Migration, Globalization, Education

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Professor Thea Abu El-Haj, GSE-Edu Theory, Policy & Admin
T 9:50A-12:50P
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Will Count Towards SAS-Education Minor

Globalization and mass migration are reconfiguring the modern world and reshaping the contours of nation-states. New technologies that facilitate the movement of information, goods, and people across borders have made it easier for people to remain culturally, politically, economically and socially connected to the places from which they migrated. This seminar focuses on the experiences of the youngest members of these global migration patterns—children and youth—and asks: What do these global flows mean for educating young people to be members of the multiple communities to which they belong?

This seminar will explore the following questions: What is globalization and why is it leading to new patterns of migration? How do children and youth experience disjunctures and continuities across contexts of migration? How do language policies affect young people's capacity to be educated in a new land? What does it mean to forge a sense of belonging and citizenship in a "glocalized" world, and how does this challenge our models of national citizenship? Drawing on fiction, autobiography, and anthropological and sociological research this class will explore these questions from a variety of disciplinary perspectives. In addition, we will partner with local, newcomer high school students in order to learn about their experiences of migration and education and help us reflect on the literature we will be reading.

THEA RENDA ABU EL-HAJ, Ph.D. is an educational anthropologist and an Associate Professor in the Graduate School of Education. Her recent research explores questions about youth citizenship raised by globalization, transnational migration, and the "war on terror." Her newest book, *Unsettled Belonging: Educating Palestinian American youth after 9/11*, is an ethnographic study that explores how Palestinian American Muslim youth from an immigrant community grappled with questions of belonging and citizenship in the wake of September 11, 2001. She is currently working on a new research project about the education of Syrian refugee children in Lebanon. Professor Abu El-Haj also co-directs the Graduate School of Education's Urban Teaching Fellows program.