**GEN343: Transnational Intimacies, Transnational Families**

**Fall 2021**

Mondays 14:40-15:30 at FASS 1089 & over Zoom

Thursdays 12:40-14:30 at FASS 1089 & over Zoom

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Office: FASS 2024

Office Hours: By appointment over Zoom

**Course Description**

This course is basically about how people’s mobility across borders and state attempts to control them impact family formations and relations. We will look into the institution of marriage and processes of reproduction (having and caring for children). How do states make and unmake families through their migration policies? Who gets to have a ‘right to family’? How is migrant reproduction governed? How does migration transform how children are cared for especially in cases of family separation? How does migration unsettle gendered norms of parenthood? These are some of the questions we will tackle throughout the semester.

**Course Requirements**

**Attendance & Participation (10%):** 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 as well as in-class. 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 eleven or more classes, you will automatically get an N/A grade.

**In-class rules:** As per the Rectorate’s rules, in the first week only those students whose ID numbers are odd will be allowed in class. In the second week only those students whose ID numbers are even will be allowed in class. After the add-drop period, I will decide on a rotation mechanism based on our final class size and classroom capacity.

**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.

**Reflection Papers (20X3=60%):** A total of three reflection papers are due at the end of W5, W11 and the first week of finals, respectively. Each reflection paper will answer two guiding questions (to be provided by the instructor) in the light of course readings so far covered in class. 3 pages minimum, double-spaced, in 12-point Times New Roman font. To be posted on Moodle.

**Midterm Exam (25%):** We will have a physical exam in W9. The exam will consist of two short-essay questions.

**Student presentation (5%):** In the last week of classes, each student (or a pair, TBD) will choose the week they enjoyed most, find a case similar to the topic covered in that week and present on it to the rest of the class.

**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 (Sept. 27-30):** Introduction

**W2 (Oct. 4-7):** 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, pp. 432-450.

**W3 (Oct. 11-14):** Cross-border marriages

N. Constable (2004) “A Tale of Two Marriages: International Matchmaking and Gendered Mobility”, in *Cross-Border Marriages: Gender and Mobility in Transnational Asia* (ed. N. Constable). Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, pp. 166-186.

A. Fleischer (2012) “Marriage across Space and Time among Male Migrants from Cameroon to Germany”, in *Gender, Generations and the Family in International Migration* (eds. A. Kraler et al), Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, pp. 243-264.

**W4 (Oct. 18-21):** Policing marriage

J. Turner (2020) “Shams” in *Bordering Intimacy: Postcolonial Governance and the Policing of Family*, Manchester: Manchester University Press, pp. 100-134.

S. Scheel (2017) “Appropriating mobility and bordering Europe through romantic love: Unearthing the intricate intertwinement of border regimes and migratory practices”, *Migration Studies*, 5(3): 389-408.

**W5 (Oct. 25):** Queer families

S. Ritholtz & R. Buxton (2021) “Queer kinship and the rights of refugee families”, *Migration Studies*, https://doi.org/10.1093/migration/mnab007

A. Yue (2008) “Same-Sex Migration in Australia: From Interdependency to Intimacy”, *GLQ,* 14(2-3): 239-262.

**1st Reflection Paper due by midnight on Oct. 30th!**

**W6 (Nov. 1-4):** Feminization of migration and the transnational family

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, pp. 167-177.

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, pp. 191-212.

**W7 (Nov. 8-11):** Transnational nurturing nexus

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), London: Routledge, pp.133-148.

A. Bloch (2017) “‘Other Mothers’, Migration, and a Transnational Nurturing Nexus”, *Signs*, 43(1): 53-75.

**W8 (Nov. 15-18):** Left behind (children of migrants) vs. unaccompanied (migrant children)

C. Coe (2010) “How children feel about their parents’ migration: a history of the reciprocity of care in Ghana” in *Everyday Ruptures: Children, Youth, and Migration in Global Perspective* (eds. C. Coe et al), Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press, pp. 97-114.

N. Empez Vidal (2012) “Social construction of neglect: the case of unaccompanied migrants from Morocco to Spain” in *Gender, Generations and the Family in International Migration* (eds. A. Kraler et al), Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, pp. 121-138.

**W9 (Nov. 22-25): No class on Monday. Midterm in class on Thursday.**

**W10 (Nov. 29 - Dec. 2):** 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.

E. Luibheid (2006) “Sexual Regimes and Migration Controls: Reproducing the Irish Nation-State in Transnational Contexts”, *Feminist Review*, 83: 60-78.

**W11 (Dec. 6-9):** Transnational adoption

K. De Graeve (2015) ‘They Have Our Culture’: Negotiating Migration in Belgian–Ethiopian Transnational Adoption, *Ethnos*, 80(1): 71-90.

E. Kim (2003) “Wedding Citizenship and Culture: Korean Adoptees and the Global Family of Korea”, *Social Text*, 21(1): 57-81.

**2nd Reflection Paper due by midnight on Dec. 11th!**

**W12 (Dec. 13-16):** 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.

M. Griffiths (2021) “‘My passport is just my way out of here’. Mixed-immigration status families, immigration enforcement and the citizenship implications”, *Identities*, 28(1): 18-36.

**W13 (Dec. 20-23):** Gendered deportations

T. Golash-Boza & P. Hondagneu-Sotelo (2013) “Latino immigrant men and the deportation crisis: A gendered racial removal program”, *Latino Studies*, 11: 271–292.

H. Drotbohm (2015) “The Reversal of Migratory Family Lives: A Cape Verdean Perspective on Gender and Sociality pre- and post-deportation”, *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 41(4): 653-670.

**W14 (Dec. 27-30):** Taking stock of the semester / Student presentations

**3rd Reflection Paper due by midnight on Jan. 9th!**