In this course we examine important historical events in the Asia-Pacific region through the lens “cosmopolitanism,” a sense of how one could imagine being a citizen of the world, and “globalization,” a process most often imagined to reflect the increasing penetration of every parts of the world by transnational capital, innovative communication technologies, and last but not least – cultural juxtapositions. We will explore how various theorists try to unpack, account for, and imagine the practice of such ideas and social processes, as well as read a range of literary novels and comics, watch films (commercial and underground), and sample popular musical hits to evaluate concrete ways cultural workers in the Asian-Pacific respond to media, stimuli, and translations – to make sense of changing worlds.

Proposed assignments:

- Class Participation (group work, weekly forum response, attendance): 50 points
- Short Essay #1: 10 points
- Short Essay #2: 10 points
- Final Research Paper: 30 points
- Total: 100 points

Proposed reading list:

- Benedict Anderson, “Imagined Communities.” (Verso 2006 [1983])