Over the past decade, academic discourse has paid unprecedented attention to the porous and fluid nature of those sovereign, border regimes—whether the nation-state, the public/private boundary, or the subjectivity of the individuals—that have long been seen as the marker of modernity. The recent “transnational turn” has given rise to a search for a satisfying way to conceptualize and narrate that which was excluded or obscured by state-centered historical approach to the modern world. The goal of this research seminar is to help students develop ways of framing and narrating these global and transnational encounters and currents that cannot be adequately understood within the framework of national states. We will explore how the national intersects with or is imbricated in sub- and supra-national phenomena. **Prerequisite:** Enrollment in History PhD program (other students require permission of Instructor)