It is commonly observed that the world operates as a global system, stitched together by far-reaching trade protocols, governance covenants, and communication networks. Although this process of integration engenders dramatic opportunities for cooperation and development, it is also characterized by profound inequities and uncertainties that breed tensions and conflicts. From education to culture to economy to environment, the great issues of our time require close attention to the dynamic interactions among actors and stakeholders around the world. This course provides a small seminar setting for an interdisciplinary survey of major approaches to the study of international and global issues. It aims to familiarize students with key theories, themes, debates, and methodological tools. Topics include economy, environment, education policy, culture, media, human rights, citizenship, health, and migration.

Jan. 26: Introduction

Feb. 2: History


Feb. 9: International Economy


Feb. 16: Global Capitalism


Feb. 23: Law and Politics


March 2: Human Rights and Citizenship


March 9: Civil Society

**Paper #1 Due Thursday 12 March 2009**


March 16: Spring Break

March 23: Education Policy


March 30: Culture


April 6: Health


April 13: Environment


April 20: Food Security


April 27: Media


May 4: Migration


May 11: Final papers due

Course Assignments and evaluation

Basis for final course grade:
Class participation: 20% (includes essay critique and bibliographic exercises)
Midterm Paper: 40%
Final Paper: 40%

Please inform me within the first three weeks of class if you have a disability and need accommodation to take part in or to complete the required work for this course. For more information, contact the McBurney Disability Resource Center, 905 University, 263-2741, TTY 263-6393.

Bibliographic Exercise

Taking into account the syllabus for 601 and the course objectives, recommend one or two readings that might be worth considering for future offerings of the course. It would be especially useful if you could make suggestions from your area of training and expertise, but please feel free to make a suggestion in any area. If the essay that you have in mind does not fit within the current configuration of the course, you are encouraged to suggest a new topic area that you think merits consideration.

Please submit the following no later than April 10.

1) pdf or hard copy version of the suggested essay.

2) A brief description (no more than 300 words) of the essay and an explanation as to why it would make a useful contribution to the class.