

Writing the Refugee Experience

Syllabus:

| Session | Topics & Texts | Tasks |
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| 1 | Organizational Information | |
| 2 | Repetition: An Introduction to Narratology 1 – Monika Fludernik, from <i>Erzähltheorie: Eine Einführung/An Introduction to Narratology</i> | - study text 1 |
| 3 | Theory to Text: The Narratology of <i>The Other Hand</i> 2 – Chris Cleave, <i>The Other Hand</i> | - read text 2 |
| 4 | Legal Aid: An Introduction to Reading Law 3 – <i>Convention & Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees</i> 4 – Andreas Zimmermann, from <i>The 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol: A Commentary</i> 5 – Guy S. Goodwin-Gill and Jane McAdam, from <i>The Refugee in International Law</i> | - study text 3 & take notes - bring texts 4 & 5 to work with them in class - bring a device suitable for internet research |
| 5 | Law & Literature I: The General and the Individual 6 – Jacques Derrida, “Force de Loi/Force of Law” | - study text 6 |
| 6 | Law & Literature II: Human Rights and the Novel 7 – Joseph Slaughter, from <i>Human Rights, Inc.</i> 2 – Chris Cleave, <i>The Other Hand</i> | - study text 7 |
| 7 | The Philosophical Context I: Refugees as Inmates I 8 – Judith Butler, from <i>Precarious Life: The Powers of Mourning and Violence</i> 9 – Giorgio Agamben, from <i>Homo Sacer: Sovereign Power and Bare Life</i> (pp. 126-35; 166-88) | - study texts 8 & 9 |
| 8 | The Philosophical Context II: Refugees as Inmates II 10 – Denise Leith, “The Garden” 11 – Arnold Zable, “Zahra’s Lullaby” 12 – Safdar Ahmed, <i>Villawood: Notes from an Immigration Detention Centre</i> | - read texts 10 – 12 |
| 9 | Literature: The Question of Voice 13 – Sidonie Smith and Julia Watson, “The Trouble with Autobiography” 2 – Chris Cleave, <i>The Other Hand</i> 9 – Denise Leith, “The Garden” 10 – Arnold Zable, “Zahra’s Lullaby” | - study text 13 |

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| 10 | Film Session | |
| | Christmas Holidays | |
| 11 | How to write a term paper <i>in this seminar</i> | |
| 12 | Creative Writing I: Getting Acquainted 14 – Philip Neilsen, “Life Writing” 15 – Jewell Parker Rhodes, “Imaginative Crossings: Trans-Global and Trans-Cultural Narratives” | - study texts 14 & 15 as background knowledge |
| 13 | Creative Writing II: Discussing Ideas 16 – Your Ideas | - observe, take notes, collect ideas for 16 |
| 14 | Wrapping Up | |