

# IAH 201

## The United States and the World: Global Flows of Popular Culture

Jessica Travers | Spring 2016 | Course Location: C102 Wonders Hall

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### CONTACT INFORMATION

Email: [traver11@msu.edu](mailto:traver11@msu.edu)  
Website: <http://www.grtep.com>

### OFFICE HOURS

Mon. 11-1 & by appt.  
Office Location: Wells Hall, C707

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** United States and the World offers students opportunities to explore both the unities and diversities of the national experience through study of media texts. A primary purpose of the disciplines in the humanities is to gain a greater understanding of how human beings experience the world in which they live, including encounters with others. The course draws on primary source readings, video texts, musical selections, and student writing to broaden understanding of the processes by which the citizens of the United States establish local, regional, national, and global identities and participate in a global cultural commons.

### DISCUSSION SESSION DESCRIPTION

This is the community and discussion based section of IAH 201 -- thus students should come to class prepared to participate in discussion. Bring your questions, ideas, and reflections from lecture and/ or readings. This hour gives us the opportunity to discuss, ground, and breakdown the concepts covered during lecture.

### REQUIRED TEXTS & MATERIALS:

- Walter LaFeber, *Michael Jordan and the New Global Capitalism*.
- Lane Crothers, *Globalization and American Popular Culture* (2013 edition!)
- Larabee and Stowe, *The United States and the World*, online textbook available for purchase at bookstores and at [www.grtep.com](http://www.grtep.com).
- iClicker

### GRADING

15 online exercises: 30 percent (300 points)  
Argumentative essay: 25 percent (250 points)  
Midterm exam: 20 percent (200 points)  
Final exam: 20 percent (200 points)  
Recitation attendance: 5 percent (50 points)  
Total: 1000 points

### Final grade scale:

920-1000 pts = 4.0  
880-919 pts = 3.5  
820-879 pts = 3.0  
780-819 pts = 2.5  
720-779 pts = 2.0  
680-719 pts = 1.5  
620-679 pts = 1.0

### DEADLINE & LATE WORK POLICY

Students are expected to arrive on time and with completed assignments and readings complete. Late work is not accepted unless prior arrangements are made (on case by case basis, "clock stops ticking" once work is emailed to me as attachment). Please note: **online exercises will not be accepted late, no exceptions.**

## ATTENDANCE, PROMPTNESS, PARTICIPATION, AND PREPAREDNESS

Due to the participatory nature of this section, students must participate during discussions and remain focused and on task for the entire class session. Students are expected to complete readings and work before coming to class; to bring the appropriate course materials to class; and to contribute to class discussions, group work, and activities. Coming to class unprepared or unwilling to participate seriously undermines student success and cheats colleagues, so repeated under-preparedness may result in course grade reduction. Discussion sections are not optional. They are an important part of the course. **Attendance will be taken and calculated into final grade.**

**Recitation attendance:** 50 points (0-1 absence: 50 points; 2 absences: 40 points; 3: 30 points; 4: 20 points; 5: 10 points; 6 or more: 0 points)

## CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR

In order to create a positive and productive working environment, disruptive and disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated—including **texting during class and other disruptions from cell phones and laptops**. Students are expected to behave professionally: to arrive on time; to be sober, rested, and ready to work; and to come prepared with assignments read/printed (and stapled)/posted/completed. Students' actions and words should demonstrate respect for the instructor and for their classmates. Anyone who disrupts the learning environment by acting inappropriately or unethically may be asked to leave. Feel free to interrupt me at any time during our discussions or lectures with comments or questions. Also, I expect that we will **treat each other with respect**, we will not denigrate or dismiss the opinions of others (although, respectfully disagreeing is okay, even encouraged), and we will remember that what is said in the classroom stays in the classroom.

## ACADEMIC FRAUD

Plagiarism and cheating are **serious offenses**. Forms of academic dishonesty, including using portions or copies of another person's work or recycled work from past courses, will not be tolerated. Any intellectual property (ideas, quotes, graphics, etc.) "borrowed" from outside sources must be **properly cited** – this includes both direct quotes and paraphrases.

## A NOTE REGARDING MANDATORY REPORTING:

As an instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create a safe learning environment on our campus. It is my goal that you feel able to share information related to your life experiences in classroom discussions, in your written work, and in our one-on-one meetings. In most cases, I will keep information you share in essays, journals, and other materials submitted for this class private and confidential. However, it is important that you understand that I have a mandatory reporting responsibility related to my role as an instructor/TA which imposes limits to the confidentiality I can extend to students.

If, in my capacity as an instructor or TA, I hear from a student that they experienced any form of sexual misconduct, the endangerment of a child, or harm to oneself or others, either on or off campus, during their tenure here at MSU, irrespective of who was involved in the incident(s), I will have to inform the Office of Institutional Equity (OIE) as well as the MSU Police Department. The reason we do this is to ensure that you get all the support and information you need to make an informed decision on whether or not you would like to take further steps. This may prompt contact from a campus official who will want to talk with you about the incident that you have shared. In almost all cases, it will be your decision whether you wish to speak with that individual.

If you would like to talk about these events in a completely confidential setting, you are encouraged to make an appointment with the MSU Counseling Center (517-355-2870) or the MSU Sexual Assault Program (517-355-3551), call the 24-hour crisis line (517-372-6666), and for support services/shelter for relationship violence and stalking, MSU Safe Place (517-355-1100). More information can be found at <http://endrape.msu.edu/> and <http://safeplace.msu.edu/>. All of these professionals and advocates can help a student without having to report information pertaining to sexual misconduct or relationship violence that students share to any university or law enforcement units. However, they may still be bound by a duty to report child endangerment or risk of self-harm. Ask your counselor or advocate what their reporting responsibilities are and what the limits to their confidentiality are.

On the other hand, if you would like to report any sexual misconduct in a non-confidential manner, they may call the Office for Institutional Equity (OIE) at 517-353-3922 or the MSU law enforcement (Police) at 517-355-2221.