

School of Education Studies

Ambedkar University Delhi

Course Outline

Time Slot: Wed/ Fri 9-11am

Course Code: SES201213

Title: Global Childhoods

Type of Course: Optional (Elective)

Cohort for which it is compulsory: NA

Cohort for which it is elective: M.A. (Education) and M.A. (Early Childhood Care and Education); and any other MA student enrolled in any MA programme at AUD.

No of Credits: 4

Semester and Year Offered: 3rd Semester (Monsoon Semester 2018)

Course Coordinator and Team: Dr. Anandini Dar

Email of course coordinator: anandini@aud.ac.in

Aim: In this course students will be introduced to the idea of childhood as a global phenomenon. To do so, the course will set up two key positions to understanding global childhoods. First, that there exist multiple childhood(s) across the globe. And second, that these childhoods are affected and informed by global processes – such as, colonization, imperialism, and globalization -- offering an interrogation of how global flows (of people, ideas, commodities, and institutions) transport and export some normative western, modern, and universal notions of childhoods to different parts of the world – both historically and in contemporary contexts. These exported and “universal” conceptions of childhood are manifest in sites, such as, educational institutions, early child care and development policies, children’s media, fiction, and children’s rights. Class readings, films, and discussions will engage with various figurations of local childhoods across the globe, particularly, child migrants, child labourers, and children of sex workers to better understand the complexities of children’s lives and educational realities in India and across the globe. Finally, this course aims to help students situate children’s lives, childhoods, and education in India in relation with global politics of childhood.

a. Objectives:

To offer an understanding of and critical awareness that:

- i. global flows and international standards produce universal but unequal childhoods;

- ii. “universal” notions of childhood are exported through global flows to the global South, made visible in sites of schools, international policies, child rights discourses;
- iii. children are agentic beings and their local and everyday practices reveals multiple childhoods in and across different historical, national, and cultural contexts.
- iv. and, that politics of representation and rights underlie current debates about childhoods in the global South.

Brief description of modules/ Main modules:

The course is divided into four units:

- 1. **Globalization, colonization, and export of childhood** (12 hours)
- 2. **Locating the ‘global’ in key sites of ‘childhood’: Schooling, Children’s Consumer and Media Cultures** (8 hours)
- 3. **Ethnographies of global childhoods: Growing up “local” and “global.”** (12 hours)
- 4. **Global politics of childhood: Humanitarianism and rights** (16 hours)

Assessment Details with weights:

- 1. Attendance and Participation 10%
- 2. Two In-Class Quiz 30%
- 3. Global Childhoods Project 20%
- 4. Presentations (on readings) 10%
- 5. Final Paper based on a film 30%

Reading List:

- Allison, Anne. (2002). “The Cultural Politics of Pokemon Capitalism.” Conference Paper. Pp 1-9.
- Anderson-Levitt, K. (2005). ‘The Schoolyard Gate: Schooling and Childhood in Global Perspective’ *Journal of Social History* vol. 38, no.4, pp.987-1006.
- Balagopalan, Sarada (2002). “Constructing Indigenous Childhoods: Colonialism, Vocational Education and the Working Child.” *Childhood*, 9(1), 19-34.
- Bornstein, Erica. (2001). Child sponsorship, evangelism, and belonging in the work of World Vision Zimbabwe, *American Ethnologist*, 28, 3: 595-622.
- Boyden, Jo. (1997). “Childhood and the Policy Makers: A comparative perspective on the globalization of childhood.” In James, A. & Prout A. (Eds.), *Constructing and Reconstructing Childhood: Contemporary Issues in the Sociological Study of Childhood* (Second Edition). London: Falmer Press. 290-214.
- Buckingham, David (2007). ‘Childhood in the Age of Global Media’ *Children’s Geographies*, vol.5, nos. 1-2, 43-54.
- Carvajal, Doreen (2005). Sesame Street Goes Global: Let’s all count the revenue. *The New York Times*, December 12. Accessible online: <http://www.nytimes.com/2005/12/12/business/media/sesame-street-goes-global-lets-all-count-the-revenue.html? r=0> pp. 1.

