Over the past four decades, the world has seen massive and rapid economic restructuring. This shift, labeled ‘globalization,’ has led to the emergence of transnational corporations as key global players; to the rise of new industries and to the decline of others; and to rapid industrialization in previously “underdeveloped” countries coupled with de-industrialization in the advanced economies of North America and Europe.

The course begins with a brief overview of labor dynamics and then moves on to examine the new realities of work across a number of economic sectors, including: agriculture and food services, mining and natural resource extraction, manufacturing and retail, banking and finance, computing and telecommunications, tourism and hospitality, and health and caregiving. Lectures, class discussions and group and individual projects encourage students to think through the linkages between different types of work and to make connections between differently positioned workers between economic sectors and across international borders.

Spring 2016
Work & Workers in a Global Economy
T 1000-1150 (hybrid)
Instructor: Maureen Hickey
CRN 61597