

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever does.” –Margaret Mead



**Geography 98/198:**

## **Global Citizenship And Activism In The 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

**Time:** Monday, 6-8pm

**Location:** Wheeler 200

### **Facilitators:**

Emily Alter, *Urban Studies*, [emilyalter@gmail.com](mailto:emilyalter@gmail.com)

Christina Monzer, *Development Studies, CP Minor*, [lublutina@gmail.com](mailto:lublutina@gmail.com)

Bethel Moges, *Peace & Conflict Studies, GPP Minor*, [bmoges@berkeley.edu](mailto:bmoges@berkeley.edu)

Rachel Gottfried, *Geography*, [racheljade@berkeley.edu](mailto:racheljade@berkeley.edu)

**Faculty Sponsor:** Gillian Hart

### **Course Description:**

In an era of social, economic, political and environmental interconnectedness, there is a serious need for global awareness and activism. The premise of this research-intensive DeCal is to teach the tools and technique of effective global activism. We hope that through a series of guest speakers and workshops, students will learn to not only think globally, but act locally to address the major issues of our time.

### **Course Structure:**

Classes will alternate between guest lectures, films, discussion and research workshops. Through a greater conception of how global issues affect and are effected by individual action, students will work to create an active approach to addressing their area of research. Students will be responsible for a short report or project of their choosing and an action proposal generated by their research. These action proposals will be added to a larger database which will be made available to like-minded individuals on campus looking to get involved.

### **Course Goals:**

It is the hope of the facilitators that by the end of the semester, students will have a better understanding of the intricacies of our global situation, a clearer conception of what it means to be a global citizen and to think globally. Additionally, we hope to provide a medium through which student activists can join other organizations and movements promoting global awareness. Students will leave this DeCal with the knowledge and tool-set to carry out the effective research necessary to think and act on a global scale.

**SYLLABUS IS TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

## **Course Requirements:**

### ***Attendance:***

Students will be allowed two absences, but will be asked to write a short response to that week's readings or regarding an activism project of interest. An attendance sheet will be passed out during each class.

### ***Readings:***

There will be a few short readings assigned each week. Some readings may supplement the subject matter presented by guest speakers, so we expect students to take these readings seriously, as speakers will look to engage the students in a discussion about these pertinent issues.

### ***Workshops:***

Workshops will be mandatory and will allow students to make in-class progress on their research reports and action proposals.

### **Grading:**

- 30% Final Project (Research Report/Project *and* Action Proposal)
- 30% Class Participation
- 30% Attendance
- 10% Readings

### **Week of Monday, February 1<sup>st</sup>**

Introduction – As a global citizen, I...

**Guest Lecture:** Ashoka Finley and Andy Perero, SGC

**Readings:** “50 Visionaries Who Are Changing Your World” Utne Reader Staff, *Utne Reader*, 2009

### **Week of Monday, February 8<sup>th</sup>**

Framing Global Citizenship – Research and Rhetoric

**Film/Film Clips:** “Yes Men” – Earnesty vs. Humor in Global Activism

**Workshop:** Drafting an Effective Research Proposal

**Assignment:** Research Proposal Rough Draft

**Reading:** “How to Write about Africa” Binyavanga Wainaina, *Granta*, 2005

<http://www.granta.com/Magazine/92/How-to-Write-about-Africa/Page-1>

### **Week of Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup> - NO CLASS**

### **Week of Monday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Grassroots Mobilization: The Steps of a Few to Mobilize the Many

**Guest Lecture:** TBA (or *Granita de Arena* Film)

**Assignment:** Annotated Bibliography

**Reading:** *Networking Futures: The Movements Against Corporate Globalization*, Chapter 1: The Seattle Effect, Jeffery S. Juris, 2008.

**Week of Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup>**

Public Education and the UC Berkeley Protests: Representation in the Media

**Guest Lecture:** Julie Michelle Klinger

**Workshop:** Media Representation and Effective Evaluation of Secondary Sources

**Readings:** Geography Graduate Student Letter to Chancellor Birgeneau

*RESEARCH PROPOSAL DRAFT DUE*

**Week of Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup>**

Consumerism and Fair-Trade: How Are You Involved?

**Movie:** *The Fair Trade*

**Discussion:** Being global citizens through everyday actions

**Week of Monday, March 15<sup>th</sup>**

What it means to act as a Global Citizen

**Guest Lecture:** Sumaya Kazi

*ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE*

**Week of Monday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> - NO CLASS, HAPPY SPRING BREAK!**

**Week of Monday, March 29<sup>th</sup>**

Anti-Apartheid Movement in South Africa

**Guest Lecture:** Gillian Hart, Professor

**Readings:** "Adjusting the Lens: What do Globalizations, Transnationalism, and the Anti-Apartheid Movement Mean for Social Movement Theory?" Gay Seidman, *Globalizations and Social Movements*

<http://tinyurl.com/yj2wceb> (most of the chapter available on Google Books)

"The Student Divestment Movement in the United States and Tactical Diffusion: the Shantytown Protest" Sarah A. Soule, *Social Forces*, Volume 75, 1997

<http://www.questia.com/PM.qst?a=o&d=95699685>

**Movie Clips:** *Soweto to Berkeley (1988)*, *Have you heard from Johannesburg? (2006)*

**Week of Monday, April 5<sup>th</sup>**

How Global is Global Warming?: The Niger Delta and Shell Oil

**Guest Lecture:** Elias Curson

**Reading:** "Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta" Elias Curson, *The Nordic Africa Institute, Discussion Paper 47*, pp. 8-23

*Recommended:* "Oil Inferno" Michael Watts. *CounterPunch*, 2007.

**Week of Monday, April 12<sup>th</sup>**

Energy & Society

**Guest Lecture:** Laura Nader

**Reading:** "The Harder Path-Shifting Gears" Laura Nader, *Anthropological Quarterly*, 2004. "Barriers to thinking new about energy" Laura Nader, *Physics Today*, 1981.

*Recommended:* "The Politics of Energy: Towards a Bottom-Up Approach" Laura Nader, *Radcliffe Quarterly*, 1981

*ACTION PROPOSAL DUE*

**Week of Monday, April 19<sup>th</sup>**

Workspace and Final Presentation Preparation

*For those interested in making a short film, there will be a camera available...*

**Week of Monday, April 26<sup>th</sup>**

Final Presentations and Class Wrap-Up

*FINAL REPORT AND PRESENTATION*