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:


Film: Babies
Film: Santa's Workshop - Inside China’s Slave Labour Toy Factories.


ADDITIONAL REFERENCE:

Suggested Readings:


