

**INTL 488 – Macalester College International Studies Senior Seminar, Spring 2009**

**Universalism: Confronting Global Thought**

Instructor: David Chioni Moore  
Class: Tues-Thurs, 9:40-11:10, Carnegie 208  
Office hours: Tues-Thurs 100 to 230 in Carnegie 410, and by appointment  
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*Description:* This course offers senior International Studies majors of diverse academic and life backgrounds a common space in which to think, read, and write synoptically about our transnational world. Since rapid globalization in all areas of modern life has raised afresh the age-old question of Universalism – do we live in one world or many? – this course reviews a series of politically, culturally, and philosophically charged experiments in global cogitation. It is a course less about data or facts than about thought.

Beginning with American questions, and then moving through Caribbean hybridities, theories of purity and diversity, transnational business analysis, questions of world literature and much more, we will ask: in whose interest is the universal? is there any local left? how might one think the world as one? does global mean homogeneous? is today's "unification" new, or only an update of ancient ways? is it possible to be cosmopolitan? and from what standpoint can one responsibly judge the world?

Our readings will vary widely. Our first five weeks will focus on essays, and the next six on books published in the past two years. The remainder of the course is devoted to writing, with a final term paper with multiple intermediate process dates. We will range across philosophy, crime studies, older globalizations, literary studies, fiction, and global social and cultural critique.

*Course Conduct:* The class will be run as a seminar – that is, a joint exploration. Close reading and discussion of texts will be mixed with presentations by class members and the professor. Intensive examination of readings early in the course will provide groundwork for the long final essay.

*Assignments/Evaluation:*

Presentation of one or two readings in the seminar	10%
A medium-length (7-8 page) paper	15%
Active and insightful class participation	25%
A long (17-20 page) final paper	50%

The midterm paper will treat class readings. The highly configurable final paper – a capstone to your I.S. major – should be written with future inclusion as a text for this course in mind. A required April prospectus offers early guidance.

*Two notes:* Timely class attendance is integral to the course and its grade. Let me know in advance of conflict with any religious holidays and/or any relevant disability issues. We'll arrange acceptable alternatives and/or accommodations, and your grades will be unaffected.

*Paper format:* printed not emailed, double-spaced, *numbered pages*, stapled, 1" margins all around, 12-point font. A title page with a good title, and then your name, course title, my name, and

date. Generous acknowledgments and full bibliography at the end of the paper. I assume your font gives you 300 or so words per page. Papers are due under my office door at the time noted on the due date, and drop 1/2 grade per day from that point. RTFM.

*Finally:* the raw length of readings varies widely each week; this does not constitute widely varying workload, since shorter items will be examined in detail. Some of the readings appeared originally in other languages. I'll ask students proficient in these languages to comment on the originals, which I'll supply.

**Schedule (the date indicates the Tuesday of each week):**

- 1 J27 Tu: introductions, housekeeping, aims and scope  
Th: American Universals: Randolph Bourne, "Trans-National America," 1916;  
Orlando Patterson, "Ecumenical America," 1994
- 2 F3 The Caribbean and the Americas  
José Vasconcelos, *La Raza Cósmica / The Cosmic Race*, 1927, pp. 1-30  
Antonio Benítez-Rojo, "The Repeating Island," 1991  
Derek Walcott, *The Antilles: Fragments of Epic Memory*, The Nobel Lecture, 1992  
Coco Fusco, "The Incredible Disappearing Woman," 2000
- 3 F10 Self-Other-Pure-Hybrid  
E. Valentine Daniel, "The Arrogation of Being: Anthropology and Religion," 1999  
Benita Brahmhatt, "Intelligibility and the Global Moment," 1999  
James Scott et al, "The Production of Legal Identities Proper to States," 2002
- 4 F17 Global Fiction (I of II): The New Ireland  
Roddy Doyle, *The Deportees and Other Stories*, 2007
- 5 F24 Global Business  
William Taylor, "An Interview with ABB's Percy Barnevik," 1991  
Victor Fung, "Supply Chain Management, Hong Kong Style," 1998  
Katherine Boo, "Letter from India: The Best Job in Town," 2004  
and two more items to be determined with the class from DCM-supplied options

**n.b.: mid-term paper due at 1 pm, Monday March 2nd, under my office door**

- 6 M3 World Literature  
Erich Auerbach, "Philology and *Weltliteratur*," 1952  
David Laitin, "Can Language Be Planned?" 1991  
Wail Hassan, "World Literature in the Age of Globalization," 2000  
Francesca Orsini, "India in the Mirror of World Fiction," 2002  
David Chioni Moore, "Nigerian Email Spam as World Literature Contender," 2009
- 7 M10 Older Cosmopolitanisms  
Karen Barkey, *Empire of Difference*, 2008 – first half

**[March 17 and 19: Spring Break: no class]**

- 8 M24 Empire to Nationalism  
Barkey, *Empire of Difference*, second half
- 9 M31 East, West (I)  
Salman Rushdie, *The Enchantress of Florence*, 2007 – first half
- 10 A7 East, West (II)  
Rushdie, *Enchantress*, second half
- 11 A14 Far Side of the State  
Carolyn Nordstrom, *Global Outlaws*, 2008
- 12 A21 Cosmpolitanism Now  
Tues: Seyla Benhabib and others, *Another Cosmopolitanism*, 2006  
Thurs: first final paper workshop
- 13 A28 Repeat  
Tues: conclude Benhabib book discussion  
Thurs: second final paper workshop
- 14 M5 Tuesday, the last day of classes

Classes end Tuesday May 5th; exams Thurs-Mon May 7-11; graduation Saturday May 16.

