

**Syllabus**  
**INTL 111, Introduction to International Studies, Macalester College, Fall 2011**  
**Literature and Global Culture**

Instructor: David Chioni Moore  
Class: MWF 9:40-10:40 (sec 01) and 10:50-11:50 (sec 02/first-year course), Carnegie 404  
Office hours: Tues 10:15-11:30, Wed 12:00-12:45, and Fri 2:30-4:00, and by appointment.  
Please use the signup sheet outside my office door, C-410.  
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*Introduction:* One of the most significant trends of the contemporary era has been “globalization”: the shrinking of distances, the greater interpenetration of all the world’s peoples, and the rise, *perhaps*, of a so-called global culture. Single cars embody the work of forty nations, local food stores stock items from all continents, and literature and culture have proved no less hybrid. Yet it is too simple to say, “it’s all a big mix,” for the questions of how the mixing is done, and who has what stakes in it, are complex.

By reading important recent texts in world literature and cultural theory, this course tackles “worldly” questions: what does it mean to be from a certain place? what is a “culture” or “nation” and who are we in it? We’ll work to link two poles of literary response: one’s personal reading, and the text in dialogue with the world. We begin with texts narrating the dizzying mix of the Americas (Battacharya, Nair, Walcott), examine world-spanning texts of multicultural encounter (Doyle, Ghosh, various short stories), an environmental history (Mann), and contemporary commentary (Kaplan and, in satire, Parker & Stone). A powerful roster of theoretical essays by major scholars will stand in equal importance.

*Course Recommended For:* people of freshness and sophomores planning an International Studies major and/or strongly interested in inter- and trans-national issues, particularly, but not exclusively, from a literature/culture/philosophy perspective.

*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.

*Assignments/Evaluation:*

preliminary paper	absolute requirement
Roundtable: attendance at three of four sessions	required
an oral presentation	8%
must-pass “global 20th century” mega-quiz	12%
first paper (5-6 pages)	15%
second paper (5-6 pages)	15%
active and insightful class participation	20%
a longer (12 page) final paper	30%

*Notes:* Timely class attendance is integral to the course and its grade. Inform me in advance of conflict with any religious holidays and/or any relevant disabilities; we’ll arrange acceptable alternatives and/or accommodations, and your grades will be unaffected.

*Paper format:* See the full roster of paper format requirements and writing advice on my homepage, linked off the I.S. faculty page. You are responsible for all format requirements. (They include, but are not limited to, double-spacing, *numbered pages*, 1” margins all around, 12-point font, un-

numbered title page with a good title, generous acknowledgements of all helpers and works used at the paper's end.) Physical papers are due under my office door by the day and time noted, and drop 1/2 grade per day from that point. RTFM.

### How to read the schedule:

Most weeks' readings are presented on two lines. The first text is the subject of class Monday and Wednesday. Have the *whole* text read by the start of Monday's class. The second line, a critical reading in dialogue with the main text, will be the Friday topic.

### Schedule:

- 1 S7 Wed: Introduction, housekeeping, aims and scope  
*n.b.:* preliminary paper due Thurs, Sept 8th, by noon under my office door; this paper is an absolute course requirement: no exceptions or late papers accepted.  
Fri: James Clifford, "Traveling Cultures," introductions and preliminary assessment
  - 2 S12 Narrating the Mix: Rahul Battacharya, *The Sly Company of People Who Care*  
Fri: sec. 01: Wail Hassan, "World Literature in the Age of Globalization"  
Fri: sec. 02/FYC: library skills session
  - 3 S19 → film shown Sunday eve, Sept 18th, 7pm in Media Services, Hum 402  
Identity & Difference: Mira Nair, *Mississippi Masala* (film)  
Kwame Anthony Appiah, "African Identities"
  - 4 S26 Performance: Derek Walcott, *Pantomime*  
→ Global Mega-Quiz Friday Sept 30
  - 5 O3 Representation: four short stories from a collection edited by Nam Le  
Henry Louis Gates Jr., "'Authenticity,' or the Lesson of Little Tree"
  - 6 O10 Whose Eyes?: Amitav Ghosh, *In an Antique Land*, first half (to pg. 179)  
→ no class Friday Oct 14: DCM in Budapest  
**Paper 1 due Friday, October 14, at 12:30 p.m. under my office door**
- Note: the Macalester International Roundtable**, this year on "Children of the World: The Dialectic of Promise and Vulnerability," scheduled October 13-15. Keynote Thursday 4:30-6:15, talks Friday 9:30-noon and 1:30-4:00, and roundtable Saturday 10-noon. Attendance at three of these four is required.
- 7 O17 Whose Shadow?: Ghosh, *In an Antique Land*, second half (to end)  
José Limon, "Notes of a Native Anthropologist"
  - 8 O24 Complexity:  
M: A. Appadurai, "Disjuncture and Difference in the Global Cultural Economy"  
W: 01 – interview with Victor Fung on supply chain management, 1998  
W: 02 – writing workshop  
F: no class Friday 10/28 – Fall Break
  - 9 O31 Biohistory: Charles Mann, *1493: Uncovering the New World Columbus Created*  
Benedict Anderson, "Census, Map, Museum"

