

2018 International Summer School in Comparative Conflict Studies June 24 – July 1, 2018

Migrants, Borders, Power(s) Contemporary Struggles, Moral Claims and Regimes of (Im)Mobility

Dr. Jelena Tošić

Course description

Theoretical and ideological images of a borderless and interconnected global condition in which the nation state's power decreases and "flows" of people, capital and information mark they day, have been continuously challenged since the 1990s. Apart from the financial and austerity "crises", it is precisely the rise and violence of borders, of restrictive and neoliberal migration regimes and of right-wing populist (xenophobic, racist and Islamophobic) calls for securing the "nation" (in Europe and beyond), which have shown the power of (particular) states in the midst of trans-state institutions and unfolding neoliberal globalization.

Being able to move and cross boundaries, but also being able to afford to actually live in particular places have become increasingly important dimensions of the contemporary struggles for securing a "good life". Mobility (including phases of "being stuck") can – at different times, in different places and for different people – figure a resource, a right as well as a means of exploitation and marginalization. It is precisely the so-called "migration/refugee crisis" which has most recently revived older and ongoing debates on (failed) multiculturalism and "integration" (with regards to "Islam" in particular) as well as conflicts and moral claims over "deservingness" and the (re)distribution of wealth and social rights.

This course will comparatively explore different theoretical approaches as well as different cases and configurations of migration and borders (in Europe and beyond). The comparative orientation of the course will enable the participants to compare both theories and cases as well as different social actor's perspectives (EU, states, civil society, migrants, refugees, local population, men, women, different generations etc.) within particular cases. This comparative approach will enable in-depth critical discussions on heightened contemporary debates on: Who is "just" a migrant and who is a refugee? Who "deserves" to stay, gain citizenship and obtain which social rights? Who can cross which borders? What is a "good life" for whom? What are the migration-related powers and responsibilities of particular states and trans-state instances (e.g. EU)? What is multiculturalism/diversity/integration? What are the impacts of particular migration and integration regimes? etc.

Course Methodology

The course will be comprised of *input-lectures* and *close readings* of classic and contemporary texts from the interdisciplinary fields of (forced)migration/mobility studies and border studies with a special focus on ethnographic approaches.

- The input on Days 1, 3 and 6 will be accompanied by a drop-box text-pool of recommended readings on the themes migration and (im)mobility. The students are strongly advised to familiarize themselves with texts of their choice, depending on their interests. Recommending texts to be included into the text pool is highly encouraged and readings can be emailed to me any time (before and during the course!) (this way we will jointly work on a knowledge resource, which will represent a sustainable output of our course).

Furthermore the course will offer a setting for presenting and discussing ongoing and envisioned participants' research *projects (theoretical and/or empirical) and gather valuable feedback! (Day 5)* There is space for 4 presentations, 1h each incl. discussion.

- Please inform me per email and name the title of your presentation by JUNE 20th, so I can put the info online.

Finally the course will include discussing a *contemporary film* as well as a knowledge exchange with *guest speakers* from the local social and civil society sector on migration/border issues in the context of Serbia/Belgrade.

- COURSE OUTLINE BY DAY -

DAY 1

Morning Session

Input: The course will start with a collective reflection on migration and more generally on the notion of mobility and how to study these processes. We will discuss how and why (forced) migration has not been a central topic in social sciences (e.g. anthropology) and what kind of social world **ontologies** this can be ascribed to. The input will trace different **genealogies** of studying **(forced) migration** across social sciences and lay out some **seminal approaches** (modernization theory, structural-historical approaches, transnationalism etc.).

Afternoon Session

Input: The afternoon session will introduce in more detail the approach to **transnational migration and multiculturalism/diversity, as well as the mobility regimes approach.**

Required reading

- BRETTELL, Caroline and James HOLLIFIELD (2014): Migration Theory. Talking Across Disciplines. Routledge. (Introduction)
- MALKKI, Liisa (1992): National Geographic: The Rooting of Peoples and the Territorialization of National Identity among Scholars and Refugees, Cultural Anthropology, Vol. 7, No. 1, Space, Identity, and the Politics of Difference. (Feb., 1992): 24-44.

