

ANT 341: Globalization
Spring 2009, T,Th 10:00 — 11:15am, Chambers B22

Prof. Eriberto P. Lozada Jr.
Office: Chambers B12
Telephone: 704-894-2035

Office Hours: M, W 9:30– 10:30 am
T, Th 9:00– 10:00 am or by appointment
Email: erlozada@davidson.edu

Web: <http://www.davidson.edu/personal/erlozada>



This course examines recent theories of globalization from an anthropological perspective, with an emphasis on the transnational political, economic, and cultural structures that are transforming local societies throughout the world. Topics include transnational religions, popular culture, and global capitalism. Special attention is devoted to debates regarding power and cultural imperialism, popular culture, the impact of science and technology transfer, and diaspora ethnicity.

The anthropological perspective is largely a “bottom-up,” comparative examination of particular social processes, and is presented in the form of ethnographic monographs and articles that describe everyday life in detail. The main question that we will be addressing throughout the seminar is the impact of transnational processes. Is globalization homogenizing different cultures to the extent that we can talk about a global society? Or is globalization resulting in local interpretations of transnational processes, resulting in fragmented yet interconnected global societies?

To accommodate the extensive list of readings, this seminar will include group work and case studies, generated by seminar participants. While we will read a wide variety of theoretical models of globalization, the main goal of this seminar will be the application of different theories of globalization to contemporary issues that we face every day. All of this is geared towards the writing of a research paper, based on topics selected by seminar participants. As a result, the seminar will also address issues in the research process, including research design.

Course Readings

Lechner, Frank and John Boli 2008. *The Globalization Reader*, 3rd Edition. Boston: Wiley-Blackwell.

Inda, Jonathan X. and Renato Rosaldo 2007. *The Anthropology of Globalization*. Boston: Wiley-Blackwell.

Additional articles will be available on Blackboard. Other ethnographies and articles will be selected by seminar participants.

Course Requirements

Seminar Participation: (15%)

This course is a seminar – I will **not lecture** at all on the material, and will participate as any other member. Readings will be quite extensive, with an average of **80 pages per week**.

Students are expected to attend all classes, do the readings prior to class, and **discuss the implications of the issues** in the classroom. Student participation is crucial to the success of this seminar, and is a key part of the learning process in this class.

Discussion Board: (10%)

Each week, students will write a brief reaction towards an idea prompted by the reading; you should feel free to write whatever you feel is relevant. They are due Monday at midnight each week (it will automatically close at midnight). Prior to our meeting on Tuesday, I also expect you to have reviewed what your peers have written – you may respond to what they have written, but I expect all exchanges to be as civil as if they were said in person during the seminar meeting. **LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**

Group Project: Case Studies: (10%)

Groups will generate 2 case studies that apply previously read theory to a contemporary issue that can be found in popular media (i.e., newspapers, television, radio, internet). The group will be responsible for providing readings/links to the wider seminar in a timely manner (at least one week prior to discussion) through Blackboard. Seminar participants will be expected to have reviewed this material, and be active in discussion that is led by the group. A more extensive description of the generation of case studies will be available in a handout to be distributed in class. I will make the selection of group members.

Group Project: Leading of Discussion. (10%)

Groups will also be responsible for leading discussion of theoretical readings. At the minimum, each group should be prepared to: 1) overview the general theoretical framework discussed by each author; 2) identify key concepts/terms integral to the theoretical framework; 3) situate the theoretical framework in relation to other approaches that we have read; 4) critique the assumptions and limitations of the theoretical framework; and 5) suggest possible areas where the theoretical framework can be applied.

Individual Research Project: (55% total):

This is divided into four different parts that will be due at different times throughout the semester; I will distribute individual handouts for each of these assignments.

- Proposal (5%). No more than one page (prose), this assignment will contain your research question, methodology, and a tentative bibliography.
- Case Study Literature Review (10%). Students will compile a selected bibliography on their research topic and write a 5-7 page paper reviewing the literature on their chosen topic. Students must first get approval on their topic from the instructor.
- Research Presentation (10%). Students will present their findings to the class in a 10 minute format, followed by a brief question and answer period. Students are encouraged to use Powerpoint or other presentation software. Submission of a script or presentation is mandatory and part of the evaluation.
- Research Paper (30%). The capstone to this seminar will be the semester-long research paper (no more than 20 pages), based on a topic that students will select after consultation with me. This essay must include outside research, either library or fieldwork-based.

While we will work together on the group project, other papers for this seminar must be your own individual work. All work is subject to the Davidson College Honor Code as stated in the student handbook. If there are individual accommodations for special needs, please let me know and authorize the Dean of Students to contact me so that we can work something out.

Class Schedule (subject to modification)

13 January	Introduction to the Seminar
15 January	Wider Frameworks on Globalization Reading: Lechner and Boli, Part I
20 January	Reading: Lechner and Boli, Part II
22 January	Reading: Inda and Rosaldo, Overture (minus Appadurai)
27 January (Group 1)	Experiencing Globalization Reading: Lechner and Boli, Part III
29 January	Case Study
3 February (Group 2)	Economic Globalization Reading: Lechner and Boli, Part IV Assignment: Proposals Due
5 February	Case Study
10 February (Group 3)	More on Economic Globalization Reading: Inda and Rosaldo, Part I
12 February	Case Study
17 February (Group 4)	Political Globalization Reading: Lechner and Boli, Part V (Ohmae, Strange, Garrett) Lechner and Boli, Part VI (Berkovitch, Boli and Thomas, Mathews)
19 February	Case Study
24 February (Group 1)	Religion and Globalization Reading: Lechner and Boli, Part VIII
26 February	Case Study
2-4 March	Spring Break. Have a good vacation.
10 March (Group 2)	Popular Culture and Globalization Reading: Lechner and Boli, Part VII
12 March	Case Study
17 March (Group 3)	More on Popular Culture and Globalization Reading: Inda and Rosaldo, Part III Inda and Rosaldo, Part IV (Larkin, Juris)

19 March	Case Study
24 March (Group 4)	Environmental Issues and Globalization Reading: Lechner and Boli, Part IX
26 March	Case Study
31 March	Resisting Globalization Reading: Lechner and Boli, Part X Assignment: Literature Review Due
2 April	Individual Appointments: Research Consultation
7 April	Globalized People Reading: Inda and Rosaldo, Part II
9 April	Individual Appointments: Research Consultation
14 April	Easter Break
16 April	Research Presentations
21 April	Research Presentations
23 April	Research Presentations
28 April	Research Presentations
30 April	Last Meeting of Seminar
7 May	Assignment: Research Papers Due