

KU Language Across the Curriculum  
**Fall 2009 KULAC Courses in Spanish**

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## Women and Globalization

LAA 302/602, M/W 4:00-5:15p.m.

Taught by Laura Herlihy



This course, taught entirely in Spanish, will focus on the positive and negative effects that globalization has had on Latin American women, including mestiza, indigenous, and Afro-descendant women. We will focus on the way that neoliberal economic forces and the globalization of production—driven by consumption—has had a mostly negative impact on women, including the feminization of the work force (with women in the low-paid sector) and the feminization of poverty. We will also focus on how global communication systems have helped women develop transnational networks to further their struggle and activism. Other themes to be discussed include domestic violence, indigenous and ethnic mobilization, militarization, feminism, human-trafficking, immigration, and sex work. We will read theoretical articles from feminist perspectives that view women's status through the lenses of human rights and structural violence. The course will be conducted as a seminar and readings will include books in English and articles in Spanish. Students will leave the course with an understanding of how Latin American women's everyday lives and gendered identities are constructed between the interstices of local cultural practices, international politics, and global economic forces. For the undergraduate and graduate students taking the course at the 602 level, a semester research project/paper is required. The research project/paper will record life histories of women migrants from Mexico living and working in Lawrence, Kansas.