



ANTHROPOLOGY 4300: MIGRANTS & REFUGEES
FALL 2018
ONLINE COURSE
BLACKBOARD (BB)

INSTRUCTOR: April Bass
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OFFICE HRS: M/W 10-11a & 2-3p; T/R 11a-12p & 2-4p
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COURSE INFORMATION

Course designer: Dr. Alicia Re Cruz

Course description: Migration is not a new phenomenon. However, as populations increase and peoples become increasingly more globally connected, the causes and effects of transnational migration are not only more perceptible, but also more widespread. This course introduces multifaceted issues surrounding migration through the lens of sociocultural anthropology and increases a more emic-centered awareness about the millions of peoples worldwide who are affected by migration. In addition, we will critically evaluate the intricacies of border crossing and the larger issue of borders in general.

Learning Objectives:

- Learn basic vocabulary relevant to migration and borders.
- Be able to describe introductory sociocultural approaches to migration processes.
- Analyze complex processes of displacement.
- Develop and/or enrich understanding of how social and historical institutions affect social power, control, and agency.

- Develop practical skills for college/career including:
 - Clear written communication through online platforms.
 - Critical analysis of appropriate scholarly articles/sources.
 - Integration of external resources into your coursework for learning enrichment.
 - Engaging in open dialogue with course colleagues.

TEXTBOOK INFORMATION

1. De Leon, J. (2015). *The land of open graves: Living and dying on the migrant trail*. Oakland: University of California Press.
2. All other readings are embedded in Blackboard.

CLASS“ROOM” INFORMATION

How to succeed in this course:

- Stay active:
 - Check your UNT webmail often.
 - Check BB each week for new announcements.
 - Read each assigned reading – thoroughly – each week, and follow through with the assigned assignment for that week.
- Dig in: we don’t get to have typical conversations in this class
 - Read everything
 - Watch everything
 - Do all assigned work – take time to make sure you understand it well and enjoy it
- Every class is a community: Get to know your community members, share resources (**ethically**), study together, collaborate. Most situations are more feasible and more enjoyable with a network of colleagues.
- Get in touch: Visit office hours (virtually or in person) before you actually think you *need* them. During your college career, use all of your IAs, TAs, and professors as valuable resources. Get to know them – engage and make the most of your college experience.
- Use campus resources: I’m getting to know these as well. Let’s share!

Expectations:

- **Engagement.** Asking questions is a great way to learn! If you have a question, you won’t be the only person with that same question, so help the IAs and me support you by asking in office hours, through BB messaging, through email – whatever you’re most comfortable with.
- **Civility.** Thought-provoking discussions are essential. So is mutual respect for our fellow humans in class and for the cultural groups we will be exploring.
- **Integrity.** I have every confidence that we will have a smooth semester! Academic integrity isn’t some random idea that vanishes when you graduate; academic integrity is professional integrity. Build it. Use it. See UNT’s official statement below.

ADA Accommodations: For anyone seeking ADA accommodations, please send me your official “request” letter during the first week of class. In addition, let’s connect early during the semester and often to make sure that this course is offering all possible steps to maximize your learning and engagement with the material.

ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING

Weekly writing: Each week, after completing the corresponding reading, you will have a short summary and analysis writing assignment. These assignments are intended to support you in developing critical thinking, deep learning of the material, and bolster your writing skills.

Exams: Two exams will assess what you have learned over the course of the semester. The final will be comprehensive. *Timeline:* each exam will be available for one week. *Format:* short answer and essay.

Extra credit: I will offer several opportunities for extra credit during the semester, beginning with simply demonstrating engagement with the class and each other, and also including practically applicable ways to relate with the material we’re covering. If any of you have ideas to propose for extra credit, I’d love to hear about them!

Evaluation:

Weekly writing	55%	550 pts (50 pts each)
Mid-term exam	20%	200 pts
<u>Final exam</u>	<u>25%</u>	<u>250 pts</u>
Totals	100%	1,000 pts

READING/TOPIC SCHEDULE

Wk#	Lesson#	Topic	Dates	Readings/Activities
1	1	Introduction	Mon (Aug. 27) - Sun (Sept. 2)	Messer: Anthropology and Human Rights Speed: At the Crossroads of Human Rights and Anthropology Keles: The Structural Negligence of US Refugee Resettlement Policy Weekly Writing #1 DUE: Sept. 2 by 11:30PM
2	2	Actors of Displacement	Mon (Sept. 3) - Sun (Sept. 9)	Malkki: Refugees and Exile De Leon: Introduction (pgs 1-20) Weekly Writing #2 DUE: Sept. 9 by 11:30PM
3	3	Beyond Natural Borders: National & Global Boundaries	Mon (Sept. 10) - Sun (Sept. 16)	Said: Orientalism (selection) Appadurai: Disjuncture and Difference in the Global Cultural Economy Nye: Globalism Versus Globalization Weekly Writing #3 DUE: Sept. 16 by 11:30PM

