



University of the Incarnate Word
UIW-Heidelberg

**HIST 4399 THE REFUGEE CRISES: A MULTI-DISCIPLINARY POLICY
ON MASS MIGRATION**

COURSE OUTLINE

I. Logistics

UIW- Heidelberg Study Center

Physical Address:

Heidelberg, Germany - Bergstrasse 106, 69121

II. Course Description

Living in another country, even for a short time, allows you as a student to develop a sense of understanding mass migration especially forced displacement, as a “Refugee”. This seminar course helps you not only think more deeply about cultural, social and global identity issues such as race, gender and religion. It also helps you build an international framework for understanding one of the most pressing issues of our time - the divergent global policies today that manage and impact the greater than 70 million displaced people across the world.

We will examine the issues from an academic and personal perspective interacting with the local community in Heidelberg and beyond as we review divergent scholarly theories and popular myths using sources such as poems, news stories, journal articles, works of art and interviews and volunteer work at the Patrick Henry Village for Refugees (PHC). PHC is a German Asylum Processing Center, housed at the former US Army Barracks. We work at the Caritas Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) and manage the Kids at Play Program (KAP).

III. Course Objectives

The seminar format is designed to advance your knowledge of the theories and practices of mass migration, different organizations and organizational structures that provide and support these efforts. A variety of teaching and learning lens develop content knowledge and knowledge in critical thinking, creativity, writing and independence. The independent research-based component allowing you to think more critically about your specific interests and study areas related to migration policies. More traditional classroom learning will be supported with exploration of the city and the surrounding area. Important volunteer activities are at the PHC usually working with children at the Kids At Play program (KAP).

By the end of the course students will have gained insight into worldwide Treaties - UN Convention (Refugees) and governmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Students will also be introduced to regional and national policies regarding mass migration, and the social, cultural and global concepts of belonging, borders, movements and citizenship with topics of race, religion and gender.



Student Learning Outcomes	Assessments
Learn about the theories of migration.	Readings, Community Service and Visits, Guest Speakers, Review of Discussions/Presentations
Learn about organizations and their role in migration policy.	Readings, Community Service and Visits, Guest Speakers, Review of Discussions/Presentations
Understand why countries have the mass migration policies they adopted.	Presentations, Journal Writings, Readings, Final Project
Develop integrative understanding of mass migration (social, cultural, global, race/gender/religion).	Presentations (In Class and at Strasbourg Cross Cultural Program, FR), Final Project

IV. Course Texts/Supplies/Materials

Passarlay, G., & Ghouri, N. (2017). *The lightless sky: A twelve-year-old refugee's harrowing escape from Afghanistan and his extraordinary journey across half the world*. New York, NY: Harper One, Harper Collins Publishers.

Students are expected to begin reading all chapters of their textbooks, from chapter 1 to the end.

Other Resources: Selected articles, cases, websites, movies from newspapers, books, and Journals, guest speakers (on Canvas or in-person). Community Activities are also part of this course.

This is seminar with a research component, where you will learn to skim readings at times for learning. On a weekly basis, as you read the assigned materials, please annotate them: write down questions, comments, observations. Keep in physical or digital note form.

You will use them as a basis for our class discussions. Some will be shared on Canvas. The keyword assignment will be shared periodically in social media.



V. The following matrix reflects the general guideline of topics, readings, and/or assignments for each session. **The instructor reserves the right to modify weekly activities, assignments, projects, and/or assessments required for this class. Adjustments and/or changes will be stated before and/or during class. If the student is absent, it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor and/or classmates about any adjustments and/or updates.**

Week/ Lecture	Topic / Reading	Class Activity
Week 1/ Lect. 1	Introduction: Short History of Refugee Crisis Reading: Book,OR1	Welcome and WD, JR
Week 2/ Lect. 2	Refugee Life in Germany Reading: OR2 WD,JR, CA Meetings with Invited Lecturer (To be Announced)	WD,JR, CA
Week 3/ Lect. 3	Refugee Life in Germany Reading: OR2 WD,JR, CA Meetings with Invited Lecturer (To be Announced)	WD,JR, CA
Week 4/ Lect. 4	Refugee Life in Germany Reading: OR2 Meetings with Invited Lecturer (To be Announced)	WD,JR, CA
Week 5/ Lect. 5	Visit PHC Refugee Center & KAP Tour Reading: OR3 Meetings with Invited Lecturer (To be Announced)	IDs,Survey,WD,JR,CA
Week 6/ Lect. 6	Class Discussions <u>and</u> Group Presentation(s)	Group Presentation(s)
Week 7/ Lect. 7	Refugees in Modern Times: Leaving Home Reading: OR4 GP Assignment Due Date Assigned	KAP,WD,JP,CA,JR
Week 8/ Lect. 8	Refugees in Modern Times: Leaving Home Reading: OR4 GP Assignment Due Date Assigned	KAP,WD,JP,CA,JR
Week 9/ Lect. 9	Identity Construction: Narratives of Who We Are Reading: OR 5 GP Assignment Due Date Assigned <u>AND</u> Group Presentation(s)	KAP, WD, IP,CA,JR Group Presentation(s)
Week 10/ Lect. 10	Developing Sustainable Solutions Reading: OR6	FP, Survey
Week 11/ Lect. 11	Final Project	Final Project

NOTE: The instructor reserves the right to adjust and/or change the above schedule at any time during the semester. Adjustments and/or changes will be stated before and/or during class. If the student is absent, it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor and/or classmates about any adjustments and/or updates.



