

Europe, European Union, Eurocentrism

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Jozsef Borocz, SAS - Sociology

TTH 5:35-6:55P

Hickman Hall Room 122

Douglass Campus

Will Count Towards SAS - Sociology Major

This course helps students discover 'Europe' as the historical location that we are taught to think about as the center of the moral, cultural, economic and political universes of humankind. It aims to generate both well informed and critical discussions on such issues as economic "development," backwardness and progress, geopolitics, moral superiority / inferiority, race and racism, Eurocentrism, and historical dead ends. The course will help students gain a clearer understanding of the ongoing, epochal transformation of the world, marked by the relative economic decline of 'Europe' and other societies with 'European' identities and the re-emergence of the world's largest--predominantly Asian--societies to world prominence. The course uses brief but engaging readings, a selection of intense and provocative films, class discussion and student research to achieve these goals.

JÓZSEF BÖRÖCZ, PH.D., is a professor of sociology at Rutgers University. He is also a member of the Institute for Political Science and the Hungarian Academy of Science in Budapest. In 2006, Böröcz received the Knight's Cross of the Medal of Honor of the Republic of Hungary, a high state award bestowed by the president for his scholarly achievements. He was also the 2006 occupant of the Immanuel Wallerstein Chair in Global Ethics at the University of Ghent (Belgium). His recent publications include: "Goodness Is Elsewhere: The Rule of European Difference" in *Comparative Studies in Society and History*; "What Is the EU?" *International Sociology*, and "Redistributing Global Inequality: A Thought Experiment," *Economic and Political Weekly*. Böröcz earned an M.A. from Kossuth Lajos University (Debrecen, Hungary), and an M.A. and Ph.D. in sociology from Johns Hopkins University. Böröcz's scholarly interests include historical/comparative sociology, global structures, social change, economic discourse, state socialism and its legacy, empire and coloniality.