

Basketball hoop on the border wall in Nogales, Sonora; Photo by Fantasia Painter

Fall 2023

Global Borders and Boundaries

IS 189: A Special Topic Course in Global and International Studies Professor Fantasia Painter

This upper division course will lead advanced undergraduate students in a deep engagement with some of the key issues of global border politics. In this course we will begin with the nation-state as a global regime that emerged in a particular historical context. We will interrogate how borders work (and for whom). We will explore the anomalies that international borders produce: undocumented immigration, forced migration (refugees), and people without a country (stateless folks). We will theorize how climate change, imperialism, and capitalism pose unique challenges to borders and border regimes. And finally, we will end with a serious intellectual engagement with the growing call to abolish borders and to recognize movement as a fundamental human right.