- 10 N7 Biohistory 2: Mann, *1491*, week 2 of 2  
Fri: 01 – Randolph Bourne, “Transnational America,” 1916  
Fri: 02 – advising and the second semester  
**Second paper due (5-6 pp.) Thursday November 10th, by 2:00 pm**
- 11 N14 The Nation and the State:  
Ernest Renan, “What is a Nation?”  
Benedict Anderson, “Memory and Forgetting”  
James Scott et al, “The Production of Legal Identities Proper to States”  
Jan Blommaert, “Language, Asylum, and the National Order”
- 12 N21 Roddy Doyle, *The Deportees*
- [Thanksgiving is Thursday November 24 — no Friday class this week]
- 13 N28 Contemporary Commentary: Robert D. Kaplan, *Monsoon: The Indian Ocean and the Future of American Power*  
Katherine Boo, “The Best Job in Town”
- 14 D5 (*n.b.:* film shown Sunday eve, December 4th, 7pm in Media Services, Hum 402)  
Critical Popular Response: Parker and Stone, dirs., *Team America World Police*  
Ralph Linton, “One Hundred Percent American,” and Horace Miner, “Body Ritual Among the Nacirema”
- 15 D12 concluding class Monday

Macalester classes end Tuesday, December 13. Finals period, Thurs-Mon, December 15-19.

**Final course papers due Friday, December 16, by 1:00 pm under my office door.**

**Course Books (available at College Bookstore):**

1. Battacharya, Rahul. *The Sly Company of People Who Care*. New York: FSG, 2011.
2. Ghosh, Amitav. *In An Antique Land: History in the Guise of a Traveler’s Tale*. New York: Vintage, 1993.
3. Mann, Charles C. *1493: Uncovering the New World Columbus Created*. NY: Knopf, 2011.
4. Doyle, Roddy. *The Deportees and Other Stories*. New York: Viking, 2008.
5. Kaplan, Robert D. *Monsoon: The Indian Ocean and the Future of American Power*. New York: Random House, 2010.
6. Harvey, Michael. *The Nuts and Bolts of College Writing*. New York: Hackett, 2003.

**Separately supplied or screened:**

- A film, Mira Nair, dir. *Mississippi Masala*. Warner Brothers, 1992
- A play by Derek Walcott, “Pantomime,” 1978
- Global short stories from a collection edited by Nam Le
- A film, Matt Parker and Trey Stone, dirs. *Team America World Police*. Paramount, 2004
- Rich roster of essays and articles (contents list follows)
- I encourage you separately to buy a Hammond compact desk globe or similar

**Fall 2011 Essay Readings For  
International Studies 111: Literature and Global Culture**

1. James Clifford "Traveling Cultures," from *Cultural Studies*, ed. Lawrence Grossberg, Cary Nelson, and Paula A. Treichler. NY: Routledge, 1992: 96-116.
2. Wail Hassan "World Literature in the Age of Globalization" *College English* 63.1 (Sept 2000): 38-47.
3. K. Anthony Appiah "African Identities," *In My Father's House: Africa in the Philosophy of Culture*. NY: Oxford U.P., 1992: 173-180.
4. Henry Louis Gates Jr. "'Authenticity,' or the Lesson of Little Tree," *New York Times Book Review*, November 24, 1991: 1++.
5. José Limón "Representation, Ethnicity, and the Precursory Ethnography." In *Recapturing Anthropology: Working in the Present*, ed. Richard G. Fox. Santa Fe: School of American Research Press, 1991. pp. 115-135.
6. Arjun Appadurai "Disjuncture and Difference in the Global Cultural Economy." *Public Culture*, vol. 2, no. 2, Spring 1990: 1-24.
7. 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.
8. Benedict Anderson "Census, Map, Museum," chapter 10 of his *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*. New York: Verso, rev. ed., 1991: 163-185.
9. Randolph Bourne "Trans-National America," originally in the *Atlantic Monthly*, 1916, this from his *History of a Literary Radical and Other Essays*, NY: B.W. Huebsch, 1920: 266-299.
10. Ernest Renan "What is a Nation?" [1882], transl. Martin Thom. In *Nation and Narration*, ed. Homi K. Bhabha. NY: Routledge, 1990: 8-22.
11. Benedict Anderson "Memory and Forgetting," chapter 11 of his *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*. New York: Verso, rev. ed., 1991: 187-206. (plus translation sheet provided)
12. James C. Scott, John Tehranian, and Jeremy Mathias. "The Production of Legal Identities Proper to States: The Case of the Permanent Family Surname." *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 44.1 (January 2002): 4-44.
13. Blommaert, Jan. "Language, Asylum, and the National Order." *Current Anthropology* 50.4 (August 2009): 415-440
14. Katherine Boo "Letter From India – The Best Job in Town: The Americanization of Chennai." *The New Yorker*, July 5, 2004: pp. 56-69.
15. Ralph Linton "One Hundred Percent American." *The American Mercury*, April 1937: 427-429.
16. Horace Miner "Body Ritual Among the Nacirema" *American Anthropologist* 58 (1956): 503-507.