

20th Century Migrations

EUH 4930 section 25759

Instructor: Prof. Alice Freifeld



Thursday, periods 8-10, 3-6 p.m. synchronized

Office hours: Tuesday 1:45-3:45, Thursday 6-7 p.m., and by appointment. In most cases, I would appreciate one day's notice.

You can contact me by email: freifeld@ufl.edu, by text 352-562-5956. I will check emails and texts at least twice a day, between 10:30 a.m. and 10:30 p.m.

This course will study European mass migration in historical perspective. After an overview of 19th-century migration, we will follow the changes in immigration policy from the 1880s to the present. The course explores economic motivations, political struggles, immigration laws, border changes and national identities.

The current migration crisis has added an urgency to an historical reading of migration. We will seek to provide a context for discussions of citizenship, national belonging, and international institutions. The course readings are weighted toward Eastern European migration to the United States, including my research on the Holocaust and WWII refugees, DP camps and mass migration 1945-48. But migration is a global phenomenon and students may pursue final topics of their own choosing within the general themes of the course. Research papers must use some primary source material and engage some of the readings in the course or other approved secondary sources.

Assignments:

Weekly ½ page reaction paper will be posted by Tuesday at 3 pm and a follow-up comment on other postings before class meeting by midnight on Wednesday (equivalent of a 2-3 paragraph or ½-¾ pg reaction paper)-- (20%); participation in synchronized class-- 20%. 15-page research paper, drafts, and final paper-- 45%, presentation of final paper-- 5%. Reading/contribution to fellow student's papers-- 10%.

This is a demanding course. It requires writing a research paper, which will be particularly difficult during covid. Acquiring primary or secondary sources that are not in the UF library system is always a challenge. It will be especially so this semester. Not all topics will be possible, so students are urged to develop topics early.

Research Paper:

You will define your own topic in consultation with the professor. All topics must be approved by the professor. Research papers must use some primary source material and engage some of the themes/readings in the course--or other approved secondary sources.

First drafts are expected to be as polished as the papers you normally turn in at the end of the semester. Students will be divided into smaller groups of about 3-4 people. Papers will be distributed to the small group of fellow students and the professor. Students will read the papers of their fellow students in their group very carefully, making margin comments and general suggestions for improvement of the paper. Assisting fellow students with good suggestions will be a graded assignment (10%).

Late papers will be treated as incompletes and graded at my convenience.

Required Reading:

one drive link:

https://uf.florida-my.sharepoint.com/:f/g/personal/freifeld_ufl_edu/EhqjROCVK1VPm9YpI_0cvzIBx2SZXsG8LTdorTtMmNIYSw?e=FyXyYG

Saskia Sassen, *Guests and Aliens* (New Press, 1999) 9781565846081, Call #: JV 6021.S27

Tara Zarah, *The Great Departure* (Norton, 2015) 9780393078015

Norman Naimark, *Fires of Hatred* (Harvard, 2001) 9780674009943

Michael Marrus, *The Unwanted* (Oxford, 2002) 9781566399555 (ebook available at UFLib course reserves)

Primo Levi, *Reawakening* (Collier, 1993) 9780684826356

Wyman, DPs, *Europe's Displaced Persons, 1945-1951* (Cornell) 9780801485428, ebook on reserve

Gerard Cohen, *In War's Wake* (Oxford) 9780190840808, ebook on reserve

Tara Zarah, *Lost Children*, (selection) ebook on reserve

Recommended on Displaced Persons:

Dan Stone, *The Liberation of the Camps, "Explaining Liberation,"* ebook on reserve

Michael Meng, *Shattered Spaces: Encountering Jewish Ruins* (selection), ebook on reserve

Suggested:
Szabolcs Szita, *Trading in Lives?* (ebook on reserve)

Week I

9/3: Introductions

Week II

9/10: Historical Background on 19th Century Migration: Sorting Labor and the Making of the Nation-State

Readings: Sassen, *Guests and Aliens*, Ch. 2-4, “1800” & “After 1848” pp. 7-50;

Week III

9/17: The Nation’s People—or not

Readings: Sassen, Ch. 4, “Nations and Migrations: Germany, France, Italy,” 51-75;
Tara Zahra, *The Great Departure*, Intro & Ch. 1-3; Marrus, *Marrus*, Ch. 1-2

Week IV

9/24: The Armenian massacre and fascism

Readings: Naimark, *Fires of Hatred*, Ch. 1, “The Armenians and Greeks of Anatolia,” pp. 17-57; Marrus, Ch. 3, “In Flight from Fascism,” 122-207;

Week V

10/1: Nazism and World War II: Escape?

Readings: Marrus, Ch.4, “Under the Heel of Nazism; Zahra, 143-179, “The Nazi Attack on the Jews,” Ch. 2. Suggested, Szita (selection)

Week VI

10/8: **2-3 page research paper prospectus with bibliography due**

Week VII

10/15 Rubble Europe

Readings: Marrus, Ch. 5, “The Postwar Era”; Primo Levi, *Reawakening*; Zahra, *Lost Children* (selection); Stone (selection)

Suggested: Michael Meng, *Shattered Spaces: Encountering Jewish Ruins* (selection), available as ebook UFLib course reserves

Weeks 7-9: Selections will be made on Liberation and DP camps between Wyman, *DPs*; Cohen, *In War’s Wake*; Stone, *The Liberation of the Camps*. All are available as ebooks UFLib, class reserves.

Week VIII

10/22 Ethnic Cleansing continued & Communist flight

Readings: Naimark, Ch. 4: "Expulsion of Germans from Poland and Czechoslovakia," 108-138; Sassen, Ch. 6, "Patterns, Rights, and Regulations," pp. 99-132; *DPs*, Ch. 1-3; Zahra, *Lost Children* (selection); Cohen, *In War's Wake* (selection); Stone (selection)

Week IX

10/29 Scaling the Walls

Readings: Zahra, Ch. 6 and Ch. 7: "Work Will Set You Free," and "The Freedom Train"; Sassen, ch 7, "Making Immigration Policy Today," and "Appendix"; Marrus, "Epilogue: Contemporary Europe"; Zahra, *Lost Children* (selections); Cohen, *In War's Wake* (selection); Stone (selection)

Week X

11/5 Bosnia

Readings: Naimark, Ch. 5, "The Wars of Yugoslav Succession," pp. 139-184. 11/24

Week XI

11/12 Reflections

Reading: Zahra, Postscript, "Against the World" pp. 293-301; Naimark, "Introduction," pp. 1-16. Theodora Dragostinova, "Refugees or Immigrants? The Migration Crisis in Europe in Historical Perspective," *Origins: Current Events in Historical Perspective*. On-line: Origins.osu.edu. Vol. 9, issue 4, Jan 2016, URL: <https://origins.osu.edu/article/refugees-or-immigrants-migration-crisis-europe-historical-perspective>; Cohen, *In War's Wake* (selection)

11/16 Paper due

Week XII

11/18-20 **Group meetings**

Read and make constructive suggestions for revisions of fellow students' papers

Week XIII

11/24 **Oral Presentations**

Week XIV

12/3 **Oral Presentations**

12/8 Papers due

12/17 Final