

**INSPIRE 3I13 – Multidisciplinary Inquiry**  
**CO1 – The Voices of Refugees and Displaced Persons**  
**Intersession Term, 2023**

**COURSE OFFERING**

Term: Intersession 2023

Mode of Delivery: Online (asynchronous & synchronous)

Two Class Dates:

- Tuesday (3:00–5.00 pm Synchronous, over Zoom)
- Friday (3:00–5.00 pm Synchronous, over Zoom)
- 2 hours per week Asynchronous

Please note that the Intersession 2023 session runs from May 1-May 26, for a total of four weeks.

**COURSE COORDINATOR(S)/INSTRUCTOR(S)**

Name: Dr. Melike Yilmaz

Email: yilmam2@mcmaster.ca

Office Hours: Fridays (12.30–1.30 pm), over Zoom

Office: CNH 613

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The current refugee crisis is becoming an evermore pressing topic, and the number of people forced into migration and asylum continues to increase day by day. This is a student-centred course about “human flow”: the massive, planetary-wide stories of relocation and resettlement in the face of extreme and violent dangers. The course seeks to understand the complex lives of refugees by listening to their voices and literary narratives. In the theoretical segment of the course, students will learn who refugees and displaced persons are (based on United Nations’ approaches), with narratives that apply to the national, international, and Hamiltonian context. Students will explore every step of the refugee journey, starting with the cause for having to flee and finishing with the recognition that their settlement in a new country is not a conclusion in itself. The goal is to engage students and promote dialogue. In the practical segment, the students will engage with interdisciplinary guest speakers such as lawyers, displaced scholars, economics professors, McMaster students, international speakers and/or community members who work with refugees – all of whom provide a well rounded window into the lives of refugees.

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Explain who a refugee and a displaced person is and Distinguish between a refugee, a displaced person, and an immigrant
- Identify the reason & factors for people becoming refugees and displaced persons
- Describe the role of the UNHCR in a refugee's journey
- Understand why refugees were forced to flee their lives.
- Describe the demographics of refugees in different parts of the world such as the Middle East, Europe, North America, and East Asia
- Describe the life of those in refugee camps and the journey of those crossing borders
- Learn about their journey to Europe or America
- Analyze the challenges refugees face as they settle in different parts of the world
- Learn the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the refugee crisis and human rights
- Evaluate if refugees succeed economically or professionally in settled countries
- Realize and acknowledge their contributions to the country they settle in
- Study the media and refugee stories from around the world and discuss in the classroom
- Empathize first hand with refugees who have settled in Canada through studying and analysing the Discover Canada Study Guide (as well as taking a sample Canadian Citizenship test)

## COURSE COMMUNICATIONS

- **Office Hours:** Office hours will be held via Zoom and I will use the same link each week (to be shared on Avenue). If you have any questions, you can drop in to the waiting room and I will let you in.
- **Avenue to Learn:** Announcements, guest speaker recordings, lecture content (mostly readings and suggested material), and grades will be posted on Avenue to Learn. This will be my primary method of updating you. Please check our course page regularly to ensure you do not miss out on important information or announcements.
- **Email:** Feel free to email if you have any questions or concerns. Please ensure that all communication for this course is through your mcmaster.ca email. If you do not hear back from me within 3 working days, feel free to re-send your email with a friendly reminder.

