



VIETNAM NATIONAL UNIVERSITY HANOI
UNIVERSITY OF LANGUAGES & INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
FACULTY OF LINGUISTICS & CULTURES OF ENGLISH SPEAKING COUNTRIES
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LETTER OF INVITATION

You are invited to join our workshop Globalization and International Studies, whose outline is enclosed with this letter (next page). The workshop is part of academic development activities organized by Division of Country Studies, Faculty of Linguistics and Cultures of English Speaking Countries, which will offer English majors in the University of Languages and International Studies an orientation to international studies since 2017–2018.

The workshop consists of 12 sessions, supposed to take place in Hanoi from mid-October 2016 to mid-February 2017. It tackles important issues in globalization and international studies that are hopefully relevant to any researcher who critically inquires into the constructions of societies. We will be very happy if you can participate in our workshop, either as a discussant with expertise in selected topics or simply a participant with an inquisitive mind. You can choose to pursue the whole course or attend only the sessions of your interest.

If you are interested in joining the workshop, please study the workshop outline and fill out this form: <https://goo.gl/J8Olhz>. We will look forward to meaningful and enriching conversations and connections with you.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Đỗ Thị Thanh Hà
Dean

Dr. Phùng Hà Thanh
Designer & coordinator

WORKSHOP OUTLINE

Globalization and International Studies

- Language: English and Vietnamese
Fee: Voluntary donation
Size: 15–30 participants
Time: 14:00–16:30 every Thursday (for sessions in 2016)
01 session/week
First class on October 20th 2016
Venue: 516, B2 Building
Faculty of Linguistics and Cultures of English Speaking Countries
University of Languages and International Studies, VNU Hanoi
No 1, Phạm Văn Đồng Rd., Cầu Giấy Dist., Hà Nội
- Sign up: <https://goo.gl/J8Olhz>
Email: internationalstudies.ulis@gmail.com
Phone: 0915215184 (Workshop secretary: Lại Thị Thanh Vân)

Theories are not vehicles that move people into ivory towers isolated from the greenness of life but discursive-material practices that make up the very worlds we inhabit. In this workshop, you will reexamine the meanings and impacts of popular social imaginations, encounter different schools of theory about politics, economy, and culture, illuminate international and global phenomena from various perspectives, question your sensibility, develop research and teaching capacities, make friends, etc.

Session 1 — Introduction to International Studies and Critical Social Research

- Historical formations of country studies, area studies, international studies, and global studies
- Multi-disciplinarity, interdisciplinarity, disciplinarity and in-disciplinarity in scholarship
- Criticality in cognitive psychology, analytical philosophy, Marxism, pragmatics, Michel Foucault and Jacques Rancière
- Critical thinking in classes in country studies and international studies

Session 2 — Globalization: Metaphors, Meanings, and Theories

- Popular metaphors about globalization: the flat world, global village, network, empire, virtual reality, etc.
- Introduction to globalization theories: institutional theory, world system theory, world culture theory, discourse theory, etc.
- Manuel Castells' *Network Society*, Michael Hardt & Antonio Negri's *Empire*, Arjun Appadurai's *Disjuncture*

Session 3— Civilizations, Cultures, Conflict and Progress

- The clash of civilizations by Samuel Huntington and Edward Said's criticisms
- The concept of progress and the establishment of the global order

Session 4 — Wealth and Poverty: Alternative Explanations

- Explanations of wealth and poverty on the basis of geography, institution and market mechanism: Debates between Daron Acemoglu & James Robinson and Jared Diamond, Bill Gates
- Deirdre McCloskey's *Bourgeois Dignity*
- Anti-colonialist approaches

Session 5 — International Aid and the Poverty Industry

- The Case of Haiti: Watch and discuss Poverty Inc.

Session 6 — Neoliberalism: Entrepreneurship, Citizenship, Nationalism, Equality and Inequality

- History of neoliberalism
- Discursive constellation of neoliberalism

Session 7 — Neoliberalism in Vietnam

- Neoliberalism in television programs in Vietnam

Session 8 — Financial Crisis in the US: The Rise and Collapse of Financial Markets

- Financial markets: Time, money, and the culture of abstraction
- Watch and discuss *The Big Short*

Session 9 — Standardization and International Rankings in Education

- Standards based education reform movement
- OECD and international tests (PISA and AHELO)

Session 10 — The Globalization of English

- Language policies in different nations
- Phenomena of English in the process of globalization

Session 11— Capitalism and Environmental Problems

- Watch and discuss *The True Cost*

Session 12 — Concluding Remarks

Designer & coordinator: Dr. Phùng Hà Thanh specializes in philosophy and critical studies. Favoring Rancière and Foucault, she attends to (in)equality (re)configures communities and how we create ourselves as works of art.