Description: This is a research seminar on women, work, gender and development. We will read both classic and current readings on these topics from scholars from around the globe, and about men and women around the globe. Questions including gender and the economic crisis, the global assembly line, commodity chains, the informal economy, the care economy, migration, and the transformation of work within the household will be addressed. We will specifically address efforts to organize at many locations. Everyone will be expected to work on a research project, and to critique both the readings and one another’s work. Prior experience in feminist studies, political economy, labor studies, or development studies is highly suggested.

Assigned Readings: Since this is a course that incorporates cutting-edge readings we will be building the course website as the semester progresses. It can be reached through the Hampshire College home page and also at: http://athena.hampshire.edu I have also had Amherst Books order copies of the first and second editions of The Women, Gender and Development Reader by Nalini Visvanathan, etal.

Some books may be put on reserve at the Hampshire College library. Many of the books and journals are also available at other campuses. Since most of the books are very new and rather expensive I have refrained from ordering any textbooks. We can place a late order at Amherst Books if we change our minds.

Assignments: Everyone will be expected to be prepared before class to fully address the assigned readings for each class session. Everyone will also take responsibility for leading the discussion on an article or book chapter at least twice in the early section of the semester. There will be two short essays due (October 12 and November 2) in which you will choose two articles to compare and contrast. One of them might be the article you are or have presented in class. Everyone will be working on an independent research project, due at the end of the semester. Division III students will submit a relevant chapter. Division II students will prepare a research paper for their portfolio or a research proposal and annotated bibliography on their proposed Division III. Five college students will negotiate a topic that is congruent with their program. We will also share one another’s research work over the course of the semester in written and oral formats.

Tentative Schedule
CSI 294 Advanced Readings in Work, Gender and Development
Fall 2011
Wed 9-1150 a.m.  FPH 106
1. **September 7**  
   Introduction – no readings.  
   Film: Global Assembly Line

2. **September 14**  
   Global Assembly Line -- Classic Readings

3. **September 21**  
   Global Assembly Line – New Directions

4. **September 28**  
   Exam/Advising Day – no class.  
   Tentative research topic due by email.

5. **October 5**  
   Informal Economy – Domestic Work – Care Chains and Deficits  
   First Short Essay Due in class.  
   Film: When Mother Comes Home for Christmas

6. **October 12**  
   Informal Economy – Sex Tourism

7. **October 19**  
   Informal Economy – Higglering and Commodity Chains

8. **October 26**  
   Households – Land, Agriculture, Property Rights

9. **November 2**  
   Households – Internal Power Dynamics  
   Second Short Essay Due in Class.

10. **November 9**  
   Gender and Current Economic Crisis

11. **November 16**  
   Transnational Labor Activism/Social Movements

12. **November 23**  
   Thanksgiving – No Class.

13. **November 30**  
   Presentations

14. **December 7**  
   Presentations  
   Final portfolio due (includes hard copy of self-evaluation,  
   previous papers with comments, final research project in  
   stamped, self-addressed envelope.)

**Tentative Readings**

**CSI 294 Advanced Readings in Work, Gender and Development**

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1. **September 7**  
   No Reading

2. **September 14**  
   Classic Articles on Global Assembly Line


3. September 21 Current Articles on Global Assembly Line


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September 28     Exam/Advising Day – No Reading.
                Proposed Research Paper Topic Due by email.

4. October 5    Informal Economy – Migration, Domestic Work, Care Chains and Deficits

                First Short Paper Due in Class.

We will watch part of the film that the Ehrenreich and Hochschild selection is based on:
When Mother Comes Home for Christmas.


Lourdes Beneria, “Accounting for Women’s Work: The Progress of Two Decades,” pp. 112-188 plus end notes and references, in Reader V!.


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5. October 12    Informal Economy – Tourism and Sex Tourism


7. October 26  Households – Land, Agriculture, Property Rights


8. November 2  Households – Internal Power Dynamics

Gita Sen, “Subordination and Sexual Control: A Comparative View of the Control of Women,” pp. 142-149 plus end notes and references in Reader.


Aysan Se ver, “Discarded Daughters: The Patriarchal Grip, Dowry Deaths, Sex Ratio Imbalances and Foeticide in India,” pp. 56-75. From a website at University of Toronto.

9. November 9  Gender and Current Economic Crisis


10. November 16  Transnational Labor Activism and Social Movements

Piya Chatterjee, et. al. “Hungering for Power” in “Comparative Perspectives Symposium: Women’s Labor Activism,” SIGN (Spring 2008) 33:3: 497-543. [Has articles on India, Philippines, Indonesia, China, Germany, Los Angeles, New York, Australia.]


11. November 23  
   Thanksgiving Break – no class.

12. November 30  
   Presentations.

   Presentations. Work Due.