**CULT 453/553: Spaces of Migration**

**Fall 2020**

Mondays 08:40-09:30 over Zoom

Thursdays 08:40-10:30 over Zoom

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Office: FASS 2024

Office Hours: By appointment

**Course Description**

This course explores how migratory movements and attempts at their regulation produce space as well as scale and reviews the theoretical constructs that account for the emergent spatialities of migrant connections. The course is divided into three parts. In the first part, we will focus on how migrants establish transnational social spaces and what factors shape or limit their durability. In the second part, we will focus on the spatial strategies that states undertake to deter migrant flows and the resultant effects on migrant journeys. In the third part, we will examine spaces of immobility such as detention centers and camps.

**Course Requirements**

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| **Undergraduates** | **Percentage** | **Graduates** | **Percentage** |
|  Attendance, Participation & Learning Log | 10% | Attendance, Participation & Learning Log | 10% |
| Quizes  | 20% | Presentations | 15% |
| Midterm Exam  | 25% | Midterm Exam | 25% |
| 1st Assignment | 5% | 1st Assignment | 5% |
| 2nd Assignment | 15% | 2nd Assignment | 15% |
| Final Paper | 25% | Final Paper | 30% |

**Attendance & Participation (7%):** I expect each student to come to class having read the required material and to actively participate in class discussions. Attendance will be taken through Zoom. You are allowed to miss a total of three classes without an excuse. Any unexcused absences beyond that would be reflected in your grade. If you miss fourteen or more classes, you will automatically get an N/A grade.

**Zoom rules:** Please keep your camera on at all times! If you cannot or are unwilling to, please inform me in writing prior to class.

**Learning Log (3%):** Your learning log will consist of weekly notes (starting from Week 2) in which you jot down one thing you have learned that week and one thing that you would like to learn more about. The notes are to be deposited in a shared folder on Moodle; that means your notes will be seen by others in class and you will also be able to see theirs.

**Undergraduates → Quizes (2X10=20%):** Starting from Week 3, there will be a 10-minute quiz every Monday at the beginning of class for undergraduates only. The quiz will contain one or two questions regarding the week’s required reading.Quizes will be submitted through Moodle.

**Graduates → Presentations (15%):** Every Thursday starting from Week 3 one graduate student will be responsible for presenting to the undergraduates the additional, graduates-only reading material. Each presentation will last 15 minutes, and each graduate student will likely make two presentations in the course of the semester (depending on final enrollment numbers).

**Midterm Exam (25%):** We will have a synchronous take-home exam in Week 7. The exam will consist of two short-essay questions. I will distribute the questions over Moodle at the beginning of class hour and expect students to upload their answers on Moodle at the end of class hour.

**1st Assignment (5%):** Please use the classtime (50 min) to read/watch the material at the links below and reflect on the formation of a transnational social space through absentee voting. 1 double-spaced page, 12-point Times New Roman font. To be uploaded on Moodle by 9:30 on October 26th.

* How does the Presidency for Turks Abroad and Related Communities bring this space into being?
* What arguments do different Turkish citizens in Germany make with regards to their right to vote in Turkish elections?
* What is your personal position, i.e. how do you think you are being impacted by the votes of Turkish citizens abroad?

<https://www.ytb.gov.tr/yurtdisi-vatandaslar/turkiyedeki-secimlere-katilim>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b_LKfO8EWSE>

**2nd Assignment (15%):** Please watch the documentary *Which Way Home* (dir. R. Cammisa, 2009) and discuss, based on relevant course readings, the time-space of the migrant journey depicted in the film. I will provide you with a streaming link. 2-3 double-spaced pages, 12-point Times New Roman font. To be uploaded on Moodle before classtime on Dec. 14, Monday.

**Undergraduates → Final Paper (25%):** Undergraduate students will write 5-6 double-spaced pages on the virtual spaces of migrant connection. I will specify the resources I expect you to use in our last class and also provide guiding questions. **Deadline:** Please upload on Moodle by 5 pm on **January 14th**.

**Graduates → Final Paper (30%):** Graduate students are expected to write 10-12 double-spaced pages on a topic that they choose, which builds on the course material. **Deadline:** Please upload on Moodle by 5 pm on **January 20th**. Please also make sure you discuss your topic with me before you start writing, no later than Week 11.

**Grade Catalog**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 90 and above: A (A-’s are automatically rounded up to A) | 89-86: B+ | 77-74: C+ | 64-60: D+ | Below 55: F |
| 85-82: B | 73-70: C |
| 81-78: B- | 69-65: C- | 59-55: D |

**Extra-Credit Policy:** No extra-credit opportunities will be available.

**Note on Plagiarism:** Please do not plagiarize, it is so not worth it! If you are caught plagiarizing, I will follow the disciplinary measures stipulated in the relevant University policy.

**Reading List**

All readings will be available on Moodle.

**W1 (Oct. 5 / Oct. 8):** Introduction

**PART ONE: Formation of transnational social spaces**

**W2 (Oct. 12 / Oct. 15):** Transnational social spaces I

(everyone) Ch. 2 (Transnationality and Social Practices) in *Transnational Migration* (2013) T. Faist, M. Fauser, E. Reisenauer (eds.), pp. 27-45. Wiley.

