

## Mini-Conference: Globalization

### *Understanding Inequality and Difference in a Globalizing World*

#### Organizers:

Lu Zhang ([lu.zhang1@temple.edu](mailto:lu.zhang1@temple.edu))

Vida Bajc ([vida.bajc@gmail.com](mailto:vida.bajc@gmail.com))

#### Call for Papers

Globalization and transnational processes are at the center of contemporary debates concerning narratives of inequality and difference. On the one hand, it is argued that globalization processes have a tendency to break apart diversity and difference, leading toward uniformity and convergence. These tendencies are associated with the domination and monopolization by the so-called Western model, be it in the domains of the economy, polity, sociality, or culture. These global interactions are captured in concepts such as neo-colonialism, imperialism, homogenization, Americanization, Westernization, McDonalidization, surveillance, hegemony, and concentration of economic and political power. On the other hand, it is argued that globalization processes have a tendency to create, increase, and celebrate differences in the ways social groups choose to organize their cultural, social, political, and economic ways of living. Such global interactions are associated with cultural pluralism, multi-polarity, indigeneity, hybridity, cosmopolitanism, and inter-connectedness. Underlying these different tendencies, however, are also forces and structures that create, exacerbate, and perpetuate inequalities, divisions, separations, and hierarchies.

How to understand these processes theoretically, methodologically, and analytically? How are our understandings of these dynamics different from those communicated through the mass media and social media? How do we communicate our knowledge and understanding of inequality and difference in globalization to the general public? How do we teach about these forces in our classrooms?

We invite submissions that encourage thinking and rethinking about globalization in relation to inequality and difference, broadly defined. We welcome contributions which shed light on theories, approaches, issues and debates around different facets and conceptualizations of globalization, including - but not limited to – power structures, inequalities, institutions, legitimacy, identity, gender, race, ethnicity, the nation-state and national sovereignty, populism, nationalism, mass media and investigative journalism, migration, labor, development, global governance, climate change, social movements, education, consumption, security and surveillance.

#### SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:

Those wishing to present papers in this mini-conference should submit an abstract of no longer than 250 words by October 30, 2018 through the ESS submission portal at <https://www.meetingsavvy.org/ess>. Proposals not accepted for the mini-conference will be submitted to the ESS general call for submissions.

To submit to this mini-conference, select "Mini Conference Presentation" in the "Submission type" drop-down menu. Supply your title and abstract. After hitting "Next", select the name of the mini-conference from the keyword drop-down menu.

Direct all your inquiries to Lu Zhang <[lu.zhang1@temple.edu](mailto:lu.zhang1@temple.edu)> and Vida Bajc <[vida.bajc@gmail.com](mailto:vida.bajc@gmail.com)>.