

CTI 221: Gender, Sexuality & Global Culture
Spring 2021
Dr. Cotter

Essay 3 Assignment; 25 points (25% of final grade)
DUE: Thursday, May 13, 2021 by 8:00PM to Moodle/Turnitin.com

Gender, Sexuality in/and Globalization

The final essay should be a **six to eight (6-8) page**, double-spaced, typed **analytical and critical argument** with a focused **thesis** (not simply a summary or review of major themes and ideas). It will acknowledge and document all sources used in the essay by following the MLA documentation format.

The end term essay will investigate an issue, question, or problem of your choosing that relates to questions of gender and/or sexuality and their relationship to other social relations in an age of globalization. Does the emergence of a "global culture" represent an open cultural exchange, an increase of freedom, fluidity, inclusion and agency for diverse people around the world to express their desires and discontents with respect to gender, sexuality, and cultural difference in a "flat" global world-without-borders? Does globalization open up a new era of in which the global economic playing field is leveled and an era of the individual who can "author her own content" in the global media, as some argue? Does the existing global culture normalize and conceal over deepening *material* inequalities of gender, sexuality, women, trans, race, nation and class in a new age of commodity culture, global assembly line, transnational capitalism, and global division of labor and wealth? And what are the critical concepts we need to analyze gender and/or sexuality with respect to other social relations (of class, race, nation...) in a global age to bring about inclusive social change? In other words, how and why should we understand, analyze, and intervene in matters of gender and sexuality in/and global culture now?

In developing your broader argument on gender, sexuality and globalization, your essay should focus in and make an argument about **the relationship of issues of gender and/or sexuality in global culture to on one or two specific issues of your choice** such as: the social relations racism, ethnicity, nation, class, poverty, the international division of labor and wealth, exploitation, capitalism, racism, family and "caring" labor, commodification of sex and sexuality, immigration, social inequality between women, resistance, social change,

Required Texts: To develop your discussion of these issues the essay should engage and **critically analyze** the following **four** required texts. You may not use for this essay any text (theoretical or cultural/visual) that you have already written on in Essay 1 or Essay 2.

- a) **OPTION 1:** At least four (4) theoretical texts from the course calendar (at least three of which must be drawn from Weeks 13-16).

OR

- b) **OPTION 2:** At least three (3) theoretical texts from weeks 13-16 **AND** one (1) cultural text that you have not used on a previous essay (e.g., a short story, graphic novel, documentary, film, video game, image, news report, advertisement, etc.)