

SYLLABUS
ANTH 4300.810/820 MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES
Fall 2017

Professor: Dr. Jara Carrington

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Office Hours: Wednesdays 10:00- 12:00;

Or by appointment

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Instructional Assistants (IAs):

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All Instructional Assistants are available by appointment (in person or via voice/videoconference). Please email your IA at least 48 hours in advance to schedule an appointment.

Course Designer: Dr. Alicia Re Cruz

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

Welcome! I hope that you will find this course both challenging and rewarding. International migration is a powerful global phenomenon that affects millions of peoples around the world. This course examines international migration from the perspective of cultural anthropology and other social science and humanities fields to reveal the complexity of immigration processes, and to instigate critical thinking about the multiple causes and effects of borders and human movements across and within them.

The term **displacement**, which refers to the movement of individuals or groups, is an important concept in the discussion of current globalizing trends. In this course, we will focus on various forms of displacement, including both cross-border and internal population movements. Further, we will learn about and critically evaluate laws and policies that characterize displacement as either forced or voluntary, and consider how political and legal definitions of migrant categories influence the lived experience of humans across the globe.

We begin our conversations by analyzing some of the significant political, economic, and social issues that influence the movement of peoples across borders, and we will evaluate the varied relationships between migrants and their new homes through concepts such as enculturation, socialization, and adaptation. In the second half of the course, we will contextualize these macro level processes by focusing in on specific regional and thematic topics that are relevant to displacement. Throughout, we will also engage with various online and news media sources to learn about contemporary issues related to displacement around the world.

Course Objectives:

- Understand and evaluate key concepts about migration, such as displacement, migrant, refugee, and borders
- Gain an introduction to a socio-cultural approach to migration processes
- Develop and exercise critical thinking skills in the analysis of displacement
- To equip students with the academic and research skills to better analyze globalization through the phenomenon of displacement

- Develop sensitivity toward the beliefs and values of others so that we may fully comprehend the complex social and historical constructs that influence social difference, power, and justice

HOW TO NAVIGATE THE COURSE EVERY WEEK

1. Look for any new announcements
2. Open the Lesson that corresponds with the week
3. Read each file within the Lesson as well as linked websites
4. Complete the Reading Assignments
5. Complete the Writing Assignment

REQUIRED READINGS/READING ASSIGNMENTS

There is one required text for this course, titled “Land of Open Graves: Living and Dying on the Migrant Trail” by Jason De León. This text will be available at the UNT bookstore.

All other required readings for this course are available on our course webpage. You can find the readings for the reading assignments each week at Course Content→Course Readings. In addition to the required readings, there will often be links provided in the lesson to websites and external web content that you will also need to read completely and thoroughly.

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

Each lesson concludes with a short essay question, which you will answer using the materials covered in the lesson and the readings. This means you will need to read the lesson and the reading assignments in order to fully answer the question. The prompt for each week’s Assignment are located within the Lesson folder for that week. You will submit your response to the appropriate week’s Assignment folder, which is located in the navigation menu on the left hand side of the screen. Each assignment is worth 50 points; the lowest score will be dropped at the end of the semester.

- All assignments are due by 11:30 PM on Sundays (exact dates are provided below)
- Please put your name, title of the assignment, page numbers, and date on everything you hand in. All assignments should be 1” margins, and 12-point font.
- **No Attachments!!** Please answer in the response field provided to submit your assignment (Text submission). If you prefer to compose your answer in a word processing application, please copy and paste your response into the provided response field.
- You will be graded on the following:
 - Content: Includes the extent to which you addressed the question/point of the essay question, your use of relevant sources from lesson to support your discussion (readings, course content, web pages), and the clarity and coherence of your response
 - Form: This includes writing organization, and use of correct grammar, spelling and punctuation (Spell check is your friend!)
- I will drop the (lowest) score of one writing assignment at the end of the semester, including zeros. So technically, you can miss one and not be penalized. But save it for when you need it!

EXAMS

There will be TWO exams: a midterm and a final exam. Due to the nature of the course, the second exam will be comprehensive, and thus may cover concepts and topics discussed in the first half of the semester. Each exam will be worth 250 points, and will consist of short answer

questions and short essays.

