Course Description
Study of the role of gender in economic structures and social processes comprising globalization and in the political practices of contemporary U.S. empire. We will explore the ways in which transformations in global political and economic structures over the last few decades – including recent political developments in the U.S. – have been shaped by gender, race, sexuality, religion and social movements. We will also examine the broad social consequences of these transformations and developments, particularly for marginalized groups. Finally, we will consider the various theoretical, political, social and cultural ways that women have challenged, resisted and addressed the dire implications of both globalization and empire. Topics for discussion include the feminization of labor; neoliberalism; war and torture; prison-systems and immigration; colonialism; racism and cultural difference; environmental politics; third world feminist movements and transnational social struggles.

CCIS Lab
This course forms part of a Consortium for Critical Interdisciplinary Studies Lab, “Gender and Empire,” organized in tandem with Professor Anupama Rao’s course, BC 3803, “Gender and Empire.” Students from both classes will come together on Weeks 3, 6, and 12 to discuss select readings and to participate in discussion following public lectures by scholars whose work they have read. Students from both courses will also present short papers on thematic panels in the final week of classes.

Course Requirements
(1) Students should complete the assigned readings in a timely manner and to come to seminar prepared to discuss them. This is a reading-intensive seminar. To prepare for discussion, you are required to post 1-page weekly responses to the readings on the discussion board on Courseworks. Your responses may highlight a concept, argument or perspective that you find compelling or problematic, pose questions, draw connections among the readings or develop thoughts of your own on a particular issue raised in the assigned material. Responses must be posted by 5 pm on the Monday before class. (Class participation, Weekly responses 25%)

(2) Students are required to make one brief oral presentation (10 minutes) on a selected week of readings and to submit a write-up of the presentation on the same day. (Oral and Written Presentation 15%)
A midterm take home exam will be given out in the 7th week and is due a week later. Please bring a hard copy to class and post an electronic copy on Courseworks. (30%)

A final paper (12-15 pages) on a topic related to the course is due on the last day of class. You must submit a proposal for the topic, no later than the 9th week (after Spring Break). You will give a short presentation on your paper in a mini-conference held on the last week of class. (Presentation and Final Paper 40%)

Required Reading:
Silvia Federici, Revolution at Point Zero: Housework, Reproduction, and Feminist Struggle
Lisa Duggan, Twilight of Equality: Neoliberalism, Cultural Politics, and the Attack on Democracy
Ruth Gilmore, Golden Gulag: Prisons, Surplus, Crisis, and Opposition in Globalizing Capitalism
Vandana Shiva, Soil Not Oil: Environmental Justice in an Age of Climate Crisis

Learning Objectives:
This course will familiarize students with major issues of concern relating to the processes comprising globalization and projects of U.S. empire. It will provide them with a sense of how feminists, anti-racist and queer theorists critically view political and economic developments of the last few decades and their social and cultural consequences in light of ongoing histories of conquest, slavery, colonialism and imperialism.

Students who complete this course will learn how to:
1) Understand and evaluate contemporary economic and political processes through the analytics of gender, race and sexuality
2) Conduct critical analyses of contemporary events within a global and historical purview
3) Make conceptual and historical connections across different social and geographical contexts
4) Gain exposure to the theories and methods of anti-racist, feminist interdisciplinary studies
5) Present arguments cogently and logically in writing and speaking

Required books are available at Book Culture, 112th Street, between Amsterdam and Broadway. Other required readings are available as electronic attachments on Courseworks. Electronic copies must be printed out or downloaded on a device and brought to class on the dates they are assigned.

Reading Schedule
WEEK 1
JANUARY 22
Introduction:

**WEEK 2  Global Capital, Global Empire**

**JANUARY 29**

1. Manna-hata
2. Because Not All 99%-ers Are Created Equal
3. The Difference that History Makes in the OWS Movements


V. Spike Peterson, “Rewriting (Global) Political Economy”


**WEEK 3  Women and Empire, Gender and Globalization**

**FEBRUARY 5**

Cynthia Enloe, *The Curious Feminist: Searching for Women in a New Age of Empire* (Chapters 1,2,4,9)

Philippa Levine, “Why Gender and Empire,” and “Sex, Gender, and Empire” in *Gender and Empire*

**FEBRUARY 7**

**Public Talk:  Philippa Levine, “Gender and Empire: Mapping A Field”**

**Sulzberger Parlor, Barnard Hall, 6-8 P.M.**

**WEEK 4  Gendered Labor**

**FEBRUARY 12**

Silvia Federici, *Revolution at Point Zero: Housework, Reproduction, and Feminist Struggle*

