1. Title of Course and Course Number

   Gender and Globalization

   WGS 360

   3 credits

2. Course Description

   Over the last half century the economic, political and the cultural dimensions of globalization has fundamentally transformed the lived experience of work and labor, families, governance and welfare, community and nation. This course will use an interdisciplinary approach to interrogate the contemporary process of globalization as it impacts communities, gender relations, and sexualities across cultural and geographical regions of the world. Emphasizing a transnational feminist perspective that explores the linkages and connections between the global South and North, the course will focus on key issues of migration, global conflict, environment, health and violence and the collective responses and social movements resisting globalization.

3. Course Prerequisites

   Area 4 UCC

4. Course Objectives

   This course will:
   a) Explore the economic, political, and cultural dimensions and institutions of globalization
   b) Identify key impacts of globalization on marginalized groups (women, poor, racial minorities, indigenous groups) in different parts of the world
   c) Describe transformations in communities, gender relations and identities, and sexualities due to globalization using an interdisciplinary approach
   d) Develop a transnational feminist perspective on globalization that links gender oppression to other forms of oppression (such as racism, class, heterosexism, ableism) within and across geographical and cultural regions
   e) Recognize the interconnectedness of gender politics, gender justice and economic justice through transnational social movements

5. Student Learning Outcomes

   1. Identify global issues, processes, trends, and systems relevant to the course [UCC Area SLO #6. a]
In WGS 360, students will demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the economic, political, and cultural dimensions of the process of globalization, its historical development, and its key institutions.

2. Analyze diverse cultures, systems, and environments through cross-cultural perspectives [UCC Area SLO #6. b]
   In WGS 360, students will: critically describe and analyze the impacts of globalization in different societies and regions of the world, and their transnational connections; demonstrate knowledge of the gendered impacts of globalization on systems and institutions of work and labor, governance and welfare, family, community and nation, and environment.

3. Employ diverse frames of reference to expand critical thinking and problem solving [UCC Area SLO #6. c]
   In WGS 360, students will: analyze the category of “global problem” through an analysis of how the “local” is shaped by the “global”; integrate knowledge and ideas about oppression, equality and justice by evaluating different modes of engagement and collective strategies for resisting global patriarchies.

4. Identify cultural differences, their ambiguities, similarities and intercultural relations [UCC Area SLO #6. d]
   In WGS 360, students will: demonstrate an ability to employ an interdisciplinary approach to analyze gendered inequalities within different societies and cultural contexts; use cross-cultural perspectives to explore how patriarchal practices are differently experienced and resisted; evaluate cultural and political struggles around globalization's impacts.

5. Use diverse communication patterns and/or knowledge of other cultures to extend access to information, experience and understanding [UCC Area SLO #6. e]
   In WGS 360, students will: think critically about the nature and scale of data and evidence for the existence of systemic and global social inequalities; develop and debate the meanings and need for global struggles of solidarity across individual national and ethnic boundaries.

6. TOPICAL OUTLINE FOR COURSE CONTENT:

   Globalization and Transnational feminisms:
   - Introduction to concepts of colonialism, imperialism, globalization, politics of location, and human rights
   - Review of the status of women worldwide
   - Interrogation of universal sisterhood, global feminisms, and transnational feminist networks

   Gendering political economy:
   - Gender development index, international development, feminization of poverty
   - Impact of neo-liberal policies around the world
   - Structural adjustment policies
   - Global and transnational institutions (UN, WB, IMF, WTO, NAFTA, ADB, African Union, ASEAN)

   Gender and labor:
Changing nature of work, women and men in the informal sectors of the economy
Global assembly line, differential impact of the production process on women
Work in export processing zones.

Global sexualities:
Sexual politics, sexual identities, and sexual expressions across cultures
Impact of global capitalist economy on human trafficking
International anti-trafficking movements and advocacy
Sexual rights and religion.

Gendered migration:
Political economy, modes, debates and polices of migration
Impact of migration on work, families and communities
Migration and displacement as a result of political conflicts
Immigration policies impacting cultural and legal frameworks locally and nationally.

Global media:
Emergence of global media markets
Cultural notions of body and beauty, commodification of the body
Representations of gendered, raced and classed identities for global consumption
Access to Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), using ICTs for advocacy and justice.

Politics of Health and Healthcare:
Healthcare policies affected by global restructuring, gendering of healthcare providers
Women’s reproductive labor (motherhood, maternal mortality)
Reproductive technologies and policies (abortion, contraception)
Reproductive health and rights (AIDS crisis, health and safety risks of women and poor workers in some industries like flower, coffee, diamond).

Gender and Environment:
Global development and ecological crisis and its impact on communities
Global hunger, food production and distribution, food security
Ecofeminism, disaster capitalism, and environmental activism

Violence against women and indigenous populations:
Prevalence of violence in families, communities, and by the state
Structural violence and its impact on women, poor, and indigenous peoples
Gendering war and militarism
Global initiatives and policies to combat and resist all forms of violence

Transnational movements and Human Rights discourse:
Women’s representation and participation in formal politics
Marginalized communities organizing in informal political spaces
Transnational organizing, advocacy and solidarity networks for social change
Social justice movements
Human Rights discourse
7. Guidelines/Suggestions for Teaching Methods and Student Learning Activities

- Lectures
- In-class writing
- Group discussions
- Individual research projects
- Films
- Guest speakers
- Service learning projects

8. Guidelines/Suggestions for Methods of Student Evaluation

1. UCC Area SLO #6.1 will be evaluated by class participation, journal entries, essays, exams, and/or response papers.

2. UCC Area SLO #6.2 will be evaluated by group work, debates, discussion board, essays, and/or response papers

3. UCC Area SLO #6.3 will be evaluated by class participation, essays, and/or response papers

4. UCC Area SLO #6.4 and #6.5 will be evaluated by an independent research project.

9. Suggested Readings, Texts, Objects of Study


10. Bibliography of Supportive Texts and Other Materials:


De Silva, Jani. 2006. Globalization, Terror & the Shaming of the Nation: Constructing Local Masculinities in a Sri Lankan Village Bloomington, IN: Trafford Publishing


Inhorn, Marcia C. 2003. *Local Babies, Global Science: Gender, Religion and In Vitro Fertilization in Egypt* NY: Routledge


11. PREPARER’S NAME AND DATE: Vidya Kalaramadam

12. ORIGINAL DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL DATE: 02.22.2011

13. REVISER’S NAME AND DATE: N/A

14. DEPARTMENT REVISION APPROVAL DATE: N/A