

IDS 4930 Migrants and Refugees in the Middle East

Learn about mass population movements in the Middle East since the early 20th century – their causes, impacts and long-term consequences on migrant communities, host and origin countries and the region overall.

Fall '21 | Dr. Hania Abou al-Shamat | T Period 7 & R Period 7-8 | 3 hrs

The Middle East has been at the center of mass population movements in recent history as both origin and host of migrants and refugees, and a region of displacement due to conflicts and rural-urban migration. This interdisciplinary course studies major population movements from, to, within and through the region since the early 20th century. It starts with definitions, and theoretical and methodological approaches to migration and refugee studies. It then focuses on multi-dimensional analysis of the various movements' historical contexts, root causes (economic, political, social, environmental), the institutional and legal frameworks that evolved around each movement, and the impact and long-term consequences on the migrant communities, the host and origin countries and the region overall. Themes of relationships between migration and economic development, economic interdependence poverty alleviation, social networks and support systems across borders, and human rights, among others are explored.