

CULTURAL FORCES OF GLOBAL CHANGE

DEGREE MODULES AVAILABLE: Honors Specialization, Specialization, Major, Minor, and Dual Degree with HBA Ivey Business School

Our program in Cultural Forces of Global Change focuses on how knowledge of the world and our understandings of one another are shaped by cultures of representation and ideological formations. Students gain deep training in interpreting and analysing discursive formations and critically examining cultural productions of power relations in the world. They gain practice in analysing such marginalising and oppressive principles as patriarchy, citizenship, territory, civilization, sovereignty, and the global. Students learn to identify and effectively confront racializing and racist constructions in global theories, the privileges of masculinity, ideologies of development, and human/nature dichotomies. Through such work, they gain skills, understanding, and confidence necessary to become transformational cultural agents of global change.

THE CULTURAL FORCES OF GLOBAL CHANGE PROGRAM EXAMINES SUCH ISSUES AS:

- The force of social and scholarly discourses in giving shape to our world(s)
- Relations of citizenship to human displacement and refugees
- The role of gender as an organizing principle in global structures
- Cultural constructions of energy in social orders
- Ideological sources in the formation of human subjectivity and authority
- Cultural roles of law in establishing rights and authority
- Relations of space, territory, and movement
- Postcolonial politics
- Governmentality

For more information, please contact the Director of the Centre for Global Social Innovation through the website: uronu.ca/programs/arts-social-science/global-social-innovation



WILLIAM CRADDOCK

Graduate of '08

“The professors and courses in the Centre offered a broad approach to understanding global issues, advancing social justice, and engaging critical thinking that prepared me for success in graduate studies and my career in the non-profit sector.”

SAMPLE CORE COURSES IN: CULTURAL FORCES OF GLOBAL CHANGE

CGS 1021: INTRODUCTION TO GLOBAL CULTURE

This course explores how studies of our world are shaped by practices of cultural contestations in mapping, narration, definition, and aesthetic production, informed by historical experiences and politics of knowing. Students learn to gain critical perspectives on contemporary ideas of the world and their own locations in it.

CGS 2003: DISCOURSES OF GLOBAL STUDIES

This course investigates how methods and objects of inquiry in global studies are formed in the limiting and productive interplay of ideas, language, and socio/political force. Students examine how our studies of global problems are made possible in systems of communication that render us responsible for their formation and address.

CGS 3005: THEORISING SUBJECTIVITY AND POWER

This course surveys and investigates recent and contemporary efforts to critically understand human subjectivity and agency within the power relations through which they are realized. Students will examine theories and analyses of subjectivity and subjectification in terms of material conditions, language, and symbolic economies, ideology, bodies, difference, and domination.

CGS 3512: ENGAGING GLOBAL HUMAN DISPLACEMENT

This course investigates approaches to engaging international and internal displacements and studies the conditions under which displaced persons are identified and subjectified as refugees, illegal migrants, asylum seekers, or bogus refugees, respectively. Focus will be given to legal, political, and humanitarian practices, analysing methods of protection, assistance, detention, and criminalisation.

CGS 3515: GLOBAL CULTURES OF GENDERING AND ORIENTATION

This course examines how material and social orders of our world are organised in practices of gendering and the normalising of social and bodily orientations. Students will engage contemporary feminist and queer theory, practical deployments of gender and orientation globally, and problems of resistance pertinent to the politics of both.

CGS 3523: LAW IN GLOBAL RELATIONS AND LANGUAGES OF POWER

This course examines struggles to define subjects of law and establish just rules of behaviour between them within global contexts. Students will examine and critically evaluate often conflicting efforts of movements, actors, institutions, and social groups to make lawful specific ideals or, alternatively, to delegitimise the world views of others.

CGS 3531: GLOBAL ENERGY REGIMES

This course examines global regimes of energy production, circulation, and consumption, with emphases on the renderings of nature and biological life into exhaustible commodities, the forces of governance in extractivist politics, economic and aesthetic territorialisations of the world into divisible energy forms, and critical engagement with possible alternative energy futures.

