

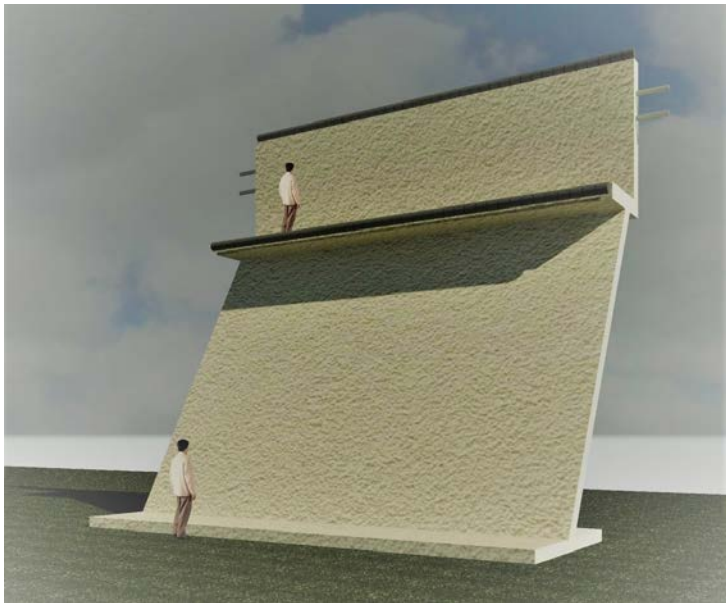
## **ER&M 402 & AMST 479**

### **The Displaced: Migrant and Refugee Narratives TUE 3:30-5:20**

This course examines a series of transnational literary texts that illuminate how the displaced—migrants, exiles, and refugees—remake home away from their native countries. We focus on texts that explore questions of home, nation, and self in the context of specific historical events such as the Holocaust, civil rights movements, Japanese internment, the Indian partition, African decolonization, Middle Eastern/Arab ethno-religious conflicts and wars, as well as current U.S.A border and migration policies. We examine these events alongside the shifting legal and political policies and categories related to asylum, humanitarian parole, refugee, and illegal alien status.

Our objective will be to debate and develop the ethical, political, geographic, and imaginative articulations of home in an era of mass displacements and geo-political crises. We examine how notions of home are imagined alongside and against categories of race, gender, and sexuality. Our weekly readings will average 150 pages and consist of a primary text (novel, memoir, graphic novel) accompanied by secondary texts (essays on exile, diaspora, nostalgia, mourning, and displacement). Authors include: W.G. Sebald, Eva Hoffman, James Baldwin, Edward Said, Julie Otsuka, Jhumpa Lahiri, Mohsin Hamid, Lauren Markham, Yaa Gyasi, Teju Cole, and Amitava Kumar.

For the final project, student will have the option to craft a narrative about an experience of migration and displacement that has been significant to their personal and political experience. Preference will be given to ER&M and American Studies majors.



**“The Security Curtain Wall,” San Diego Project Management, PSC**

Leah Mirakhor’s writing has appeared in *Bookforum*, *The Yale Review*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Los Angeles Review of Books*, *African American Review*, *The James Baldwin Review*, and *Studies in American Jewish Literature*. She teaches courses on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century Migrants and Refugees in Literature and Film, Public Writing, and Middle Eastern & North African Diasporic Literature. In the She received her PhD in English at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

## **ER&M 401 & AMST 443**

**Writer/Rioter: Public Writing in the 21st Century, WED 1:30- 3:20**

This class is concerned with unpacking the various ways writers participate in the 21st century world as “disturbers of the peace.” While the 21<sup>st</sup> century has seen great advances in technology, health, alternative energies, new forms of communication, there have also been vast consolidations of power and wealth, mass incarceration, climate change, poverty and homelessness, geo-political wars, state surveillance, as well as greater global attention to racial and sexual violence. Our current historical moment increasingly asks us to craft broader and deeper connections between personal, local, national, and international issues.

This course explores cultural criticism on a range of issues that examine the intersections of history, politics, culture, media in the 21st century. We analyze how writers such as Rebecca Solnit, Tim Snyder, Amitav Ghosh, Masha Gessen, Barbara Ransby, James Forman Jr., Rachel Kaadzai Ghanash, Zadie Smith, Naomi Klein, and Ta-Nehisi Coates respond to the aforementioned crisis politically and aesthetically. The course’s four sections cover various responses to some of the issues most publicly contested across college campuses nationwide, and here at Yale: racial unrest, sexual assault, climate change, poverty, incarceration, fascism, and gun violence. For the final project, students will craft their own public writing piece regarding an issue they are passionate about.

Preference will be given to ER&M and American Studies majors, and student with interest and background in non-fiction writing and criticism.



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