Recommended readings

- GLICK-SCHILLER, Nina, and Noel SALAZAR (2013): Regimes of Mobility across the Globe, Journal for Ethnic and Migration Studies 39(2): 183–200.
- STRASSER, Sabine (2009): Multicultural Tensions and Integrative Reflections, in Six-Hohenbalken, Marianne and Jelena Tosic (eds.), Anthropologie der Migration. Theoretische Grundlagen und interdisziplinäre Aspekte. Facultas: 145-163.
- VERTOVEC, Steven (2009): Transnationalism (Chapter 1, Introduction: Transnationalism, Migrant Transnationalism and Transformation). Routledge: 1-26.

DAY 2

Morning Session

Input: The morning session will discuss and compare several recent social science approaches to migration and (im)mobility: **migration and city scale, existential anthropological approaches to migration, critical transnational/multisited and post-colonial approaches.**

Recommended Readings

- AL-ALI, Nadjie, Richard Black & Khalid Koser (2001): The limits to 'transnationalism': Bosnian and Eritrean refugees in Europe as emerging transnational communities, *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 24(4): 578-600.
- CAGLAR, Ayse and Nina Glick-Schiller (2011): Introduction: Migrants and Cities, in Nina Glick-Schiller and Ayse Caglar, *Locating Migration. Rescaling Cities and Migrants*. Cornell University Press: 1-19.
- DAHINDEN, Janine (2010): Cabaret Dancers "Settle Down in order to Stay Mobile?" Bridging Theoretical Orientations within Transnational Migration Studies, *Social Politics* 17(3): 323-48.
- JACKSON, Michael (2013): *The Wherewithal of Life. Ethics, Migration and the Question of Well-Being*. University of California Press. (Preamble, 1-14 and Emanuel, 14-87)
- HAGE, Ghassan (2016): État de siège: A Dying Domesticating Colonialism?, *American Ethnologist* 34(1): 38–49.

Afternoon Session

Close Readings and Discussion: The afternoon session will be comprised of close and comparative reading session of 4 compulsory texts against the background of the following questions: Which **central ontological/epistemological concepts** the texts do the texts imply/explicate? Where is **power** "located"? Where, between whom and around what do **struggles** take place? Can we and in what sense speak of **"structure" and "agency"** in the way the texts analyse migration/(im)mobility? What is the role of **"experiencing"** migration and how can it allow for theorization?

The close reading of the text will be finalized by **"arguing for and against" approaches** in a group process.

Please read the text carefully and comparatively so we can have a meaningful and fruitful discussion!

Required Readings

- GLICK-SCHILLER, Nina (2008): Beyond Methodological Ethnicity. Local and Transnational Pathways of Immigrant Incorporation, Willy Brandt Series of Working Papers in International Migration and Ethnic Relations 2/08.
- HAGE, Ghassan (2005): A not so Multi-Sited Ethnography of a not so Imagined Community, *Anthropological Theory* 5(4): 463-475.
- LUCHT, Hans (2015): The Station Hustle. Ghanaian Migration Brokerage in a Disjointed World, in Michael Jackson and Albert Piette, *What is Existential Anthropology?* Berghahn: 104-124.
- REEVES, Madeleine (2015): Living from the Nerves. Deportability, Indeterminacy, and the „Feel of Law“ in Migrant Moscow, *Social Analysis* 59(4): 119-136.

DAY 3

Morning Session

Input: The morning session will introduce **border studies** as an ascending and interdisciplinary research field. I will trace some **forerunners**, important **paradigms** and some **more recent** approaches. We will see how the development of the research field of border studies stands in close connection of the **proliferation and securitization of borders** on a global scale.

Required Readings

- GREEN, Sarah (2013): Borders and the Relocation of Europe. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 42: 345-361
- WILSON, Thomas M. and Hastings Donnan (2012): Borders and Border Studies, in Wilson, Thomas M. and Hastings Donnan (eds.), *A Companion to Border Studies*. Wiley-Blackwell. (Chapter 1: Borders and Border Studies, 1-24)