Kalindi Vora, “Limits of ‘Labor’: Accounting for Affect and the Biological in Transnational Surrogacy and Service Work”

**WEEK 5  Gendered Migration, Gendered Investments**

**FEBRUARY 19**

Rhacel Parreñas, *The Force of Domesticity: Filipina Migrants and Globalization* (Chapters 2, 3, 6)

Lamia Karim, “The Everyday Mediations of Microfinance” in *Microfinance and Its Discontents: Women in Debt in Bangladesh*

Week 6  
**February 26**

Contemporary Legacies of Conquest and Violence

Selections from Julia Sudbury, ed. *Global Lockdown: Race, Gender, and the Prison-Industrial Complex*

Andrea Smith, “U.S. Empire and the War Against Native Sovereignty.” In *Conquest: Sexual Violence and American Indian Genocide*

Melissa Wright, “Necropolitics, Narcopolitics, and Femicide: Gendered Violence on the Mexico-U.S. Border”

FILM: Lourdes Portillo, dir. *Señorita Extraviada, Missing Young Woman*  
(Documentary, 2005)

**SPEAKER:** Melissa Wright, TBA

Week 7  
**March 5**

Race, Gender, Incarceration

Ruth Gilmore, *Golden Gulag: Prisons, Surplus, Crisis, and Opposition in Globalizing California* (Chapters 1-4, 6)

Selections from Julia Sudbury, ed. *Global Lockdown: Race, Gender, and the Prison-Industrial Complex*

**TAKE-HOME MID-TERM EXAM HANDED OUT**

Week 8  
**March 12**

Sexuality, Security, War

Anne McClintock, “Paranoid Empire: Specters from Guantanamo and Abu Ghraib”

Jasbir K. Puar, “The Sexuality of Terrorism:”


Elizabeth Bernstein, “Militarized Humanitarianism Meets Carceral Feminism: The Politics of Sex, Rights, and Freedom in Contemporary Antitrafficking Campaigns”

**TAKE-HOME MID-TERM EXAM DUE**

Week 9  
**March 19**

Spring Break

Week 9  
**March 26**

Neoliberalism and Global Desires


Amy Lind, “’Revolution with a Woman’s Face?’ Family Norms, Constitutional Reform, and the Politics of Redistribution in Post-Neoliberal Ecuador”

Kate Bedford, “Cultures of Saving and Loving: Ethnodevelopment, Gender, and Heteronormativity in PRODEPINE” in *Developing Partnerships: Gender,*
Sexuality, and the Reformed World Bank

**FINAL PAPER TOPIC DUE**

**WEEK 10**  Politics Of Environment

**APRIL 2**

Kavita Philip, “Nature, Culture Capital, Empire”

Andrea Smith, “Rape of the Land” in *Conquest: Sexual Violence and American Indian Genocide*

Vandana Shiva, *Soil Not Oil*

FILM: “Women of Fukushima”

**WEEK 11**  Globalizing Human Rights, Humanitarianism

**APRIL 9**

Ilana Feldman and Miriam Ticktin, *In the Name of Humanity*

**WEEK 12**  Rights, Religion, Secularity

**APRIL 16**

Melinda Cooper, “The Unborn Born Again: Neo-Imperialism, the Evangelical Right, and the Culture of Life” in *Life As Surplus: Biotechnology and Capitalism in the Neoliberal Era*

Mervat Hatem, “In the Eye of the Storm: Islamic Societies and Muslim Women in Globalization Discourses”

Deniz Kandiyoti, “Old Dilemmas or New Challenges? The Politics of Gender and Reconstruction in Afghanistan”

Tanika Sarkar, “Prehistory of Rights,” *Gender and History*

PUBLIC SALON: “Rights, Religion, Secularity”: Tanika Sarkar, Anupama Rao, Neferti Tadiar, Sulzberger Parlor, Barnard Hall, 6:30 P.M.

**WEEK 13**  Transnational Movements

**APRIL 23**


Marguerite Waller and Sylvia Marcos, eds. *Dialogue and Difference: Feminisms Challenge Globalization* (selections)

[http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/gyasi/-what-is-idle-no-more--_b_2486435.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/gyasi/-what-is-idle-no-more--_b_2486435.html)

J. Kehaulani Kauanui & Patrick Wolfe, “Settler Colonialism Then and Now”

**WEEK 14**

**APRIL 30/ MAY 2**

Student Presentations