Approaches to Global History *circa* 1492-2001
(Course Code: HSM 43; Jan-May 2017)

The course has a dual objective: first, to introduce first-year MA students to key historiographical questions of global history; and second, to expose students to a core body of literature (both recent and older works) that ably mirrors the craft of doing global history today. Many historical processes (say, the environment and commerce) are best approached from a global – rather than local or national – perspective. However provisional our understanding may be, the forces that shape our present world will be thrown into relief from the vantage point of global history. Moreover, transnational and cross-cultural considerations of even traditional themes such as empires, states, religion and agriculture (food) can contribute to an enabling vision of the connectedness of human experiences in its rich diversity as well as the shared (his)story of *homo sapiens*, the joint heirs of a common planet.

**Reading List**
(tentative)

**Historiography**


**Cross-cultural Idea of the Individual**


**The Mid-13th Century**


Chapters 1-7 (European subsystem and the Mideast heartland).

**Institutions & Ideas**


Supplementary audio material on Mandeville
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y-6qdHzSDug

**The 18th-Century Revolutions**

Chapter 3: Converging Revolutions 1780-1820 [pp. 86-120].

**Comparative Study of the 19th Century**

  “Introduction: Comparisons, Connections, and Narratives of European Economic Development” pp. 3-27;
  Chapter 5, “Shared Constraints: Ecological Strain in Western Europe and East Asia” pp. 211-263.

**Knowledge in the 19th Century**


**Capital across time & region**


**Food in Global History**