**CARLETON UNIVERSITY**

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY**

**SOCI/ANTH 3045B**

**WINTER 2024**

**CHILDREN AND CHILDHOOD IN A GLOBALIZED WORLD**

**Instructor:** Zainab Amery

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**Method of Delivery:** In-person

**Course Description:**

What does it mean to be a child? Is the term universally understood by those in the West and globally? Are all childhoods of children the same or are they experienced differently? Is the age that childhood begins and ends understood to be the same? How is childhood produced and contested through cultural, social, economic and political systems historically and today? Do we all sentimentalize childhood? This course will address these questions by using historical and ethnographic approaches drawing from a variety of interdisciplinary perspectives to study children and childhood. We will begin by exploring the various definitions of childhood and critically review historical and theoretical evidence concerning the argument that childhood is a socially constructed phenomena as argued by Philippe Aries (1962) to the emergence of “crisis” theories proposed by those such as Neil Postman (1983) who argues that childhood is disappearing. Through readings, lectures, and video presentations, we will consider selected topics impacting children and childhood including historical changes in the sociological and anthropological study of children, particularly the sites of socialization and resistance, the impact of industrialization, globalization and migration, warfare and political violence, the lives of children on the street, and children’s contributions to household economies through child labor, patterns of consumption, and commodification. The course will conclude by understanding children with voices and new forms of political activism and citizenship.

**Reading (s)/Textbook (s):**

All course readings are available in Brightspace through **Library Reserves/ ARES.** Readings have been selected by the course instructor and compiled using online sources (noted by the hyperlinks), library journal sources (Access online) and PDFs. If the link disappears, please notify me immediately as I maintain copies of all the materials and can make them readily available. Please note that I reserve the right to make changes, should it be necessary, in consultation with the class.

**Course Requirements & Methods of Evaluation:**

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| **Assignment** | **Weight** |
| **Proposal and Annotated Bibliography** | 15% |
| Video Reflection Papers = Choose 2 | 20% (2 X10%) |
| Group presentation and participation | 25% |
| **Final Paper** | 40% |
| Total Grade | 100% |