- Cole, Jennifer and Durham, Deborah. "Figuring the Future: Globalization and the Temporality of Children and Youth." Pp. 3-11; 21-22.
- Cross, Gary (2005). 'Japan, the US and the Globalization of Children's Consumer Culture' *Journal of Social History* vol. 38, no.4, pp.873-890.
- Fass, Paula (2005). 'Children in Global Migrations' *Journal of Social History* vol. 38, no.4, pp.937-953.
- Film: Babies
- Film: Santa's Workshop - Inside China's Slave Labour Toy Factories.
- Hertel, Shareen (2006). 'Child Labor, child rights and transnational advocacy: The case of Bangladesh' in *Unexpected Power: Conflict and Change Amongst Transnational Activists* (Chapter 3), Ithaca: Cornell University Press. Pp. 31-54.
- Huberman, Jenny (2005). "Consuming Children: Reading the impacts of tourism in the city of Banaras." *Childhood*, 12 (2), pp. 161-176.
- James, A & James, A. (2012). "Children's Agency." In James, Allison and James, Adrian. *Key Concepts in Childhood Studies*. New Delhi: Sage Publications. Pp. 9-11.
- James, Allison and James, Adrian. (2012). " Cultural relativism" In *Key Concepts in Childhood Studies*. New Delhi: Sage Publications. Pp 40-42.
- Katz, Cindi (2004). *Growing up Global: Economic restructuring and children's everyday lives*. University of Minnesota Press. Chapter 2 & 3. Pp 23-56 & 59-108.
- Kauffman, Ross, Zana Briski, GERALYN White Dreyfous, Pamela Tanner Boll, Nancy Baker, and John McDowell. (2005). *Born into brothels*. Santa Monica, Calif: Lion's Gate Home Entertainment.
- Lukose, Ritty (2009). *Liberalisation's children: Gender, Youth, and Consumer Citizenship in Globalizing India*. Duke University Press. Introduction (pp. 1-23), Chapter 1 (pp. 23-53), Chapter 5 (163-199), and Epilogue (pp. 200-206).
- Manzo, Kate. (2008). 'Imaging Humanitarianism: NGO Identity and the Iconography of Childhood.' *Antipode*, 40(4): 632-65.
- May, Helen, Kaur, Banljit, Prochner, Larry (2014). "'A fine moral machinery:' Infant Schools in British India." In *Empire, Education, and Indigenous Childhoods: Nineteenth-century missionary infant schools in three British colonies*. UK: Ashgate. Chapter 3. Pp 111-148.
- Monaghan, Katie (2012). "Early Child Development Policy: The colonization of the world's child-rearing practices." In Afua Twum-Danso Imoh and Robert Ame eds [Childhoods at the Intersection of the Local and the Global](#). UK: Palgrave Macmillan. Pp. 56-74.
- Nieuwenhuys, Olga (2001) 'By the sweat of their brow? Street children, NGOs and children's rights in Addis Ababa'. *Africa* 71(4) 539-557.
- Sircar, Oishik and Dutta, Debolina. (2011). "Beyond Compassion: Children of Sex Workers in Kolkata's Sonagachi" in *Childhoods*.18 (3), 333-349.
- Sirohi, Seema (2005). "Zana's Shutters." In *Outlook: The Magazine*. 14 March 2005. Accessible online: <http://www.outlookindia.com/article.aspx?226761>.
- Stearns, Peter. (2012). "Globalization and Childhoods" in Heidi Morrison (ed.) *The Global History of Childhood Reader*. NY: Routledge. Pp 235-243.
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child: <http://www.unicef.org/crc>.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE:

Suggested Readings:

- Appadurai, A. (1996). *Modernity at large: Cultural dimensions of globalization*. Minneapolis, MN: University of Minnesota Press. Chapter 1.

- Balagopalan, Sarada (2014). *Inhabiting Childhood: Children, Labour and Schooling in Postcolonial India*. India: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Bissel, Susan (2003) "The Social Construction of Childhood: A Perspective from Bangladesh," in Naila Kabeer, Geetha Nambissan and Ramya Subrahmanian eds. *Child Labour and the Right to Education in South Asia: Needs versus Rights?* New Delhi: Sage Publications.
- Burman, Erica. (1996). Local, Global or Globalized? Child development and international child rights legislation. *Childhood*, 3 (1), pp. 45-66.
- Gibson, Kristina (2011). *Street Kids: Homeless Youth, Outreach, and Policing New York's Streets*. NY: NYU Press.
- Grier, Beverly (1994) Invisible Hands: The Political Economy of Child Labor in Colonial Zimbabwe: 1890-1930" *Journal of Southern African Studies*, Taylor and Francis: London, 20 (1).
- Prout, A. & James, A. (1997). A new paradigm for the sociology of childhood? Provenance, promise and problems. In James, A. & Prout A. (Eds.), *Constructing and Reconstructing Childhood: Contemporary Issues in the Sociological Study of Childhood* (Second Edition). London: Falmer Press.
- Punch, Samantha (2007). 'Negotiating Migrant Identities: Young People in Bolivia and Argentina' *Children's Geographies*, vol.5, nos. 1-2, 95-112.
- Punch, Samantha (2007). Migration Projects: Children on the Move for Work and Education. Paper presented at: Workshop on Independent Child Migrants: Policy Debates and Dilemmas. Pp. 1-15.
- Tripathi, R.C. and Sinha, Yoganand (2014). *Psychology, Development, and Social Policy in India*. India: Springer.
- Vallargada, Karen (2011) "Adam's Escape: Children and the Discordant Nature of Colonial Conversions" *Childhood: A Global Journal of Child Research*, Sage: London. 18 (3).