**Final papers due by 2:00 pm Friday, May 8th, under my office door**

**Five Books, in order of reading:**

Doyle, Roddy. *The Deportees, and Other Stories*. New York: Viking, 2007.

Barkey, Karen. *Empire of Difference: The Ottomans in Comparative Perspective*. New York: Cambridge U.P., 2008.

Rushdie, Salman. *The Enchantress of Florence: A Novel*. New York: Random House, 2008.  
Paperback to be released January 9, 2009.

Nordstrom, Carolyn. *Global Outlaws: Crime, Money, and Power in the Contemporary World*.  
Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California P., 2007.

Benhabib, Seyla, with responses from Jeremy Waldron, Bonnie Honig, and Will Kymlicka.  
*Another Cosmopolitanism*. New York: Oxford U.P., 2006

### Course Essay Readings: IS-488, Spring 2009, Prof. David Chioni Moore

1. Bourne, Randolph. "Trans-National America," originally in the *Atlantic Monthly*, 1916. This from his posthumous *War and the Intellectuals: collected essays by Randolph S. Bourne 1915-1919*, ed. Carl Resek. New York: Harper & Row, 1964: 107-123.
2. Patterson, Orlando. "Ecumenical America: Global Culture and the American Cosmos." *World Policy Journal* 11.2, Summer 1994: 103-117.
3. Vasconcelos, José. The introductory chapter, "El mestizaje," from his *La Raza Cósmica: Misión de la raza iberoamericana; Notas de viajes a la America del Sur*. Paris: Agencia Mundial de Librería, 1927?, and in his *Obras Completas*, México, DF: Libreros Mexicanos Unidos, 1950, tomo II: 903-1067. This translation is by Didier T. Jaén, *The Cosmic Race / La Raza Cósmica*. Los Angeles: Centro de Publicaciones, California State University, 1979. "El mestizaje," pp. 1-38.
4. Benítez-Rojo, Antonio. "The Repeating Island," trans. James Maraniss. From *Do the Americas Have a Common Literature?* Ed. Gustavo Pérez Firmat. Durham, NC: Duke Univ Press, 1990, pp. 85-106. Later the first chapter of his *The Repeating Island*, Duke UP 1993. In Spanish original as part of a larger book, *La isla que se repite*, Hanover, NH: Ediciones del Norte, 1989.
5. Walcott, Derek. *The Antilles: Fragments of Epic Memory*, The Nobel Lecture, 1992.
6. Fusco, Coco. "The Incredible Disappearing Woman," Macalester College International Roundtable keynote address/performance, October 2000. In *Macalester International* 10 (Spring 2001): 3-44.
7. Daniel, E. Valentine. "The Arrogation of Being: Revisiting the Anthropology of Religion." *Macalester International* 8 (Spring, 2000): 171-191.
8. Brahmabhatt, Benita. "Intelligibility and the Global Moment." Midterm paper for IS-88, Fall 1999
9. James Scott et al, "The Production of Legal Identities Proper to States," 2002
10. Taylor, William. "The Logic of Global Business: An Interview with ABB's Percy Barnevik," *Harvard Business Review*, March-April 1991, pp. 91-105.
11. Magretta, Joan. "Fast, Global, and Entrepreneurial: Supply Chain Management, Hong Kong Style: An Interview with Victor Fung." *Harvard Business Review* 76.5 (Sept-Oct, 1998): 103-114.
12. Boo, Katherine. "Letter From India – The Best Job in Town: The Americanization of Chennai." *The New Yorker*, July 5, 2004: pp. 56-69.
13. A fourth business article, t.b.d., most likely drawn from either the *Harvard Business Review* or from a Harvard Business School case study.
14. A fifth business article, as above.
15. Auerbach, Erich. "Philology and *Weltliteratur*" [1952] *Centennial Review* 13.1 (1969): 1-17. Originally as "Philologie der Weltliteratur." *Weltliteratur: Festgabe Für Fritz Strich Zum 70. Geburtstag*. Ed. Walter Henzen Herausgegeben, Walter Muschg, and Emil Staiger. Bern: Francke Verlag, 1952, pp. 39-50.
16. Laitin, David D. "Review: Can Language Be Planned?" *Transition* 54 (1991), pp. 131-141.
17. Hassan, Wail S. "World Literature in the Age of Globalization: Reflections on an Anthology." *College English* 63.1 (September 2000), pp. 38-47.
18. Orsini, Francesca. "India in the Mirror of World Fiction." *New Left Review* 13 (January-February, 2002), pp. 75-88.
19. Moore, David Chioni. "Extremely Urgent: Nigerian Email Spam as African Literary Genre, and World Literature Contender," draft, 2009. Or, "Genre Trouble; or, Can the Subaltern *Print*? Langston Hughes, African Writing, and the Emergence of a World Literature, 1953-1967," by the same.