**GEN343: Transnational Migration, Reproduction and Changing Family Formations**

**Fall 2020**

Mondays 13:40-15:30 over Zoom

Tuesdays 09:40-10:30 over Zoom

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Office: FASS 2024

Office Hours: By appointment

**Course Description**

This course will address (i) how transnational migration impacts family formations and gendered parenthood norms especially in cases of family separation, (ii) the role kin networks of care play in sustaining and/or restraining transnational migration, and (iii) how migration regimes and reproductive regimes intersect in migrants’ experiences of reproduction.

**Course Requirements**

**Attendance & Participation (12%):** 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.

**Discussion-leading (10%):** Starting in W3, each week on Tuesday, a pair (or three depending on our final class population) of students will guide the class discussion for 20 minutes. The pair will be expected to do research into a case to complement or compare with the case addressed by the week’s reading, and introduce outside material (a newspaper article, a short video, a policy report etc.) for the class to follow.

**Midterm Exam (30%):** We will have a synchronous, take-home exam in W7. 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.

**Reflection Papers (15X3=45%):** A total of three reflection papers are due at the end of W4, W10 and W13, respectively. Each reflection paper will discuss an additional reading (to be assigned by the instructor) in the light of at least two course readings so far covered in class. I will distribute guiding questions for reflection in the prior week. 3 pages minimum, double-spaced, in 12-point Times New Roman font.

**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. 5-6):** Introduction

**W2 (Oct. 12-13):** Transnational migration and changing family formations

D.A. Boehm (2019) “Un/making Family: Relatedness, Migration, and Displacement in a Global Age”, in the *Cambridge Handbook of Kinship* (ed. S. Bamford). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

**W3 (Oct. 19-20):** Gendered migrations I

D.A. Boehm (2008) “‘Now I am a man and a woman!’ – Gendered moves and migrations in a transnational Mexican community”, *Latin American Perspectives*, 35(1): 16–30.

**W4 (Oct. 26-27):** Gendered migrations II

P. Hondagneu-Sotelo (2002) “Families on the frontier: from braceros in the fields to braceras in the home”, in *The New Immigration* (eds. M.M. Suárez-Orozco and M.M. Páez). Berkeley: University of California Press.

**1st Reflection Paper due by midnight on Nov. 1st!**

**Additional Reading:** M. Poeze (2019) “Beyond breadwinning: Ghanaian transnational fathering in the Netherlands”, *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 45(16): 3065-3084.

**W5 (Nov. 2-3):** Transnational parenthood

R. Parrenas (2013) “The Gender Revolution in the Philippines: Migrant Mothering and Social Transformations” in *How Immigrants Impact their Homelands* (eds. S. Eckstein and A. Najam). Durham: Duke University Press.

**W6 (Nov. 9-10):** Transnational family separation

K. M. Zentgraf & N. Stoltz Chinchilla (2012) “Transnational Family Separation: A Framework for Analysis”, *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 38(2): 345-366.

**W7 (Nov. 16-17): Midterm exam on Nov. 16th during classtime. No class on Nov. 17th.**

**W8 (Nov. 23-24):** Migration and care

K. Olwig (2013) “Migration and Care: Intimately Related Aspects of Caribbean Family and Kinship”, in *Transnational Families, Migration, and the Circulation of Care* (eds. L. Baldassar and L. Merla).

**W9 (Nov. 30 – Dec. 1):** Othermothers

A. Bloch (2017) “‘Other Mothers’, Migration, and a Transnational Nurturing Nexus”, Signs, 43(1):

**W10 (Dec. 7-8):** Care of the older generation

L. Baldassar (2007) “Transnational Families and Aged Care: The Mobility of Care and the Migrancy of Ageing”, *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 33(2): 275-297.

**2nd Reflection Paper due by midnight on Dec. 13th!**

**Additional Reading:** N. Ozgur Baklacioglu (2016) “Mothering at the Margins of Health: Syrian Mothers in Istanbul”, in *The Migrant Maternal: ‘Birthing’ New Lives Abroad* (eds. A. Kuroczycka Schultes and H. Vallianatos), 104-122. Bradford, ON: Demeter Press.

**W11 (Dec. 14-15):** Migrant reproduction

H. Castaneda (2008) “Paternity for Sale: Anxieties over ‘Demographic Theft’ and Undocumented Migrant Reproduction in Germany”, *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*, 22(4): 340-359.

**W12 (Dec. 21-22):** Illegality & the migrant family

L. Abrego (2016) “Illegality as a Source of Solidarity and Tension in Latino Families”, *Journal of Latino and Latin American Studies*, 8(1): 5-21.

**W13 (Dec. 28-29):** Belonging through reproduction?

P. Feldman-Savelsberg (2016) “Forging Belonging through Children in the Berlin Cameroonian Diaspora”, in *Affective Circuits: African Migrations to Europe and the Pursuit of Social Regeneration* (eds. J. Cole and C. Groes), 54-77. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

**3rd Reflection Paper due by midnight on Jan. 3rd!**

**Additional Reading:** G. Toksoz (2020) “The Gendered Impacts of Migration and Welfare Regimes: Migrant Women Workers in Turkey” in *Women, Migration and Asylum in Turkey* (eds. L. Williams, E. Coskun, S. Kaska), pp. 69-92. London: Palgrave Macmillan.

**W14 (Jan. 4-5):** Taking stock of the semester