

**MCGS 316H**  
**Crossing Boundaries: Gender and Modernization**  
**M 3-5:50 p.m. OCNL 239**

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**Honors Program Goals and Objectives for Honors Theme Classes**

- To engage students in an interdisciplinary studies experience in an interactive setting.
- To invite students to think reflectively about how this course connects to other course work.
- To teach students about the interrelationship of their roles as American citizens and as world citizens.
- To give students an understanding of the modern global community.
- To allow students to pursue their own research interests within the framework of interdisciplinary studies, and the framework of each individual class.

**GE Course Goals and Objectives**

- To learn to analyze and synthesize a variety of materials reflecting different cultures.
- To sharpen writing and oral presentation skills.
- To look at how the world system plays out in different locations within and outside the United States, particularly under the relocation of peoples.
- To learn some of the basic concepts of social science concerning the functioning of gender relations and families, immigration, and the construction of ethnic minorities in the United States and elsewhere.
- To learn how ideas of gender and family vary from culture to culture and are shaped by environment.
- To examine how ethnic relations are shaped by immigration and by environment.
- To learn how immigration affects individuals as well as groups.
- To learn how different cultures within the United States have responded to and been affected by the challenges of modernization.
- To learn how global-local relations and connections have evolved in the process of modernization.
- To understand that the formation of ethnic identity is in constant and active formation, which must be understood within a global context.

## Course requirements

### A. Timing.

1. **Your presence** is required. Be on time, stay the whole class period, and do not miss a class unless it is a dire emergency. One class is worth three daytime classes, your full allowance of cuts. If you should miss a class it is your group members' responsibility to bring you up to speed; respect this. You will also have a make-up assignment, which must be done to gain you credit. If you miss part of a film it is your responsibility to watch it outside of class.
2. **Break** during class lasts ten minutes, no more. Respect your classmates' time and do not keep them waiting or distract them by returning late.
3. **Your presentations** must be timed to the minutes allowed. Be prepared to be stopped if you run over.

### B. Reading:

Packet # 12 at Mr. Kopy, 119 Main Street.

Texts at University bookstore:

Marjane Satrapi, *Persepolis*

Leslie Marmon Silko, *Ceremony*

Jamaica Kincaid, *A Small Place*

Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni, *Arranged Marriage*

*I, Rigoberta*

Tracy Kidder, *Mountains Beyond Mountains*

1. Before you start the reading for next week, buy a **three ring binder**, in which you will put all of your work for this class for the rest of the semester. This will make the portfolio assignment pathetically easy.
2. **Do the reading**, before you come to class.
3. **Prepare your study questions**. These should identify at least two issues out of every week's reading, handed in on note cards at the beginning of each class period.
4. **Take notes**: *always start class with a clean page dated at the top*, and record information or ideas presented by anyone during discussions of the readings, and during the screening of films. These notes will be an important part of your portfolio.

### C. Written assignments and presentations:

1. Location paper, 1. (Ungraded but mandatory)
2. Group report. (Presentation)
3. Term paper.
4. Portfolio.
5. Location paper, 2. (Ungraded but mandatory) *read on*

6. Short presentation about your term paper. (This is **not a summary**, although it may include a short one: it is the story of how you researched and wrote the paper, and what you discovered doing so. *Anything* you discovered. Have fun with this.)

**Policy for written work:** All papers must be clearly and logically written as well as grammatically correct. Whenever you refer, in their words or your own, to someone else's ideas or facts, you must cite them in the appropriate form, and these citations must be consistent throughout the paper. For this you may need to buy a style guide, such the Chicago Manual of Style, and stick to it. Every paper you hand in should be typewritten, double spaced, in a 12 point font, with one inch margins. Pages should be numbered and stapled together. Please include a title page, including your name, the title, the name of the assignment, the date, and course information. Proofread!

**More than one late assignment will affect your grade.**

**ASSESSMENT INSTRUMENTS:** Group reports, 25%; term paper—draft, 5%, presentation 5%, paper, 15%; class participation (includes punctuality, preparing interesting study questions on the reading each week, asking other questions, raising issues and objections, introducing topics, helping to clarify points, all of which Sally keeps track), 25%; portfolio, 25%.

## Course Schedule

<b>Date</b>	<b>Text discussed</b> (from packet, unless *ed, which means a required paperback text)	<b>Coursework due</b>
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**Topic: societies, social construction** (modernization, development, culture, culture shock, colonization/colonialism, gender, concept of the Other)

I. 1/22 Syllabus, glossary, the week's reading and written assignments

II. 1/29 LeGuin, Pulsipher, Fullilove intro. **Location paper #1 due and discussed**

III. 2/5 Landes, De Soto **report #1: images of the “underdeveloped world”** (Begin reading for 2/19)

IV. 2/12 [Pilar Alvarez-Rubio] Film: Missing

V and VI. 2/19-26 [Giety Epting, either day] \*Satrapi, Keddie (Dr. Lerner comes in briefly on the 20<sup>st</sup> to talk about Ceremony, which you must then finish before 3/5)

VII. 3/5 [Andrea Lerner, Arlene Ward] \*Silko **term paper text choices by e-mail**

VIII. 3/12 [Andrea Lerner] \*Silko **report #2: the modernization of traditional cultures**

**3/19 SPRING BREAK (read your chosen text and make notes for term paper)**

**Topic: movement of peoples** (neocolonialism, move from rural and indigenous to city, migration, flight, assimilation, acculturation)

IX. 3/26 [Kristin Mahlis] \*Kincaid, Hochschild, Anderson and Brennan **report #3: the role of tourism in “underdeveloped” countries**

X. 4/2 [Susan Place] \*I, Rigoberta (selections)

XI. 4/9 \*Divakaruni (selections) **report #4: pressure on the family**

**RETREAT APRIL 16<sup>TH</sup> or 17<sup>TH</sup>**

**Topic: environment and activism**

XII. 4/16 Film: End of Suburbia (read Kidder)  
(Sally will be in her office Monday and Tuesday to consult on term paper.)

XIII. 4/23 [Laurie Wermuth] \*Kidder **report #5: immigration to U.S., using Haitian example**

**Draft of term paper due**

(Term paper conferences with Sally scheduled Monday and Tuesday)

XIV. 4/30 Fullilove, “Waylaid”

**Term paper and short presentations**

XV. 5/7 Fullilove, "In Retreat"

**Location paper #2 due and discussed**

**FINALS WEEK**

**Portfolio due May 18<sup>th</sup> , place TBA**