Recommended Readings

- ANDERSON, James (2012): Borders in the New Imperialism, in Wilson, Thomas M. and Hastings Donnan (eds.), *A Companion to Border Studies*. Wiley-Blackwell: 139-158.
- BALLINGER, Pamela (2012): Borders and the Rhythms of Displacement, Emplacement and Mobility, in Wilson, Thomas M., and Hastings Donnan (eds.), *A Companion to Border Studies*. Wiley-Blackwell: 389–404.
- COLE, John W., and Eric R. Wolf (1999 [1974]): *The Hidden Frontier. Ecology and Ethnicity in an Alpine Valley*. University of California Press. (Chapter I: The Inquiry & Chapter XI: Cultural Confrontation)
- DIENER, Alexander C. and Joshua HAGEN (2012): Borders. A Very Short Introduction. Oxford University Press. (Chapters 1,2 and 3, pages 1-59)
- RABINOWITZ, Dan (2012): Identity, the State and Borderline Disorder, in Wilson, Thomas M. and Hastings Donnan (eds.), *A Companion to Border Studies*. Wiley-Blackwell: 301-318.

Afternoon Session

Input: In the afternoon session I will use my research in/on the Albanian-Montenegrin Borderland to illustrate and discuss different ways of exploring borders/borderlands.

Recommended readings

- TOŠIĆ, Jelena (2018): The relational ethics of “never (...) too much”: Situating and scaling intimate uncertainties in an Adriatic harbor (Special Issue *Intimate Uncertainties: Ethnographic Explorations of Moral Economies across Europe*, edited by Sabine Strasser and Luisa Piart). *Anthropological Journal of European Cultures* (accepted, forthcoming 2018)
- TOŠIĆ, Jelena (2017): Travelling Genealogies: Tracing relatedness and diversity in the Albanian-Montenegrin Borderland, in: Donnan, Hastings, Madeleine Hurd and Carolin Leutloff-Grandits (eds.), *Border Crossing – Border Moving*. Manchester University Press (*Rethinking Borders Series*) 2017: 80-101.

DAY 4

Morning Session

Film „Između granica“ (“Between Borders”) (50min) & Discussion with Boushra Jabeer (protagonist), Mirko Rudic (director) and Igor Mitrovic (ADRA)

The film follows the refugee crisis in 2015 and 2016 from the perspective of a young Lebanese woman, Boushra Jaber. She came to Serbia in 2015 to work on her PhD. Driven by a deep desire to help she started working as an Arabic translator in a refugee camp in Presevo on the Serbian-Macedonian border. During her three months in the field, Boushra faced personal and professional challenges that put her beliefs to the test. (IMDB)

Recommended Readings

- BEZNEC, Barbara, Marc SPEER and Marta Stojić MITROVIĆ (2016): Governing the Balkan Route: Macedonia, Serbia and the European Border Regime Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung Southeast Europe.
- BRUNOVSKIS, Anette and Rebecca SURTEES (2017): Vulnerability and Exploitation along the Balkan Route. Identifying Victims of Human Trafficking in Serbia. Fafo.

- Tošić, Jelena (2017): From a 'Transit Route' to the 'Backyard of Europe'? Tracing the Past, Present, and Future of the Balkan Route. in G. Fartacek, & S. B. (Hrsg.), *Facetten von Flucht aus dem Nahen und Mittleren Osten*. Facultas Universitätsverlag: 150-166.

Afternoon Session

Close Readings and Discussion: The morning session will be comprised of close and comparative reading session of 4 compulsory texts against the background of the following dimensions of exploring borders: **time, space, power and agency**. The idea is to explore how the texts approach these dimensions when theorizing borders and which approaches make more/less sense for what kind of research questions.

The close reading of the text will be finalized by **"arguing for and against" approaches** in a group process.

Please read the text carefully and comparatively so we can have a meaningful and fruitful discussion!

Required Readings

- DALAKOGLU, Dimitris (2010): The Road. An Ethnography of the Albanian–Greek Cross-Border Motorway, *American Ethnologist* 37(1): 132–149.
- MEZZADRA, Sandro and Breitt Neilson (2013): Border as Method. Or the Multiplication of Labour. Duke University Press. (Chapter 1: The Proliferation of Borders, 1-27)
- KALLIUS, Annastiina, Daniel MONTERESCU and Prem Kumar RAJARAM (2016): Immobilizing Mobility. Border Ethnography, Illiberal Democracy and the politics of the "refugee crisis" in Hungary, *American Ethnologist* 43/1: 1-13.
- SCHIELKE, Samuli (2012): Engaging the World on the Alexandria Waterfront, in Graw, Knut and Samuli Schielke, *The Global Horizon. Expectations of Migration in Africa and the Middle East*, Leuven University Press: 175-195.