- Exams will be available for one week only and are due by the deadline listed on your syllabus (no exceptions!)
- When the week begins, you can download the exam, complete it, and then submit it by the deadline (via the Assignments tab in the Left margin)
- Study Guides will be made available to you and will be found in a folder under Course Content

STUDENT EVALUATION

Writing Assignments	550 points (50 points each, drop lowest grade)
Midterm	225 points
<u>Final</u>	<u>225 points</u>
Total:	1000 points

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

Especially because we do not meet together as a class, this course requires *considerable* reading. Although you do not need a background in anthropological theory to succeed in the class, you will be expected to work through texts that you may need to re-read and sit with to fully understand. In other words, cursory readings will not be sufficient. Further, we may cover material in this course that challenges your personal beliefs and opinions. I do not expect you to agree with course materials in order to do well in this course, but I do expect you to approach these topics in an open and intellectual fashion. Posts and writing assignments that are disrespectful to your classmates, your Instructional Assistants, and/or myself will not be tolerated.

LATE WORK

I do not accept late assignments unless you have made specific arrangements with me in advance, have a doctor's note, and/or otherwise received my approval.

EXTRA CREDIT

Extra credit can be earned at any point during the semester. I will suggest several opportunities on our course webpage, and I am relatively open to creative ideas from you. Options to earn extra credit include: critical analysis of relevant movie/documentary, attending a related talk, lecture, or demonstration and writing a summary, or developing a creative piece such as poetry or artwork. You must get approval from me ahead of time for your choice, so check with me before you do the work.

ACADEMIC HONESTY: The Department of Anthropology does not tolerate plagiarism, cheating, or helping others to cheat. Plagiarism is defined as misrepresenting the work of others (whether published or not) as your own. It may be inadvertent or intentional. Any facts, statistics, quotations, or paraphrasing of any information that is not common knowledge, should be cited. Students suspected of any of these will be provided the opportunity for a hearing; if found guilty they can receive an automatic "F" in the course. In addition, I reserve the right to pursue further disciplinary action within the UNT legal system, which may result in your dismissal from the university. For more information on paper writing, including how to avoid plagiarism, and how to use citations, see <http://www.unt.edu/anthropology/writing.htm>. For information on the University's policies regarding academic integrity and dishonesty, see the UNT Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities, <http://www.unt.edu/csrr/>.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS: The University of North Texas is committed to providing accommodation for all students with disabilities. If you have or acquire a disability that may affect your participation in class, I will strive to accommodate your needs. To ensure that the necessary accommodations are made, be sure to contact the Office of Disability Accommodation (located in Sage Hall) as soon as possible to ensure your needs are met in a timely manner. They will work with both of us to ensure proper accommodations are made. If you need accommodations, please remember that reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Office of Disability Accommodation. Note that students need to obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

NOTE: The instructor reserves the right to add, delete, or revise segments of the syllabus. Any changes in the course schedule will be announced on the course webpage and via email.

SCHEDULE	ASSIGNMENTS
August 28- September 3 Lesson 1- Introduction	Reading Assignment: <i>Messer Anthropology and Human Rights</i> <i>Speed At the Crossroads of Human Rights and Anthropology</i> <i>Keles The Structural Negligence of US Refugee Resettlement Policy</i> Writing Assignment #1 DUE: September 3 by 11:30PM
September 4- 10 Lesson 2- Actors of Displacement	Reading Assignment: <i>Malkki Refugees and Exile</i> De Leon, Introduction (pgs 1-20) Writing Assignment #2 DUE: September 10 by 11:30PM
September 11-17 Lesson 3- Beyond Borders: National and Global Boundaries	Reading Assignment: Selection from Said <i>Orientalism</i> <i>Appadurai Disjuncture and Difference in the Global Cultural Economy</i> <i>Nye Globalism Versus Globalization</i> Writing Assignment #3 DUE: September 17 by 11:30PM
September 18-24 Lesson 4- Root Causes: Interplay Amongst Politics, Economics, and Violence	Reading Assignment: De León - Part I (pgs. 21-86) Writing Assignment #4 DUE: September 24 by 11:30PM

September 25- October 1
**Lesson 5- Theorizing
Migration: Theoretical
Approaches to Migration**

Reading Assignment:
Brettell *Migration Theory*
Zolberg *The Next Waves: Migration Theory for a Changing
World*
Massey *Why Does Immigration Occur*
De León *El Camino (pgs 87-89)*
Writing Assignment #5 DUE: October 1 by 11:30PM

