whore’: Surrogates as ‘Dirty Workers’ in India. *Indian Journal of Gender Studies* 16/2, pp. 141-173.

Global Woman chapter TBA

Week 8: Global Migration  
February 21  

*Recommended:*  
Parrenas chapter in *Global Woman*.

MIDTERM EXAM QUESTIONS DISTRIBUTED  
February 23

*Global Woman*, chapter TBA

**MIDTERM EXAMS DUE: February 24 @ Noon**  
Hard copies dropped off at Women’s Studies Department Office, Lane Hall

**Week 9:**  
**SPRING BREAK – NO CLASSES**

**Week 10: Intimate and Sexual Labor**  
**March 6**  
Elizabeth Bernstein. 2007. *Temporarily Yours: Intimacy, Authenticity, and the Commerce of Sex*. Chapters 1-4

**March 8**  
*Temporarily Yours*. Chapters 5-7

**Week 11: Selling Sex and Trading Bodies**  
**March 13**  


**March 15**  
Kimberly Kay Hoang. “‘She’s Not a Low-Class Dirty Girl!’ Sex Work in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.” *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography* 40/4, pp. 367-396.

*Recommended:*  

**Week 12: Love and Family in a Global World**  
**March 20**  

March 22

Week 13: How Globalization Shapes Women’s Activism

March 27


March 29

Recommended:

Week 14: Global Debates over Religion and Modernity

April 3

Recommended:

April 5

Recommended:

Week 15: Transnational Women’s Movements and Changing Masculinities

April 10

**Recommended:**

**April 12**

**Week 16: The Potential for Feminist Transformations**
**April 17: LAST CLASS**

**FINAL PAPERS DUE: APRIL 18 @ 10 a.m.**
Hard copies should be delivered to the Women’s Studied Department Office, Lane Hall
Early submission is encouraged!