(grads only) P. Boccagni (2017) “Transnationalism”, *The Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Social Theory*, Wiley.

P. Levitt and B. Jaworsky (2007) “Transnational Migration Studies”, *Annual Review of Sociology*, 33: 129–156.

**W3 (Oct. 19 / Oct. 22):** Transnational social spaces II

(everyone) Ch. 3 (Transnationalization and Transnational Social Spaces) in *Transnational Migration* (2013) T. Faist, M. Fauser, E. Reisenauer (eds.), pp. 46-65. Wiley.

(grads only) J. Dahinden (2010) “The Dynamics of Migrants’ Transnational Formations: Between Mobility and Locality”, in *Transnationalism and Diaspora. Concept, Theories and Methods*, R. Bauböck and T. Faist (eds.), pp. 51–72. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press.

**W4 (Oct. 26): No class. 1st assignment due by end of classtime, that is, 9:30 am. Please upload on Moodle.**

**W5 (Nov.2 / Nov. 5):** Migrant agency in transnational social spaces

(everyone) N. Al-Ali, R. Black, and K. Koser (2001) “The Limits to ‘Transnationalism’: Bosnian and Eritrean Refugees in Europe as Emerging Transnational Communities”, *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 24 (4): 578–600.

(grads only) N. Piper & M. Withers (2018) “Forced transnationalism and temporary labour migration: implications for understanding migrant rights”, *Identities*, 25(5): 558-575.

**W6 (Nov.9 / Nov. 12):** Role of nation-states in transnational social spaces

(everyone) M.P. Smith (2003) “Transnationalism, the State and the Extraterritorial Citizen”, *Politics & Society*, 31(4): 467-502.

(grads only) A. Caglar (2006) “Hometown associations: The rescaling of state spatiality and migrant grassroots transnationalism”, *Global Networks,* 6: 1–22.

**W7 (Nov.16 / Nov. 19): No class on Nov. 16th. Midterm exam on Nov. 19th during classtime.**

**PART TWO: Spaces of journey**

**W8 (Nov.23 / Nov. 26):** Moving borders?

(everyone) L. Vives (2017) “Unwanted sea migrants across the EU border: The Canary Islands”, *Political Geography*, 61: 181–192.

(grads only) R. Andersson (2012) “A game of risk: Boat migration and the business of bordering Europe”, *Anthropology Today*, 28(6): 7-11.

**W9 (Nov.30 / Dec.3):** Transit spaces

(everyone) M. Collyer (2007) “In-between places: Trans-Saharan transit migrants in Morocco and the fragmented journey to Europe”, *Antipode*, 39: 668–690.

(grads only) E. S. Kaytaz (2016) “Afghan journeys to Turkey: Narratives of immobility, travel and transformation”, *Geopolitics*, 21: 284–302.

**W10 (Dec.7 / Dec.10):** Time-spaces of journeys

(everyone) R. Rotter (2016) “Waiting in the Asylum Determination Process: Just an Empty Interlude?”, *Time and Society*, 25(3): 80–101.

(grads only) L. Soto (2016) “The Telling Moment: Pre-Crossings of Mexican Teenage Girls and their Journeys to the Border”, *Geopolitics*, 21, 325-344.

**2nd assignment**: Due by classtime on Dec. 14, Monday. Please upload on Moodle.

**PART THREE: Spaces of im/mobility**

**W11 (Dec.14 / Dec.17):** Detention spaces

(everyone) C. Mainwaring (2012) “Constructing a Crisis: the Role of Immigrant Detention in Malta”, *Population, Space and Place*, 18(6): 687-700.

(grads only) N. Ozgur-Baklacioglu (2016) “From ‘Guesthouses’ to Removal Centers: Europeanization of Immigrant Detention in Turkey” in *Detaining the Immigrant Other: Global and Transnational Issues*, R. Furman, D. Epps, G. Lamphear (eds), pp. 155-168. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

**W12 (Dec.21 / Dec.24):** Spaces of deportation

(everyone) N. Hiemstra (2012) “Geopolitical Reverberations of US Migrant Detention and Deportation: The View from Ecuador”, *Geopolitics*, 17(2): 293-311.

(grads only) C. Lecadet (2018) “Post-Deportation Movements: Forms and Conditions of the Struggle amongst Self-Organizing Expelled Migrants in Mali and Togo” in *After Deportation: Ethnographic Perspectives*, S. Khosravi (ed.), pp. 187-204. Palgrave Macmillan.

**W13 (Dec.28 / Dec.31):** Spaces of protracted displacement

(everyone) C. Horst (2006) “Buufis amongst Somalis in Dadaab: the Transnational and Historical Logics behind Resettlement Dreams”, *Journal of Refugee Studies*, 19(2): 143–157.

(grads only) C. Brun & A. Fábos (2015) “Making Homes in Limbo? A Conceptual Framework”, *Refuge: Canada’s Journal on Refugees*, *31*(1), 5-17.

**W14 (Jan. 4 / Jan. 7):** Taking stock of the semester