VI. Grading Activities, Criteria and Guidelines

This class will include a variety of instructional methods and learning activities intended to engage the student in the learning process. This may include, but not be limited to: lecture, written assignments, group discussion and problem solving exercises, media presentation, article and case analysis, student-led discussion, student presentation, reflection on what was learned and documentation of planned application. Some assignments will be individual while some may be group or team assignments. Class will be participative, and each student must be prepared for each class.

VII. Grades

The course consists of the following assessments. The instructor reserves the right to adjust and/or change the course assessments before and/or during the class.

Description	Percentage
Journal Writings	20%
Weekly Discussions	10%
Keyword Assignment	10%
Group Presentations (2)	30%
Final Project	30%
Total	100%

VIII. Attendance and Participation

Attendance and active classroom participation are required of each student. Tests will cover for all course material provided through lectures and presentations, readings, discussions, cases, and videos during class. **Absences and/or a lack of participation in discussions will impact negatively on the final grade.** Each student is responsible for all material covered and/or assigned and any announcements made in any class session, whether student is present or not. Group activities require all students to participate and contribute to group discussions and projects.

Students are expected to come to class on time and to have read assigned material before class. There may be an occasional pop quiz to verify whether students have read the assignments before class. **All work must be turned in on time.** Late work may be accepted but points will be taken off if work is not turned in to instructor when it is due. At all times, in class and group discussions, students are expected to respect contributions, questions, and opinions of other people. Demeaning others in any way is not acceptable.

IX. Academic Integrity Policy

Examples of scholastic dishonesty include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating on assignments or tests, taking, unauthorized reuse of work, etc. If it is determined that a student has engaged in scholastic dishonesty, the faculty shall adhere to the [Academic Integrity Policy stated in the UIW Catalog](#).



X. Grading Scale

The University of the Incarnate Word operates on a semester basis using a 4-point grading scale as follows. Registrar Online Resource: <https://my.uiw.edu/registrar/academics/grading-scale.html>.

Grade	Descriptive Grade	Numeric Grade	Grade Points
A	Excellent Scholarship	93-100	4.00
A-	Excellent Scholarship	90-92	3.70
B+	Good Scholarship	87-89	3.30
B	Good Scholarship	83-86	3.00
B-	Good Scholarship	80-82	2.70
C+	Satisfactory Scholarship	77-79	2.30
C	Satisfactory Scholarship	70-76	2.00
D+	Poor Scholarship	67-69	1.30
D	Poor Scholarship	63-66	1.00
D-	Poor Scholarship	60-62	0.70
F	Failure	Less than 60	0.00
IP	Incomplete work		None assigned; converts to an F after expiration date or deadline of six months
N	Grade not reported by faculty		None assigned
NG	No grade required		None assigned; used for thesis and dissertation courses
P	Satisfactory Scholarship	70-100	None assigned
S	Satisfactory Scholarship	70-100	None assigned
W	Withdrawn from the University		None assigned

XI. Course Add/Drop Procedure

Students are responsible for communicating and updating any potential changes, including dropping a course, to the UIW Heidelberg Academic Director **and** their Academic advisor at UIW before implementing any changes.

Dropping or changing a course may delay a student's intended graduation date due to classes not adhering to their degree plan.

The Study Abroad Advisor, UIW European Liaison and/or any other administrative personnel are **not** responsible for the student's academic planning.



SUPPLEMENTAL COURSE INFORMATION

Exams and Assignments:

Several assignments will add up to your final grade for this course, including participation at Patrick Henry Village Refugee Center, KAP Program (6 visits minimum required) and Community Activities (CA):

1. Weekly Journal Writings (JR) (10 based on service at Patrick Henry Center (6 visits minimum required) and community-engagement reflections) – 20%
2. Weekly Preparation and Discussions (WD) – 10%
3. An Ongoing Keyword Assignment (KA) (graphic <https://wordart.com/>), individual and periodically integrated to reflect class views – 10%
4. Group Presentations (GP) (2) – 30%
5. A Final Project (FP) agreed upon by discussions with instructor. Examples of Project: Policy Initiatives for a Country, Reflections as a Refugee, Entrepreneurship and the Refugee. Project may be either a traditional academic research report (1250 words, 5 pages, double spaced, New Times Roman 12 pt.) or a Multi-Media Project – 30%

Paper and Presentation

Below is the overview of what formal final paper will contain. We will discuss further the formal paper and similar requirements if alternative multi-media presentation is chosen during the first day of class.

Item	Points 100%
Cover Sheet	5
Correct Spelling	5
APA Format (6 th Ed)	15
Grammar	15
Reference to Text	25
Adequate & Clear Conclusion	10
References (APA)	5
Presentation	20