PHIL 01:730:475 ADVANCED TOPICS: MIGRATION ETHICS (FALL 2021)
Professor Derrick Darby
Seminar: Tu/F @ 9:00AM-10:20AM in MU-204
Office: 106 Somerset Street - 307; office hours: Tu @ 10:30-11:30 & by appointment
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War, famine, poverty, political persecution, discrimination, climate catastrophe, and economic opportunity are among the many factors that explain human migration. This course will examine whether nations have an obligation to open their borders to migrants. Some philosophers defend the right to migrate. Some defend the right to exclude. Others argue for a compromise position defending exclusion rights with limits. Debates about immigration abound in contemporary U.S. political discourse. Attending to philosophical arguments on this topic will prepare students to take sides. We will also consider the history of America’s racist immigration policy to test arguments defending exclusion rights.

COURSE READINGS:

Christopher H. Wellman and Phillip Cole, *Debating the Ethics of Immigration: Is There a Right to Exclude?* (2011)
David Miller, *Strangers in Our Midst: The Political Philosophy of Immigration* (2016)
Michael Blake, *Justice, Migration, and Mercy* (2020)

Other readings will be available (as needed) on the course Canvas site.

SCHEDULE (subject to change)

**September**

3 Course overview
7 Viet Bader, “The Ethics of Immigration,” Parts I and II.
10 Bader, “The Ethics of Immigration,” Part III.
14 Christopher H. Wellman, ch 1, “In Defense of the Right to Exclude”
17 Wellman
   - Ch 2, “The Egalitarian Case for Open Borders”
   - Ch 3, “The Libertarian Case for Open Borders”
21 Wellman
   - Ch 5, “The Utilitarian Case for Open Borders”
   - Ch 6, “Refugees”
24 Sarah Fine, “Immigration and Discrimination”

**October**

1 Phillip Cole, ch 12, “The Case Against the Right to Exclude”
5 Cole, ch 13, “Wellman on Freedom of Association”
8 Cole, ch 14, “Consequentialist Concerns”
12 Cole, ch 15, “Toward a Right to Mobility” and Miller, ch 1, “Introduction”
15 David Miller, ch 3, “Open Borders” and ch 4, “Closed Borders”
22 Miller, ch 5, “Refugees” and ch 7, “The Rights of Immigrants”
26 Garip, ch 3, “We Leave to Help Our Parents Economically” and Miller, ch 6, “Economic Migrants”
29 Bas van der Vossen and Jason Brennan, ch 2, “The Moral and Economic Case for Free Immigration”
November

2 Sarah Song, ch 4, “Collective Self-Determination and Immigration Control”
5 Song, ch 6, “Is There a Right to Free Movement across Borders?”
9 Garip, ch 4, “Your Place is Where Your Family Is” and Song, ch 8, “The Claims of Family”
12 Michael Blake, ch 2, “Justice and the Excluded, Part 1 Open Borders,” and ch 3, Part II Closed Borders
16 Blake, ch 4, “Justice, Jurisdiction and Migration,” and ch 5, “Coercion and Refuge”
19 Migrant Justice meets Political Reality: A Real Dilemma
   - Blake, ch 6, “Choosing and Refusing: On Migration, Exclusion, and the Bigot’s Veto”

23 Library research
26 No class (Thanksgiving break)
30 Seminar thesis presentations

December

3 Seminar thesis presentations
7 Seminar thesis presentations
10 Seminar thesis presentations

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND POLICIES

• Students must write two papers—a short and a longer one. Due dates and details will be announced in class.
• The first paper will count 30% of the course grade and the second will count 60%.
• Students must lead one class discussion on an assigned reading with a prepared handout (10%).
• You are responsible for material presented in class including all announcements.
• No phone use in class. Computers only for taking notes or viewing readings.

Academic Integrity
You are expected to be familiar with and adhere to the Rutgers University policies on academic integrity. For what you need to know go to https://ubprovost.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-students.

Attendance and Cancellation of Classes
Attendance is expected at all regularly scheduled meetings of a course and individual course may set policies for maximum absences. For regulations governing attendance, reporting absence, and religious observances go to https://sasundergrad.rutgers.edu/degree-requirements/policies/attendance-and-cancellation-of-classes.

Americans with Disabilities Act
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal antidiscrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact The Office of Disability Services in Suite A145, Lucy Stone Hall, on the Internet at https://ods.rutgers.edu/ or by telephone at 848.202.3111 or email at dsoffice@echo.rutgers.edu.

Title IX
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