MIDTERM EXAM

October 2-8

Midterm Due: October 8 by 11:30 PM

Study guide will be posted online

SCHEDULE

October 9- 15
**Lesson 6- Displacement
in Latin America**

ASSIGNMENT

Reading Assignment:
De León *Memo and Lucho (pgs 89-106)*
De León *Deported (pgs 107-144)*

Supplemental (Suggested) Readings:
Nygren *Violent Conflicts and Threatened Lives:
Nicaraguan Experiences of Wartime Displacement and
Postwar Distress*

Graham *Political Incorporation and Re-Incorporation:
Simultaneity in the Dominican Migrant Experience*
Writing Assignment #6 DUE: October 15 by 11:30PM

October 16-22
**Lesson 7- Displacement
in Africa**

Reading Assignment:
Rutledge and Roble *Infrastructure of Migration and the
Migration Regime: Human Rights, Race, and the Somali Struggle
to Flee Violence*
Trapp *You-Will-Kill-Me-Beans: Taste and the Politics of
Necessity in Humanitarian Aid*
Bjarnesen *"Diaspo" Youth Culture and the Ivoirian Crisis*
Writing Assignment #7 DUE: October 22 by 11:30PM

<p>October 23- 29 Lesson 8- Displacement in Asia</p>	<p>Reading Assignment: Grundy-Warr <i>Geographies of Displacement: The Karenni and the Shan Across the Myanmar-Thailand Border</i> Luibhéid <i>A Blueprint for Exclusion: The Page Law, Prostitution, and Discrimination against Chinese Women</i> Burma Link <i>Internally Displaced in Burma</i> Writing Assignment #8 DUE: October 29 by 11:30 PM</p>
<p>October 30- November 5 Lesson 9- Displacement and Migration in Europe</p>	<p>Reading Assignment: Fassin <i>Compassion and Repression: The Moral Economy of Immigration Policies in France</i> Giordano <i>Practices of Translation and the Making of Migrant Subjectivities in Contemporary Italy</i> (Don't panic! The following ones are short- less than 3 pages each) Fernando and Giordano <i>Refugees and the Crisis of Europe</i> Vacchiano <i>On Frequent Flyers and Boat People: Notes on Europe, Crisis, and Human Mobility</i> Fassin <i>Hot Spots: What They Mean</i> Writing Assignment #9 DUE: November 5 by 11:30PM</p>
<p>November 6-12 Lesson 10- Displacement in the Middle East and North Africa</p>	<p>Reading Assignment: Feldman <i>Difficult Distinctions: Refugee Law, Humanitarian Practice, and Political Identification in Gaza</i> Thiollet <i>Labor Migrants, Refugees, and Arab Regional Politics in the Oil Rich Countries</i> Writing Assignment #10 DUE: November 12 by 11:30pm</p>
<p>November 13-19 Lesson 11- U.S.- Refugee Resettlement and Mexico Border Crossings I</p>	<p>Reading Assignment: Shandy <i>Road to Refugee Resettlement</i> De León <i>The Crossing (pgs. 167-202)</i> De León <i>Perilous Terrain (pgs 203-204)</i> De León <i>Exposure (pgs 205-219)</i></p> <p>Supplemental (Suggested) Readings Crisp- <i>Mind the Gap</i> Writing Assignment #11 DUE: November 19 by 11:30PM</p>
<p>November 20-26 THANKSGIVING/ NO CLASS</p>	<p>No Readings! This is a great time to catch up on your readings and do some extra credit...</p>

November 27- December 3
**Lesson 12- U.S.- Mexico
Border Crossings II**

Reading Assignment:
De León *You Can't Leave them Behind* (pgs 220-237)
De León *Maricela* (pgs. 238-264)
De León *Epilogue* (pgs. 280-287)

Supplemental (Suggested) Readings:
Leo Chavez *The Latino Threat Narrative*
De Genova *Migrant 'Illegality' and Deportability in Everyday
Life*
Camacho *Hailing the 12 Million*

Writing Assignment #12 DUE: December 3 by 11:30PM

FINAL EXAM
December 8- December 14
EXAM DUE: December 14 by 11:30 PM
Study guide will be provided in preparation for exam