This course takes a critical approach to our contemporary understanding of “globalization” through a study of literature from a wide range of global locations. How have art and literature intervened into political discourses of globalization and contemporary geo-political formations? How has literature provided sites of resistance and alternative imaginings of global relations? We will examine a number of literary texts that attempt to provide counter-narratives to dominant political and economic discourses of globalization through its representation of histories of colonization, militarization, exile, and migration. The main focus of the class will remain on representations of the globalized urban city. How do these portrayals of modern urban spaces mediate the imaginings of “the local” in relation to “the global” and the processes of globalization? How do these texts imagine or attempt to re-imagine these dense social spaces of cultural conflict and interaction?

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