Global History — the search to understand how human societies have developed as an interactive community across the world—has come into its own as a scholarly enterprise at the beginning of the twenty-first century. Spurred by ongoing processes of globalization, drawing on students and researchers better trained in languages and social science methods than ever before, it flourishes as one of the most important developments in the discipline of history today. Examining processes, networks, identities and events that cross the boundaries of modern nation states, this venture to push the study of the past, remote and recent, beyond the compartmentalized approach most older historians grew up with has mobilized scholars in faculties and research centers across the world.

This seminar will introduce students to the literature on and practice of global history today. Toward that end, the graduate-faculty research seminar is structured to bring together interested faculty and students on a continuing basis. The course will include both reading sessions designed for graduate students and research sessions during which students and faculty participants will present current research. Faculty participants will be drawn from a number of schools, and, most especially, from the group of fellows in global history who are spending the academic year 2017/18 at the Weatherhead Initiative on Global History. Students will be expected to write a research paper on a topic in global history.

**REQUIREMENTS**

The course will consist of two parts. First, students will be expected to attend our bi-weekly meetings, where scholars interested in global history will present their works-in-progress. Active participation in these discussions is required, as is reading the main
paper to be discussed and any background readings for these sessions. Students are expected to deliver a **formal comment** on one of the papers to be presented by the guest speakers. Second, students are expected to complete an **article-length piece of writing**, based on original research and related to the theme of the course. To help guide such research, the instructors will periodically schedule additional meetings with students who are taking the course for credit.

Students who take the seminar for credit are expected to develop a topic for their research on the following timeline. They should be ready to hand in a one-page proposal outlining their topic, its significance, and their proposed methodology on **October 9, 2017**. These will be discussed in small group meetings in the second half of October. By **January 15, 2018** participants will submit an extended research proposal (5 pages) that explains their research problem in some detail, discusses the relevant secondary literature, and lists the (locally accessible) primary sources they will consult. The final draft of an article-length paper is due on **May 2, 2018**. The final seminar session will offer an opportunity for students to present their research to the wider group.

Readings will be available from the course website.

**COLLABORATION POLICY STATEMENT**

Discussion and the exchange of ideas are essential to academic work. For assignments in this course, you are encouraged to consult with your classmates on the choice of paper topics and to share sources. You may find it useful to discuss your chosen topic with your peers, particularly if you are working on the same topic as a classmate. However, you should ensure that any written work you submit for evaluation is the result of your own research and writing and that it reflects your own approach to the topic. You must also adhere to standard citation practices in this discipline and properly cite any books, articles, websites, lectures, etc. that have helped you with your work. If you received any help with your writing (feedback on drafts, etc.), you must also acknowledge this assistance.
Seminar Meeting Schedule

Fall 2017

Wednesday, August 30 — Introduction

Sept. 18 — Reading Session 1: What is Global History?


Oct. 2 — Reading Session 2: Themes and Cases in Global History


Linden, Marcel van der. *Workers of the World: Essays Toward a Global Labor History*. Leiden:


***One-page paper proposal due October 9***

**Oct. 16 - Quinn Slobodian (Associate Professor, Wellesley College, WIGH Fellow)**


Commentator: Charles S. Maier (Leverett Saltonstall Professor of History, Harvard University)

Graduate-student commentator: TBA

**Oct. 30 - Justin Jackson (Assistant Professor, Bard College, WIGH Fellow)**

“The Imperial Politics of Everyday Sovereignty"

Commentators: Omar Gueye, (Professor of History, Université Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar, Senegal)
Roberto Saba (2017-2018 Hench Postdoctoral Fellow, American Antiquarian Society.)

**Nov. 13 - Christy Thornton (Assistant Research Professor, Johns Hopkins**
University, Volkswagen Fellow, WIGH)

“Rights and Duties: Mexico, the Third World, and the Pursuit of Economic Sovereignty in the 1970s.”

Commentator: Arne Westad (S.T. Lee Professor of U.S.-Asia Relations, Harvard University)

Graduate-student commentator: TBA

Nov. 27 - Julia Stephens (Assistant Professor, Rutgers University)

"Governing Islam: Law and Ritual in Imperial Contexts.”

Commentator: Cemal Kafadar (Vehbi Koç Professor of Turkish Studies, Harvard University)

Graduate-student commentator: TBA

***Five page paper proposal due Jan. 15, 2018***

Spring 2018

Jan. 29 - Pepijn Brandon (Assistant Professor, Vrije Universiteit, The Netherlands, WIGH Fellow)


Commentator: Alex Keyssar (Matthew W. Stirling, Jr., Professor of History and Social Policy, Harvard University)

Graduate-student commentator: TBA

Feb. 12 - Tariq Omar Ali (Assistant Professor, University of Wisconsin at Urbana-Champaign)

“Colonial Capital and the End of Empire: British Business and the Formation of an East Pakistani "National Economy."
Commentator: Emmanuel K. Akyeampong (Ellen Gurney Professor of History and Professor of African and African American Studies, Harvard University)

Graduate-student commentator: TBA

March 5th - Judith Froehlich (Lecturer, University of Zurich, Thyssen Postdoctoral Fellow, WIGH)

“A History of Opium in Japan, 1800s–1930s”

Commentator: Andrew Gordon (Lee and Juliet Folger Fund Professor of History, Harvard University)

Graduate-student commentator: TBA

Mar. 26 - John Tutino (Professor of History and International Affairs, School of Foreign Service and Director, The Americas Initiative, Georgetown University)


Commentator: TBA
Graduate-student commentator: TBA

Apr. 9 - May Ngai (Lung Family Professor of Asian American Studies and Professor of History, Columbia University)

“The Chinese Question in Late-Nineteenth Century Global Politics.”

Commentator: TBA
Graduate-student commentator: TBA

Apr. 23 — Graduate Student Paper Presentations & Wrap-Up Discussion

***Final papers due May 2, 2018***