DAY 5

Morning Session

Presentations of Research (Plans)/MA-/PhD-Theses/Ideas/Theoretical "Interventions" etc.

Afternoon Session

Presentations of Research (Plans)/MA-/PhD-Theses/Ideas/Theoretical "Interventions" etc.

Presentations: Participants can use Day 5 to share their **planned or ongoing research and ideas to the group and gather valuable feedback!** Please use this opportunity to share your knowledge and ideas in order to make our course a collective and productive endeavour!

There is space for 4 presentations, 1h each incl. discussion.

Please inform me per email and name the title of your presentation by JUNE 20th, so I can put the info online.

DAY 6

Morning Session

Input: The last thematic-theoretical input will deal with how (Forced) Migration and struggles about, with and across borders transforms Europe. The input will discuss how common ideological manoeuvres (right-wing and beyond) (mis)use migration and migrants to divert public and civic attention away from deepening and Inequalities and the dismantling of the welfare state and effuse and atmosphere of fear anxiety. The conceptual-

thematic foci of the input will be the **neo-nationalism/cultural fundamentalism** in Europe and beyond, **moralizing-political discourses on „deservingness“** and **“(de)radicalisation”/“extremism”/“Islamism”** (and related Islamophobia) and **“humanitarianism”**.

Required Readings

- FASSIN, Didier (2012): *Humanitarian Reason: A Moral History of the Present Times*. Berkeley: University of California Press. (Introduction)
- GINGRICH, Andre and Marcus Banks (2006): *Neo-nationalism in Europe and Beyond*. Berghahn. (Introduction)

Recommended Readings

- KUNDNANI, Arun (2012): Radicalization. *The Journey of a Concept, Race and Class* 54(2): 3-25
- MALKKI, Liisa (1996): Speechless Emissaries: Refugees, Humanitarianism, and Dehistoricization, *Cultural Anthropology* 11(3): 377-404.
- NICHOLLS, Walter J. et al. (2016): The Politics of Deservingness: Comparing Youth-Centered Immigrant Mobilizations in the Netherlands and the United States, *American Behavioural Scientist* 60(13): 1590-1612.
- STOLCKE, Verena (1995): Talking Culture. New Boundaries, New Rhetorics of Exclusion in Europe, *Current Anthropology* 36(1): 1-24.
- TICKTIN, Miriam (2011): *Casualties of Care Immigration and the Politics of Humanitarianism in France*. California University Press. (Introduction)
- VARISCO, Daniel (2010): Inventing Islamism. The Violence of Rhetoric, in Martin, Richard C. and Abbas Barzegar (eds.) *Islamism. Contested Perspectives on Political Islam*. Stanford University Press: 33-51.

Afternoon Session

Close Readings and Closing Discussion: based on the themes-approaches outlined in the morning input session on **neo-nationalism/neo-fascism, „deservingness“, “(de)radicalisation”/“extremism” (and related Islamophobia) and “humanitarianism”**. We will discuss the overall theme of the **dynamics and transformation of ideologies, politics and social cohesion/inequality in contemporary Europe**.

Please read the text carefully and comparatively so we can have a meaningful and fruitful discussion!

Required Readings

- HOLMES, Seth M. and Heidi CASTANEDA. 2016. Representing the “European refugee crisis” in Germany and beyond: Deservingness and difference, life and death. *American Ethnologist* 43 (1): 12-24.
- HOLMES, Douglas R. (2000): *Integral Europe. Fast Capitalism, Multiculturalism, Neofacism*. Princeton University Press. (Chapter 8: Factual Racism, 116-138)
- TICKTIN, Miriam (2011): *Casualties of Care Immigration and the Politics of Humanitarianism in France*. California University Press. (Chapter 4: In the Name of Violence against Women, 128-158)
- KUNDNANI, Arun (2014): *The Muslims are Coming. Islamophobia, Extremism and Domestic War on Terror*. (Chapter 1: “An Ideal Enemy”)