This course looks at what it is to be middle class as more than a demographic and economic category. A key objective of the course is for the students to be able to clearly identify theoretically what constitutes the middle class and the emerging middle class, how it is formed and important issues that arise for the middle class across the globe. As well as to get a practical understanding as to why the middle class is increasingly an important area of study for anthropologists. We will examine the ways middle classness is constructed, perceived and maintained across the globe, the similarities and differences. What is the relationship between class, capitalism, and consumerism? How do local contexts influence characteristic middle class preoccupations? How do the emerging middle classes and existing ones differ or resemble one another?

### EVALUATION PROCEDURE

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<tr>
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### REQUIRED READING

**Required text:** The Global Middle Classes: Theorizing Through Ethnography (edited by Rachel Heiman, Carla Freeman, and Mark Liechty).

Each week will have 1 chapter from the required text as well as 2 articles that compliment the weeks themes. I am still building the exact list, but it will include:
