Germ 520C: Narratives of Migration
Credits: 3
Winter 2018 Session | Term: 2
Date and Time: R 2-4pm
Place: Buchanan D228

Instructor: Prof. Markus Hallensleben, mhallen@mail.ubc.ca
Office Hours: R 12:30-1:30pm (or by appointment) at BuTo 922

Course Description and Syllabus

This course focuses on narratives of migration from a comparative studies point of view. It aims to provide an interdisciplinary framework for the investigation of transnational literature within the context of the global mobility turn and critical European Culture Studies, with a special emphasis on the most recent German-language post-migrant literature that appeared since the European “refugee crisis” in 2015. While one part of the course will utilize the sociological concepts of post-migrant and superdiverse societies for an analysis of literary narratives as counter-narratives to Eurocentric, ethnically and nationally centred models of belonging, another part will investigate select primary texts. How do they perform hybrid and plural identities that go across borders, including the dealing with memories of colonial history, genocides and wars?

We will further discuss concepts and theories of exile, diaspora, integration, multiculturality, nomadism, postcolonialism, post-monolingual conditions, sedentarism, third space, transculturality, transnationality and travelling cultures. The goal is to determine whether a trans-civic desire manifests itself in literature and what its performative effects might be in understanding culture as an open transitional space, which allows for critically reflecting civic diversity, gender and racial equality.

There are no prerequisites. This course is taught in English with a directed study approach, including portfolio components in preparation for the final essay. The course is open to graduate students from all fields who work on narratives of migration in any context, whether in theory or praxis. Students are welcome to read the textbooks in the original language and to incorporate their own research. They will present on at least one course related topic based on their own annotated working bibliographies.

Some readings will be posted on UBC Canvas, and some textbooks in the German version are available at https://www2.onleihe.de/goethe-institut/. Please note that all readings of suggested secondary sources will be split among the students, and a comprehensive working bibliography (including more titles in German) will be available at Refworks and updated at the beginning of the term: http://www.refworks.com.ezproxy.library.ubc.ca/refshare2?site=027051141189200000/RWWS4A164443/Germ%20520.
Primary sources will include text by authors such as Jenny Erpenbeck, Elfriede Jelinek, Navid Kermani, Abbas Khider, Ilija Trojanow and Ranjit Hoskote.

Secondary sources will include readings of Georgio Agamben, Kwame Anthony Appiah, Hannah Arendt, Aleida Assmann, Zygmunt Baumann, Homi Bhabha, Tim Cresswell, Jaques Derrida, Gilles Deleuze and Felix Guattari, Nicholas De Genova, Deniz Göktürk, Sneja Gunew, Julia Kristeva, Lisa Malkki, Sten Moslund, Anne Petersen and Moritz Schramm, Edward Said, Michel Serres, Azade Seyhan, Stuart Taberner, Mark Terkessidis, John Urry, Steven Vertovec, Bernhard Waldenfels and Wolfgang Welsch.

Reading List of Primary Sources (Titles available at the UBC Bookstore and On Reserve)

Erpenbeck, Jenny. *Go, Went, Gone*. Translated by Susan Bernofsky, New Directions, 2017. *(Required; Gehen, ging, gegangen*, Knaus, 2015, German eBook version at Goethe Institute Onleihe)


Khider, Abbas. *Slap in the Face*. Translated by Simon Pare, Seagull Books, 2018. *(Required; Ohrfeige*, Carl Hanser, 2016, German eBook version at Goethe Institute Onleihe)


Trojanow, Ilija. *Nach der Flucht*. S. Fischer, 2017. *(Optional)
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics and Primary Readings</th>
<th>Portfolio Tasks/ Suggestions for Secondary Readings</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 3</td>
<td>1. Overview and Introduction: Narratives of Migration</td>
<td>Create your own RefWorks account at <a href="http://resources.library.ubc.ca/901/">http://resources.library.ubc.ca/901/</a> (Please register for the old platform.)</td>
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<td>Jan 10</td>
<td>2. Göktürk et al. (eds.): <em>Germany in Transit</em> (excerpts) Arslan et al.: &quot;Forum: Migration Studies.&quot; <em>The German Quarterly</em> 90:2</td>
<td>--SELECTION OF FOUR KEYWORDS FOR SHORT PRESENTATIONS DUE--</td>
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<td>Jan 17</td>
<td>3. Keywords/Definitions: Refugee/Refugee Crisis; Asylum; Diaspora; Exile; Emigration; Immigration; Migration; Post-Migration; Integration/ Acculturation; Globalization; Mobility Turn; European Cultural Identity; Cosmopolitanism; Transnationalism; Transculturality;</td>
<td>Short Presentations (2 Keywords) Agamben; Appiah; Arendt; Bauman; Beck; Betts and Collier; Bottici and Challand; Cresswell; Dahinden; de Jong; Foroutan; Gilroy; Glick-Schiller; Kearney; Moslund; Nail; Petersen/Schramm; Said; Taberner; Urry; Wagner; Welsch; Yildiz and Hill;</td>
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<td>Jan 24</td>
<td>4. Keywords/Concepts: Minority/ Ethnicity; Multiculturalism; Superdiversity; Multiplicity/Plural Society; Otherness/Othering; Postcolonialism; Hybridity; Third Space; Migratory Aesthetics; Ethics of Migration; Minor Literature/ Deterritorialization;</td>
<td>Short Presentations (2 Keywords) Bachmann-Medick; Bal; Bhabha; Braidotti; Carens; De Genova; de Toro; Deleuze; Ette; Friese; Gerstenberger; Gunew; Hall; Kristeva; Malkki; Schönwälder; Serres; Seyhan; Spickard;</td>
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<td>Jan 31</td>
<td>Nomadism/Displacement; Post-Monolingual Condition/ Translational Studies/ Travelling Concepts; TransArea Studies;</td>
<td>Taylor; Terkessidis; Vertovec (and Cohen); Yildiz; Waldenfels; Wendland;</td>
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<td><strong>5. Plural Society – Trojanow and Hoskote:</strong> <em>Confluences</em></td>
<td><strong>Abstract/Outline with Working Bibliography for Long Presentation (Due One Week before Presentation)</strong></td>
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<td><em>Lerman: Do I Belong</em> (excerpts)</td>
<td><em>Betts and Collier</em> (2017); Malkki. <em>&quot;National Geographic&quot;</em>; <em>Moslund</em> (2015, excerpts); <em>Druxes</em> (2016); <em>Orchard</em> (2014);</td>
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<td><em>Vertovec: &quot;Talking around Super-Diversity.&quot;</em></td>
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<td>Feb 7</td>
<td><strong>6. ‘Refugee Crisis’ – Kermani: <em>Upheaval</em></strong></td>
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<td><em>Bauman: Strangers at Our Door</em></td>
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<td>Feb 14</td>
<td><strong>7. Mobilities and Immobilities (Sabine Zimmermann)</strong></td>
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<td>Feb 17-25</td>
<td><strong>Reading Break</strong></td>
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<td>Feb 28</td>
<td><strong>8. Post-Migrant Theatre – Jelinek: <em>Charges</em></strong></td>
<td>Wilmer (2017); Spickard (2013, chpt. 1); Sieg (2017); Cabot (2014); Nail (2015); Bosniak (2006); Rorty (1998, chpt. 9); Carens (2014)</td>
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<td>Apr 4</td>
<td><strong>11. Final Discussion and Feedback on Final Paper Drafts</strong></td>
<td><strong>FINAL PAPER DRAFT DUE ON APRIL 1 (10%)</strong></td>
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**Secondary Sources:**

*Please also consult the Working Bibliography on Refworks for further references.*


**Bauman, Zygmunt.** *Strangers at Our Door*. Polity, 2016.

**Beck, Ulrich.** "Multiculturalism or Cosmopolitanism: How Can We Describe and Understand the Diversity of the World?" *Social Sciences in China*, vol. 32, no. 4, 2011, pp. 52-58.


**Bhabha, Homi K.** *The Location of Culture*, Routledge, 2004.


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Nail, Thomas. *The Figure of the Migrant*, Stanford UP, 2015.

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**Taberner, Stuart.** "Transnationalism and Cosmopolitanism: Literary World-Building in the Twenty-First Century." *Transnationalism in Contemporary German-Language Literature*, edited by Elisabeth Herrmann et al., Boydell and Brewer, 2015, pp. 43-64.


**Waldenfels, Bernhard.** *Phenomenology of the Alien.* Northwestern UP, 2011.


**Yildiz, Yasemin.** *Beyond the Mother Tongue: The Postmonolingual Condition,* Fordham UP, 2012.
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