Overview

This course examines the causes and consequences of international migration, focusing in particular on the impact on women and girls. Section 1 of the course identifies the various categories of international migration, discussing the similarities and differences between voluntary and forced migration. Also in Section 1, feminist theories and perspectives on international migration are discussed. Section 2 of the course focuses on forced migrants, including refugees and internally displaced persons. It covers the history of the concept of 'refuge' and then traces the evolution of the international regime for protecting and assisting refugees and displaced persons. The course examines current examples of displacement in Africa, Latin America, the Middle East, Central and South Asia, and Europe. Students will explore these issues from the perspective of academics who study forced migration and women and girls who live it. This section concludes with discussion of issues specifically related to women and girls who are displaced—e.g., access to legal protection, sexual and gender based violence, access to education and livelihoods, and reproductive health. Section 3 of the course discusses categories generally labelled as voluntary migration. It examines migration for employment as well as family reunification and formation as a policy issue and lived experienced. It focuses on the impact of migration on the women who migrate, women whose husbands have migrated, and the children of immigrants. The final section focuses on developments at the global level to improve responses to both forced and voluntary migration from a gendered lens.

All readings are available online unless otherwise indicated. All students are expected to be familiar with the major arguments made in all readings. You should reflect on the most important points raised in the readings and the significance of the readings for historical and contemporary migration trends and impacts.

The class is a hybrid between classroom and online discussions. There will be occasional classes when Prof Martin will join the class by Zoom for a synchronous session. These sessions are highlighted in yellow on the syllabus. Other classes will be fully online. In general, students will be expected to view an online lecture, read the assigned readings, and then respond to questions through Moodle. It is expected that each student will make an original comment and respond to the comments made by other students in order to stimulate dialogue. You will see that the online discussion constitutes 20% of the grade.
In addition, all students will participate in discussions with staff of organizations working on refugee and migration issues in Missoula. Prof Martin will join the class in person for these discussions. Each student will write a 2-page memo on the major themes covered in the presentations and discussions during these discussions.

Each student will prepare two papers (6-8 pp double spaced on average, maximum of 10 pp). The topics are of your choice but should be pre-cleared by Prof. Martin by email or during office hours. The first paper should focus on a refugee issue and the second on a migration issue. The topic should be focused and narrow enough to allow you to go into depth on the issue in a 6-8 pp paper.

Several extra credit assignments are available as well. These are 2-pp reviews of films that capture the experiences of refugees and migrants. They will count for an additional 3 points each.

Finally, there will be a take-home final exam for the course. This will be an essay exam in which you will have a choice of questions to which you will respond.

Course-Specific Learning Objectives

- To articulate and analyze the categories in which women migrants move internationally
- To articulate and assess the major premises underlying feminist theory on international migration
- To articulate and analyze the causes and consequences of contemporary refugee movements and internal displacement, with a gendered lens
- To articulate and analyze the reasons underlying the emergence of the current refugee and migration regimes (laws and institutions) in the aftermath of World War II and the Holocaust and its evolution in the years thereafter.
- To understand displacement from the perspective of those who have been displaced themselves
- To articulate and analyze the causes and consequences of other forms of migration, with a gendered lens.
- To assess the gender-specific needs of refugee and migrant women and girls with regard to SGBV, reproductive health, access to asylum, access to education and livelihoods and other similar issues.
- To identify effective practices aimed at empowering refugee and migrant women and girls to meet their needs and those of their families and communities.
SECTION 1:

Jan 13  Welcome and Introductions (synchronous Zoom)

Please post a bio and photo on the Advanced Forum page in Moodle before class

Jan 15-17 Forms and Types of Migration (Moodle video, readings, PPTs and discussion)

The Books of Genesis and Exodus in the Bible


Jan 20  Martin Luther King’s Birthday (no class)

Jan 22-24 Feminist Theories of Migration (Moodle video, readings and discussion)

Group A to lead discussion

Rhacel Salazar Parreñas, Inserting Feminism in Transnational Migration Studies
http://aa.ecn.cz/img_upload/6334e0c7298d6b396d213ccd19be5999/RParrenas_InsertingFeminisminTransnationalMigrationStudies.pdf


Jennifer Hyndman, “Managing difference: Gender and culture in humanitarian emergencies” Gender, Place and Culture (Moodle)

SECTION 2:

Jan 27-31 Causes of and State Responses to Refugee Flows (Moodle video, readings and discussion)

Group B to lead discussion


Feb 3-7  Emergence of an International Refugee Regime (Moodle PPT lecture, readings and discussion)  
**Group C** to lead discussion


Susan Martin, *International Migration: Evolving Patterns Since the Early Twentieth Century*, chapters 1 and 2

Extra Credit: Review the film *Casablanca* as a refugee story. Discuss it from a gendered perspective as well. The review should be no more than 2 pages single-spaced.

