We, that is those of us who live in the world, are more intimately connected than we sometimes think. We rely on each other; we grow food for one another; we build ipods for others; we drink coffee grown, and processed, and distributed and brewed and sold by people. We are connected to one another. We even send each other aid: sometimes corn and sometimes cluster bombs. And both, as we will see, can have explosively inhumane effects. Our communities and nations are more connected today than ever before, and our economies are increasingly mutually dependant. Consider the recent economic downturn: What was born in Wall Street boardrooms and of American consumer habits has material consequences for Vietnamese sweatshop workers, Mexican campesin@s and PSU graduates.

In our course, we will be exploring issues that you have no doubt already encountered: WTO, NAFTA, IMF, World Bank, sweatshops, imperialism, racism, and the myriad protests these issues engender. Our class will follow the historical rise of globalization, from its roots in colonialism to its current form. Our discussions will operate on two levels: We’ll be exploring the political and economic structures of globalization as well as the ideologies and discourses that enable them. We will also pay careful attention to the indigenous worldviews that globalization (and its parent, colonialism) often actively attempts to snuff out. Above all, our task will be to understand that globalization is not a natural or inevitable process, but rather a complex political project that was achieved by particular power groups. Globalization, like all things social, was built. Indeed, we are still building it.

Our course is just that: ours, not mine. Your voice is indispensable to the learning of each of us. Find it. Use it. And value the voices, perspectives and life experiences of your classmates, even if they clash with your own. It is my hope that our class will become an open space in which we can explore new ideas and learn from one another.

**Grading**

*Grading is participatory in this course. By that, I mean that you will assign half of your own grade. For each assignment you turn in, you will include a grading rubric form on which you will assess your own work. Your grade will be determined by averaging your assessment and mine. Assignments will not be accepted without the grading rubric form attached. Late assignments will be deducted 1 letter grade. No late assignments will be accepted after 4:00pm on Thursday 6/9.*

10% Attendance – If you are forced to miss class for reasons outside of your control, such as illness, your grade will not be penalized. Please notify Stephanie by email (stephaniekaye.guenther@gmail.com) in such an occasion.

60% Three Reading Reflections – Choose three Thursdays (see below) to hand in a reading reflection. A Reading Reflection is a 1 page, single spaced discussion of the readings assigned for that week, demonstrating that you have a deep and nuanced understanding of them. Reading Reflections should explore (1) how the theses of each of the readings relate to each other, and (2) your own critical response to them. Only turn in well-written, thoughtful pieces. Reflections must be typed and turned in on paper (not email). You may choose which weeks to turn in reflections, however one must be turn in during each of the follow 3 time blocs: (1) weeks 1 – 4, (2) weeks 5-7 and (3) weeks 8-10.

15% Visualizing The Development Project (Due Thursday 4/28) – Working in small groups, create a visual representation of the development project. You may use any medium you like. Your representation must provide insights into the theoretical and historical course content. If your project is large or three dimensional, please turn in photographs of it in place of the larger piece. If it is highly symbolic, please provide a ‘key’ identifying the meaning of your symbols. Be prepared to informally discuss your project with a small group of your peers on the day you turn it in. Each group member will receive the same grade.

15% Visualizing The Globalization Project / Visualizing Resistance (Due Thursday 6/2) – Like the assignment above, in small groups, you will create a visual representation of either the globalization project or anti-globalization social movements. Be prepared to discuss your work with a small group of your peers on the day you turn it in.
Weekly Breakdown

Shanin: “The Idea of Progress” Course Packet

Week 2 (4/5 – 4/7) Colonialism to Development
Readings: McMichael: Chapter 2 pages 25-54
Waylen: “Colonialism” Course Packet

Week 3 (4/12 – 4/14) The Development Project Part 1
Readings: McMichael: Chapter 3 pages 55-84
Rostow: “The Five Stages-of-Growth – A Summary” Course Packet
George: “The Green Revolution” Course Packet

Week 4 (4/19 – 4/21) The Development Project Part 2
Reminder: Turn in your first Reading Reflection by or before Thursday 4/21
Waylen: “Chapter 5: Authoritarianism” Course Packet

Week 5 (4/26 – 4/28) The Development Project Unravels, 1970s
DUE: Visualizing The Development Project, Thursday 4/28
Readings: McMichael: Chapter 4 pages 87-116
Shiva: “Western Science and its Destruction of Local Knowledge” Course Packet

Week 6 (5/3 – 5/5) Third World Debt Crisis & The Emergence of Global Management
Happy May Day!
Readings: McMichael: Chapter 5 pages 117-145
Nandy: “The Colonization of the Mind” Course Packet
Paik: “The Fall and Rise of Native Languages” Paradigm Wars pages 139-143.

Week 7 (5/10 – 5/12) Global Economic Liberalization
Reminder: Turn in your second Reading Reflection by or before Thursday 5/12
Readings: McMichael: Chapter 6 pages 149-190
Klein: “Blank is Beautiful: Three decades of erasing and remaking the world” Course Packet

Readings: McMichael: Chapter 7 pages 191-228

Week 9 (5/24 – 5/26) Recent Crises in Perspective & The Rise of Alternative Ways of Being
Readings: McMichael: Chapter 9 pages 273-291
Escobar: “Beyond the Third World: Imperial Globality, Global Coloniality and Anti-Globalization Social Movements” Course Packet

Week 10 (5/31 – 6/2) A Case Study in Transformative Social Movements: Oaxaca
Reminder: Turn in your third Reading Reflection by or before Thursday 6/2
DUE: Visualizing the Globalization Project, Thursday 6/2
Readings: McMichael: Chapter 8 pages 231-272
Notes from Nowhere: “Autonomy” Free online: http://www.weareeverywhere.org/ (Click ‘themes’ and scroll down and click on ‘autonomy’)

Final Meeting, Thursday 6/9 at 2:00, Film Showing: A Little Bit of So Much Truth
**Required Readings**

Books are spendy. If you need to borrow my books for a short time, just let me know. Also, feel free to share!

- *Course Reading Packet:* Available for purchase at Smart Copy, 1915 SW 6th Ave, next to Hot Lips.

**Recommended Readings**

These readings are NOT required. However, you may find them interesting. I sure do!

- Notes from Nowhere. 2003 *We are Everywhere* New York: Verso Press.

**Recommended Films**

These films are also NOT required. However, they are each very interesting.

- The Corporation
- Life and Debt
- Mardi Gras: Made in China
- The Take
- Food Inc.
- King Corn
- The Miami Model
- The Price of Aid
- The Power of Community: How Cuba Survived Peak Oil
- Plunder

Feel free to ask for more recommendations! And please share your own suggestions!