

GENDER AND MIGRATION

Semester 1, 20 credits

Please note that this outline is indicative as of Summer 2023 and is subject to change.

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Description and Aims: With around 200 million international migrants in the world currently, around half of whom are women, migration is not only one of the most important and pressing global issues of our time, but also a significant issue within Women's and Gender Studies. This module explores the gendered dynamics of migration, considering both forced and voluntary migration (as well as those migratory journeys that fall somewhere in-between). Taking an intersectional feminist approach, the module troubles what we understand by the term 'migrant', exploring how gendered and other power differentials are embedded within the migration process. The module draws on a range of theoretical and conceptual tools, a wealth of case study data, and students' own experiences of migration to interrogate the multiplicity of ways in which migration is gendered. Focusing on a number of key issues, such as transnational care, gender based violence, trafficking and generational patterns in migration trafficking, the module considers the significance of feminist research in developing the field of migration studies.

Learning outcomes: After successfully completing this module, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate a critical and nuanced understanding of the gendered aspects of various forms of migration
- Critically analyse a range of methodological and theoretical approaches to the study of migration within the overall context of gender studies;
- Be familiar with a number of empirical examples and case studies pertaining to the question of how migration experiences are gendered;
- Interrogate and analyse different forms of migration experience from an intersectional feminist perspective;
- Be able to critically evaluate a variety of books, journals and other sources of information relevant to the topics studied on the course;
- Present complex arguments, in relation to gender and migration, cogently and with nuance in both oral and written form

Learning Methods: Reading lists and worksheets for each session are available on the module VLE; you should look at these at least two weeks before each session in order to arrange access to texts, and to plan your pre-session work. The reading lists are designed to guide your seminar preparation. These methods will help you develop scholarly, self-directed research skills. Through being active in your learning – preparing in good time for each session and reading outside of the main resource list for assignments – you will reach far greater understanding and appreciation of these complex issues.

You are encouraged to engage with a wide range of source material, from a range of international sources. In addition to academic texts, you are encouraged to engage with novels, films and poetry as well as policy-focused material produced by governmental and non-governmental organisations. Importantly you are encouraged to engage with materials produced by migrant and refugee communities, and to think about the extent to which migrants' own voices are included within the resources you use.

Indicative Programme

Week 1: introduction

Week 2: theorising gender and migration: an intersectional feminist approach

Week 3: media representations of gender and migration

Assessment Overview

A portfolio of:

1 x annotated bibliography 1500-2000 words (30%)

1 x critical review 1000-1500 words (30%)

1 x case study report 1000-1500 words (40%)

Week 4: researching migration from a feminist perspective

Week 5: transnational care

Week 6: gender based violence, migration and trafficking

Week 7: gender, generation and migration: children and young people

Week 8: gender and international student migration

Week 9: gender and climate migration

Week 10: Assessment preparation: annotations and critical review

Week 11: Assessment preparation: case studies

On the VLE site for Gender and Migration students can access the module's core texts and a range of recommended texts. Students are encouraged to research independently relevant texts for each session. Also, a collection of previous Gender and Migration students' own bibliographies (submitted as part of their portfolios) is also available on the Centre for Women's Studies webpage 'Information for current students' in the resources section.

Useful Resources

Background texts/ overviews

Anzaldúa Gloria (1987) *Borderlands/ La Frontera: the new mestiza*, San Francisco: Spinsters/ Aunt Lute

Belhorma, S. (2021). Gender and Migration in North Africa. In: Yacob-Haliso, O., Falola, T. (eds) *The Palgrave Handbook of African Women's Studies*. Palgrave Macmillan, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-28099-4_144

Brah, A. (1996), *Cartographies of Diaspora. Contesting Identities*, London and New York: Routledge.

Brettel Caroline B (2016) *Gender and Migration*, Cambridge: Polity Books

Burman, Erica (ed.) (2010), *Gender and Migration : Feminist Interventions*, London: Zed Books.

Freedman Jane, (2015) *Gendering the International Asylum and Refugee Debate : Second Edition*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan

Fiddian-Qasmiyeh, Elena ; Loescher, Gil ; Long, Katy ; Sigona, Nando (2014) *The Oxford Handbook of Refugee and Forced Migration Studies*, Oxford: Oxford University Press

Manalansan IV, M. F. (2006). Queer intersections: Sexuality and gender in migration studies. *International migration review*, 40(1), 224-249.

Nando Sigona (2014) 'The Politics of Refugee Voices: Representations, Narratives, and Memories *The Oxford handbook of Refugee and Forced Migration Studies*.

OGAWA, R., CHAN, R. K., OISHI, A. S., & WANG, L.-R. (2018). *Gender, Care and Migration in East Asia*.
<http://queens.ezp1.qub.ac.uk/login?url=https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-10-7025-9>

Pérez, L.M., Ugarte, D. (2021) Venezuelan Women in Peru: at the Borders of Nationality, Gender, and Survival Migration. *Int. Migration & Integration* 22, 1313–1327 . <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12134-021-00805-5>

Soong, H. (2019). *Transnational students and mobility: lived experiences of migration*. London: Routledge.

Some of examples of fiction/ Auto-biography you might find interesting. Please share your own recommendations with the rest of the group

Ali, Monica (2003) *Brick Lane*, Doubleday.

Passarlay, Gulwali (2019) *The Lightless Sky: My Journey to Safety as a Child Refugee*, Atlantic Books.

Lefteri, Christie (2019) *The Beekeeper of Aleppo*, Zaffre Publishing.

Kaur, R. (2020). *home body*. Kansas City: Andrews McMeel Publishing.

Shire, Warsan (2011) *Teaching my mother how to give birth*, Flipped Eye.

Shukla, Nikesh (2016) *The Good Immigrant*, Unbound Books.

(Social) Media

Keep up to date with current issues relevant to gender and migration. Many migrant and refugee groups have social media accounts that will be useful to follow. Here are some UK examples.

Migrant Voice [Migrant Voice](#)

Women for Refugee Women [Women for Refugee Women](#)

Refugee Action York [Refugee Action York](#)

Step Up Migrant Women UK [Step Up Migrant Women UK](#)

Hibiscus for Social Justice [Hibiscus](#)

LAWADV [Latin American Women's Aid](#)