4	4	Root Causes: Interplay Amongst Politics, Economics, & Violence	Mon (Sept. 17) - Sun (Sept. 23)	De León: Part I (pgs. 21-86) Weekly Writing #4 DUE: Sept. 23 by 11:30PM
5	5	Theorizing Migration: Theoretical Approaches to Migration	Mon (Sept. 24) - Sun (Sept. 30)	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) Weekly Writing #5 DUE: Sept. 30 by 11:30PM
6		MIDTERM EXAM	Mon (Oct. 1) - Sun (Oct. 7)	MIDTERM EXAM
7	6	Displacement in Latin America	Mon (Oct. 8) - Sun (Oct. 14)	De León: Memo and Lucho (pgs 89-106) De León: Deported (pgs 107-144) 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 Weekly Writing #6 DUE: Oct. 14 by 11:30PM
8	7	Displacement in Africa	Mon (Oct. 15) - Sun (Oct. 21)	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 Weekly Writing #7 DUE: Oct. 21 by 11:30PM
9	8	Displacement in Asia	Mon (Oct. 22) - Sun (Oct. 28)	Grundy-Warr: Geographies of Displacement: The Karenni and the Shan Across the Myanmar-Thailand Border Luibhéid: A Blueprint for Exclusion: The Page Law, Prostitution, and Discrimination against Chinese Women Burma Link: Internally Displaced in Burma Weekly Writing #8 DUE: Oct. 28 by 11:30 PM

10	9	Displacement and Migration in Europe	Mon (Oct. 29) - Sun (Nov. 4)	<p>Fassin: Compassion and Repression: The Moral Economy of Immigration Policies in France Giordano: Practices of Translation and the Making of Migrant Subjectivities in Contemporary Italy <i>**Don't panic! These (below) are short:</i> Fernando and Giordano: Refugees and the Crisis of Europe Vacchiano: On Frequent Flyers and Boat People: Notes on Europe, Crisis, and Human Mobility Fassin: Hot Spots: What They Mean Weekly Writing #9 DUE: Nov. 4 by 11:30PM</p>
11	10	Displacement in the Middle East and North Africa	Mon (Nov. 5) - Sun (Nov. 11)	<p>Feldman: Difficult Distinctions: Refugee Law, Humanitarian Practice, and Political Identification in Gaza Thiollet: Labor Migrants, Refugees, and Arab Regional Politics in the Oil Rich Countries Weekly Writing #10 DUE: Nov. 11 by 11:30pm</p>
12	11	U.S.- Refugee Resettlement and Mexico Border Crossings I	Mon (Nov. 12) - Sun (Nov. 18)	<p>Shandy: Road to Refugee Resettlement De León: The Crossing (pgs. 167-202) De León: Perilous Terrain (pgs 203-204) De León: Exposure (pgs 205-219) Suggested Readings: Crisp- Mind the Gap Weekly Writing #11 DUE: Nov. 18 by 11:30PM</p>
13	No class for National Food Day! (Catch up & do some Extra Credit!)			
14	12	U.S.- Mexico Border Crossings II	Mon (Nov. 26) - Sun (Dec. 2)	<p>De León: You Can't Leave them Behind (pgs 220-237) De León: Maricela (pgs. 238-264) De León: Epilogue (pgs. 280-287) Suggested Readings: Leo Chavez The Latino Threat Narrative De Genova Migrant 'Illegality' and Deportability in Everyday Life Camacho Hailing the 12 Million Weekly Writing #12 DUE: Dec. 2 by 11:30PM</p>
15		FINAL EXAM	Mon (Dec. 3) - Sun (Dec. 9)	FINAL EXAM

PLEASE NOTE: THIS SYLLABUS MAY BE MODIFIED AS NEEDED DURING THE SEMESTER. IF AND WHEN MODIFICATIONS ARE MADE, YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED IN A TIMELY MANNER THROUGH BLACKBOARD.

Official statement: UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one's specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the ODA website at disability.unt.edu.

Official statement: According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.