This course explores neoliberalism at the encounter of post-colonial (neocolonial) economic policies, transnational subjectivities, and protests. The course takes a multi-disciplinary, and global perspective to understand the academic and activist articulations of this encounter through materialist approaches, feminist epistemologies, decolonial theories, and everyday biopolitics and resistance. We will consider 'localized' protests as indicators of global racialized, sexualized, and gendered struggles characteristic of the ordering and regulation of subjects in the neoliberal era. We deploy an historical lens to examine how these dynamics are new reconfigurations of old struggles over place, resources, labor, identity (indigeneity, minority rights), and imagined freedoms. Students will explore both the everyday state, and everyday working tools of capitalism in-and-against spatial arrangements, resource exploitation, governance, cultural identity, subalternity and infrapolitics. The meaning of agency will be examined through several readings in various contexts, and through various struggles ranging from the Uprisings in Northern Africa and the 'Middle East', the Anti-World Cup protests in Brazil, the Pro-democracy street mobilization (Indignados) in Spain (and Western Europe), to the militarization and policing of Black Lives (Matter) in the U.S. We will look at these movements as situated yet connective points rather than isolated events. The main goal of this course is to provide students with the conceptual, theoretical and methodological tools for situating and formulating their unique projects in relation-rather-than at the margins of a global and (trans)disciplinary debates that are informed by intersectionality, materiality, difference, decoloniality, and resistance.

**Required Readings**


Samir Amin. The Reawakening of the Arab World: Challenge and Change in the Aftermath of the Arab Spring (Monthly Review Press, 2016)

Scott Lauria Morgensen. Spaces between Us: Queer Settler and Indigenous Decolonization (Minnesota, 2011)
Tania Murray Li. The Will to Improve: Governementality, Development, and the Practice of Politics (Duke, 2007)


Course objectives
This course will allow students (1) become familiar with the main conceptual and theoretical frameworks that have influenced social research on structure and resistance; (2) improve their critical thinking through cross-disciplinary analyses of social forces as they work to produce structures of domination, subjects, policies and institutions; (3) locate their own work and interests within/and in relation to these perspectives; (4) understand sociology as a discipline that has been shaped by other theoretical approaches.

Class Format
The class is organized as a seminar with students taking an active role in the discussions. This entails reflecting on the readings, participating in the class discussions and bringing provocative thoughts and questions to the class.

Course Requirements
1) A weekly reaction paper. Students must do ALL of the assigned readings. I expect you to write about EACH of the required readings. I also encourage you to include at least two explicitly formulated questions that you would like to see us discuss in class. Briefs must be posted to the course's website on Sakai by 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday. Fifty percent of your final grade will be based on class participation and the quality of these memos. Your attendance is required every week.
2) A Final Paper, due on Mai 10. I suggest the following:

   A 20-page research paper, in which you explicitly utilize one or more of the theoretical frameworks discussed in this class to animate your analysis;

   A 20-page literature review in which you go beyond the syllabus to explore more richly debates in a particular vein of theorizing or applications of concepts in that theoretical vein;

   A 20-page critical essay reviewing and explicitly juxtaposing different theoretical frameworks we have explored during the semester and placing them in constructive dialogue with each other.

I do not offer extensions.

3) Attendance. There is no need to remind graduate students that attendance is required. Your final participation grade will be affected in case you missed more than one class during the semester.
Class policy
We earned membership in this class; we must be respectful of all the voices expressed in class and on Sakai. Make sure to use the forums open by the instructor in a way that reflects your respect to the ethics of academic debate.

Diversity Statement
The Rutgers Sociology Department strives to create an environment that supports and affirms diversity in all manifestations, including race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, social class, disability status, region/country of origin, and political orientation. We also celebrate diversity of theoretical and methodological perspectives among our faculty and students and seek to create an atmosphere of respect and mutual dialogue. We have zero tolerance for violations of these principles and have Instituted clear and respectful procedures for responding to such grievances.

Academic Integrity
I follow the Rutgers University’s policy on academic integrity. Please explore the website indicated below to become more familiar with this policy: http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/files/documents/AI_Policy_9_01_2011.pdf
Violations include: cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, denying others access to information or material, and facilitating violations of academic integrity. Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. To avoid plagiarism, every direct quotation must be identified by quotation marks or citation of the source. My policy on plagiarism is to award an F for the course.
Class Schedule  (Subject to Revisions)

Week 1

1/23  Introduction and Overview of the Course

- Syllabus/ Introductions

Week 2

1/30  Walter Mignolo. On Decoloniality. Introduction & Chapter 1 to 4


Mahmood Mamdani, Between the public intellectual and the scholar: decolonization and some post-independence initiatives in African higher education. Inter-Asia Cultural Studies. 2016 (17)1:68-83


Week 3

2/6  Walter Mignolo. On Decoloniality, Chapter 5 to 10


http://www.publicseminar.org/2017/04/decolonizing-epistemologies-part-1/


Week 4

2/13  McClintock. Imperial Leather. Race, Gender and Sexuality in the Colonial Contest (Routledge, 1995). Excerpts, Sakai


**Week 5**


Miller Peter and Nikolas Rose. Governing the Present. (Polity, 2008) Excerpts, Sakai


**Week 6**

2/27  Tania Maurray Li. *The Will to Improve*.

**Final Paper Proposal Due.**

**Week 7**


**Week 8**


Bayat, Asef. Life as Politics. How Ordinary people change the Middle East (Stanford, 2010) Excerpts, Sakai

**Week 9**  **SPRING BREAK / NO CLASS**

**Week 10**

Week 11

4/3   Samir Amin. The Reawakening of the Arab World: Challenge and Change in the Aftermath of the Arab Spring.

Week 12


Mayanthi L. Fernando. Save the Muslim Woman, Save the Republic: Ni Putes Ni Soumises and the Ruse of Neoliberal Sovereignty. Modern & Contemporary France. 21(2) 147-165, 2013, Sakai

Maria Kyriakidou, Jose Javier Olivas Osuna. The Indignados protests in the Spanish and Greek press: Moving beyond the ‘protest paradigm’? European Journal of Communication 32(1), 2017, Sakai

Week 13


Explore Standing Rock Syllabus (explore)
https://nycstandswithstandingrock.wordpress.com/standingrocksyllabus/

Week 14


Yarimar, Bonilla and Jonathan Rosa. #Ferguson: Digital protest, hashtag ethnography, and the racial politics of social media in the United States. American Ethnologist. 24(1): 4-17, 2015, Sakai


Week 15

5/1 Elizabeth A. Povinelli. Economies of Abandonment: Social Belonging and Endurance in Late Liberalism.