*UN Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees*  
Available at:  

Feb 10-14  Perspectives from refugee women (Readings and Moodle discussion)  
**Group D** to lead discussion

Hannah Arendt, “We Refugees”

Viet Thanh Nguyen, *The Displaced: Refugee Writers on Refugee Lives* (available at bookstore or Amazon)

Feb 17  President’s Day (no class)

**Feb 19-21**  Regional perspectives on displacement (**Zoom synchronous** with PowerPoint point presentations)

Students will be divided into teams to do research and make presentations (with a gender lens) on refugees and internally displaced persons in specific countries in Africa (Group A), Latin America (Group B), North Africa and the Middle East (Group C), South Asia and Southeast Asia (Group D) and Europe (Group E). The planning for the assignment will be discussed via Zoom on Feb 19 and the presentations (via PowerPoint) will be uploaded and discussed by Feb 21.

Feb 24-28  Legal Protection of Refugee Women and Girls (Moodle lecture, readings and discussion)  
**Group E** to lead discussion

Maria Clare, Simon Goodman, Helen Liebling, Hannah Laing" You Keep Yourself Strong": A Discourse Analysis of African Women Asylum Seekers’ Talk about Emotions in Journal of International Women's Studies, Volume 15 | Issue 1 2014 (See Moodle)


Mar 2-6 Life for Women in Refugee Camps, Settlements and Urban Spaces (Moodle lecture, readings and discussion)

Group A

Ulrike Krause, Analysis of empowerment of refugee women in camps and settlements,” Journal of Internal Displacement Volume 4 Number 1 (See Moodle)

Elisabeth Olivius, Displacing Equality? Women’s Participation and Humanitarian Aid Effectiveness in Refugee Camps, Refugee Survey Quarterly, Volume 33, Issue 3, 1 September 2014, Pages 93–117 (See Moodle)

Lacey Andrews Gale, Livelihoods in the Region: Sustaining Relationships Across Borders: Gendered Livelihoods and Mobility among Sierra Leonean Refugees, Refugee Survey Quarterly, Volume 25, Issue 2, 1 January 2006, Pages 69–80 (See Moodle)


Mar 9-13 Sexual and Gender Based Violence against refugees and displaced persons (Readings and Moodle discussion)

Group B

https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4012695/

UNHCR, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence against Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons: Guidelines on Prevention and Response, Chapter 1 plus any other sections that interest you.


Mar 13  FIRST PAPER DUE

Mar 16-20  Spring Break

SECTION 3:

Mar 23-27  Causes of International Migration (Moodle lecture, readings and discussion)
Group C


James Hollifield, “The Politics of International Migration: 'How can we Bring the State Back In'? ” in Caroline B. Brettell and James F. Hollifield, Migration Theory: Talking Across Disciplines (See Moodle)


Mar 30  Synchronous: Professor Martin with be in Missoula

Apr 1-3  The Migrant Woman Perspective (Readings and Moodle discussion)
Group D

Dohra Ahmad, ed., The Penguin Book of Migration Literature (Bookstore or Amazon)

Extra Credit:  Write a film review of The Namesake. What does it tell you about migrants? Make sure you discuss it from a gendered and intergenerational perspective.
Apr 6-10  Impact of migration on women who migrate (Moodle lecture, readings and discussion)  
**Group E**


Anjali Fleury, Understanding Women and Migration: A Literature Review  
KNOmad, February 2016  

Apr 13-17  Impact of migration on women in source countries (Moodle lecture, readings and discussion)  
**Group A**

Readings for Apr 6-10 plus


Matz, Julia Anna; Mbaye, Linguère Mously, Working Paper: Migration and the autonomy of women left behind  
WIDER Working Paper, No. 2017/64  
[https://www.econstor.eu/bitstream/10419/163030/1/883191717.pdf](https://www.econstor.eu/bitstream/10419/163030/1/883191717.pdf)

Apr 20-24  Impact of migration on children (Moodle lecture, readings and discussion)  
**Group B & D**


Cecilia Menjívar &Krista M. Perreira, Undocumented and unaccompanied: children of migration in the European Union and the United States  
Available at:  

Extra credit: Write a film review of *El Norte* from the perspective of the two young siblings from Central America who seek to enter the United States. What
does it tell you about the situation of unaccompanied minors? Make sure you bring a gendered perspective to the review.

Apr 24: SECOND PAPER DUE

SECTION 4:

Apr 27-May 1 Global Governance on Migration: Where Does Gender Fit? (Synchronous Zoom lecture, Moodle readings and discussion)

Group C & E


Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration
https://refugeesmigrants.un.org/sites/default/files/180711_final_draft_0.pdf

Global Compact on Refugees
https://www.unhcr.org/gcr/GCR_English.pdf


May 6: TAKE HOME EXAM DUE

Course Requirements and Due Dates:
Paper (6-8 pages): (30% of grade)
Paper (6-8 pages): (30% of grade)
Class/Online Participation (20% of grade)
Final Exam (20% of grade)
Extra Credit Assignments (optional) 3 points each

Office Hours and Contact Information

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