

Spring 2021

HSS 404-002: Population Movements in Eastern Mediterranean

Elektra Kostopoulou

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Spring 2021

HISS 404

Population Movements in Eastern Mediterranean

Mondays: 2:30-5:20

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Office Hours: Thursdays, 2:30- 5:30 PM*
(on-line)

The magnitude of migration flows in the early 21st century invites growing attention. In today's globalized context, population movements have various implications not only for those affected directly by them but for the world as a whole.

Mobility and displacement are experienced in different ways by a variety of comparable and/or dissimilar groups and actors. Trafficking, trauma, academic debates, international or localized politics, global solidarity networks, anti-migration rhetoric, grassroots or institutional interventions form a matrix of diverse realities continually reclaimed, reimagined, or contested. In this sense, migration is an implication and driver of systemic change.

This course will explore migration from a critical perspective, with a particular focus on Eastern Mediterranean routes. The sharp increase in the number of refugees and migrants trying to enter Europe through Turkey and Greece since the year 2014 has inspired many to describe these movements as a "humanitarian crisis." This course, however, attempts to move beyond normative terminology and away from treating mobility as an anomaly. Instead, the course addresses the various taxonomies of migration in the Eastern Mediterranean via a comparative examination of past and present continuities and ruptures.

THIS COURSE SATISFIES THE 400 LEVEL GER

Course Objectives

By taking this course, you will be able to:

- 1) Identify and interpret primary and secondary sources.
- 2) Familiarize with key-terminology, legal regimes, and geographies of migration.
- 3) Prepare for in-depth discussions regarding global displacement.
- 4) Examine the specific histories of Eastern Mediterranean migration.
- 5) Practice your debating skills.
- 6) Improve your writing skills.
- 7) Think of efficient ways to address and improve experiences on the ground.

Course Requirements

1. Attend all classes prepared for a critical discussion and do the weekly readings.
2. Complete the weekly assignments.
3. Select and present a primary source relevant to your final paper.
4. Deliver a short (10 min long) presentation on your final paper.
5. Submit a research paper on migration/displacement, focusing on the topic/era/geography of your choice.

The paper should be at least 10 pages in length (not including a cover page and references). You should use at least 5 peer-reviewed publications and 2 primary sources (Chicago style for review articles).

Grading

- A) Attendance/Class participation: 20%
- B) Weekly responses: 20%
- C) Oral Presentation: 20%
- D) Research paper: 40%

90-100%: Excellent Work (A)

85-89%: Very Good (B+)

80-84%: Good (B)

75-79%: Satisfactory Plus (C+)

70-74%: Satisfactory (C)

60-69%: Marginal (D) Below 60%: Failure (F)

Academic Integrity

"Academic Integrity is the cornerstone of higher education and is central to the ideals of this course and the university. Cheating is strictly prohibited and devalues the degree that you are working on. As a member of the NJIT community, it is your responsibility to protect your educational investment by knowing and following the academic code of integrity policy that is found at:

<http://www5.njit.edu/policies/sites/policies/files/academic-integrity-code.pdf>.

*Please note that it is my professional obligation and responsibility to report any academic misconduct to the Dean of Students Office. **Any student found in violation of the code by cheating, plagiarizing or using any online software inappropriately will result in disciplinary action. This may include a failing grade of F, and/or suspension or dismissal from the university.** If you have any questions about the code of Academic Integrity, please contact the Dean of Students Office at dos@njit.edu"*

Part A: The Global Context

Week One

Introduction

Discussion of the course syllabus, objectives, requirements.

Week Two

Driving Migration

De Haas, Hein. "What Drives Human Migration?" In: B. Anderson and M. Keith (eds) *Migration: A COMPAS Anthology*. Oxford: COMPAS, 2014.

Hear, Nicholas Van, Oliver Bakewell, and Katy Long. "Push-Pull plus: Reconsidering the Drivers of Migration." *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* 44, no. 6 (April 26, 2018): 927–44.

Khosravi, Shahram. "The 'Illegal' Traveller: An Auto-Ethnography of Borders*." *Social Anthropology* 15, no. 3 (2007): 321–34.

Sources:

<https://www.iom.int/glossary-migration-2019>

<https://migrationdataportal.org/themes/forced-migration-or-displacement>

Week Three

Gender and Sexuality on the Move

Phizacklea, Annie. "Migration Theory and Migratory Realities: A Gendered Perspective?" In *International Migration in the New Millennium*, Joly Danièle (ed), chapter 6. London: Routledge, 2004.

Murray, David AB. "The (Not so) Straight Story: Queering Migration Narratives of Sexual Orientation and Gendered Identity Refugee Claimants." *Sexualities* 17, no. 4 (June 1, 2014): 451–71.

Sources:

<https://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/data/estimates2/estimates15.asp>

<http://www.internal-displacement.org/database>

Part B: The Eastern Mediterranean—Past and Present

Week Four

From the League of Nations to the United Nations

Mazower Mark. "Minorities and the League of Nations in Interwar Europe." *Daedalus* 126, no. 2 (1997): 47–63.

Dragostinova Theodora, *Refugees or Immigrants? The Migration Crisis in Europe in Historical Perspective*, <http://origins.osu.edu/article/refugees-or-immigrants-migration-crisis-europe-historical-perspective>.

Sources:

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CMW.aspx>

[https://undocs.org/A/RES/217\(III\)](https://undocs.org/A/RES/217(III))

https://www.ecfr.eu/specials/mapping_migration

Week Six

Identify and Present your Primary Sources

Week Seven

WWI and the 1923 Population Exchange between Turkey and Greece

Hirschon, Renée. *Heirs of the Greek Catastrophe: The Social Life of Asia Minor Refugees in Piraeus*. New York: Berghahn Books, 1998, introduction.

Neyzi, Leyla. "Remembering Smyrna/Izmir: Shared History, Shared Trauma." *History & Memory* 20, no. 2 (2008): 106–27.

Sources:

<https://www.ioha.org/sites-about-oral-history/>

<https://oral.history.ufl.edu/ottoman-greeks-of-the-united-states-ogus/>

Week Eight

Humanism, Humanitarianism, and Humans

İğsız, Aslı. *Humanism in Ruins: Entangled Legacies of the Greek-Turkish Population Exchange*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2018.

Sources:

<https://archive.org/details/recordsofproceed00confuoft/page/n7>

Week Nine

Dangerous Crossings

- Gebrewold, Belachew, and Tendayi Bloom. *Understanding Migrant Decisions: From Sub-Saharan Africa to the Mediterranean Region*. London: Routledge, 2016.

Sources:

Hannah Arendt, *We Refugees*.

Giorgio Agamben, *We refugees*.

Week Ten

Post-Empire, Post-Colonial, Post-Conflict

Demetriou, Olga Maya. *Refugeehood and the Postconflict Subject: Reconsidering Minor Losses*. Albany: SUNY Press, 2018.

Oral Presentations

Week Eleven

Kostopoulou, Elektra. The Leros PIKPA Shelter: Broken Toiles and Empowerment in the Century of Mass Displacement (draft).

Oral Presentations

Week Twelve

Oral Presentations

Week Thirteen

Oral Presentations

Documentary Sources:

- Twice a Stranger
- Children of Syria
- Dublin's Trap
- Refuge| Human Stories from the Refuge Crisis
- Closed Sea
- 4.1 Miles
- Refugee Women in Turkey
- Fighting for Aid in Lebanon
- Poverty, Inc
- Welcome to Refugeestan