

Exile Literature

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This course considers the poetics and politics of displacement. Who are the exiles? Are they the asylum seekers, émigrés, resident aliens, sans papiers?

Exile after all defines the condition of modern human being. We will read memoirs, graphic novels, and look at the artwork on or by the displaced people of the world to understand the convergence between aesthetics and politics.

Evaluation

1. Short Written Reflections (35%)
3. Presentation (35%)
4. Participation (30%)

Possible Readings (not finalized)

Hannah Arendt, “The Rights of Man, What are They?” *Modern Review* vol. 3 no. 1 (1949): 24-36

———. “We Refugees” (1947) In *Altogether Elsewhere: Writers on Exile*, ed. Marc Robinson (Boston: Faber & Faber, 1994)

Boochani, Behrouz. *No Friends but the Mountains, Writings from Manus Prison*. Anansi International, 2019.

James Baldwin, “The New Lost Generation” In *Collected Essays*, ed. Toni Morrison (New York: Library of America, 1998).

Nguyen, Viet Thanh. *The Displaced; Refugee Writers on Refugee Lives*. Abrams, 2018.

Es’kia Mphahlele, “Africa in Exile” In *Altogether Elsewhere: Writers on Exile*, ed. Marc Robinson (Boston: Faber & Faber, 1994)

Jacques Rancière “Aesthetic Separation, Aesthetic Community” in *The Emancipated Spectator*, trans. Gregory Elliott (New York: Verso, 2009)

Edward Said, “Reflections on Exile,” In *Reflections on Exile and Other Essays*, (Cambridge: Harvard University, 2002)