## CLASS STRUCTURE/SCHEDULE/SESSION TOPICS

Date	Topic
Week 1 - May 2	Introduction: What are Refugees and Displaced People? - The Early Years
Week 1 - May 5	Canada: National History of the Refugee Guest Speaker: A United Nations Expert
Week 2 – May 9	Recent Waves of Global and Internal Displacements Guest Speaker: McMaster Academic SUBMISSION: Questions for the guest speaker must be submitted by 11.59pm on May 7
Week 2 – May 12	Trafficking of Refugee Children & Women along with Sexual Harassment Guest Speaker: McMaster Graduate NOTE: Presentation video is due May 15 SUBMISSION: Questions must be submitted by 11.59pm on May 10
Week 3 – May 16	Hardships and Uncertainties along the Journey Guest Speaker: Economist SUBMISSION: Questions must be submitted by 11.59pm on May 14
Week 3 - May 19	Life in the Refugee Camp Guest Speaker: Guest with experience on the refugee journey SUBMISSION: Questions must be submitted by 11.59pm on May 17
Week 4 - May 23	Applying for Asylum, Becoming Refugees, and Settlement The Canadian Citizenship Test Guest Speaker: Settlement Specialist at YMCA Employment & Immigrant Service NOTE: Guest reflection is due May 24 SUBMISSION: Questions must be submitted by 11.59pm on May 21
Week 4 – May 26	Surprise Activity (not being marked): Concluding with a New Medium NOTE: Assignment on the Canadian Citizenship Test is due May 28

## COURSE MATERIALS AND RESOURCES

All required readings and course materials are available on Avenue to Learn, under the corresponding weekly module.

## ASSESSMENT AND COURSE DELIVERABLES

Please note that this is a graded 3-unit course.

There is no exam for INSPIRE 3I13 – Multidisciplinary Inquiry

Assessment Type	% Total	Due Date	Brief Explanation
Presentation Video	25 %	May 15 (Monday) by 11:59pm, EST	Students will record a 5 - 10 minute video of their presentation and upload it to Avenue to Learn (to be viewed by only the instructor). The video should include presentation slides and audio of the student presenting; showing yourself is optional / not required. Students are free to choose from a list of topics (to be shared).
Discussion Questions for Each Lecture	25 %	May 7 – 21 by 11.59pm, EST: two days before each lecture  (For example, the first submission will be for the lecture/Q&A on May 9, and must be submitted by midnight May 7)	Guest talks will be uploaded to Avenue under Contents - couple of days in advance of the lecture. Upon watching the video, students will submit two questions regarding the speaker's talk. There will be a Q&A session with the speaker over Zoom (during class time), where they will be answering your questions.  A total of 5 submissions are required, due: May 7, 10, 14, 17, 21
Guest Reflection	25%	May 24 (Wednesday) by 11:59pm, EST	Students will choose two of the in-class guest speakers and critically reflect on their talk. They are expected to draw parallels between the two talks. The reflection should be between 500 – 750 words.
Assignment on the Canadian Citizenship Test	25 %	May 28 (Sunday) by 11:59pm, EST	Every student will be assigned a section of the Canadian Citizenship Study Guide (about 10 pages maximum). They are expected to write an analysis on their section regarding its strengths, weaknesses, parts for emphasis, sources of concern, and suggested changes/additions. The paper should be between 750-1000 words.

## ASSIGNMENT DEADLINES AND MISSED/LATE WORK

Assignment Deadlines & Missed/Late Work: Students are expected to hand in all assignments on the specified due dates. Late submissions will be subject to a penalty of 5% per day (including weekend days). No assignments will be accepted after May 29. Given that some course assignments require electronic submission, you should familiarize yourself with the Avenue to Learn Assignment in advance of the deadlines and ask for assistance, as necessary. Problems with electronic submission will not be accepted as an excuse for lateness.

## POLICY ON MISSED WORK, EXTENSIONS, AND LATE PENALTIES

Standard McMaster policies pertaining to missed work (e.g., MSAFs) will apply. Understanding this, extensions and late penalties will be considered and addressed on a case-by-case basis. See below regarding academic accommodations, missed work, and related issues.

## VIRTUAL COURSE DELIVERY

**To follow and participate in virtual classes it is expected that you have reliable access to the following:**

- A computer that meets the performance requirements [found here](#).
- An internet connection that is fast enough to stream video.
- Computer accessories that enable class participation, such as a microphone, speakers and webcam when needed.

If you think that you will not be able to meet these requirements, please contact [uts@mcmaster.ca](mailto:uts@mcmaster.ca) as soon as you can. Please visit the [Technology Resources for Students page](#) for detailed requirements. If you use assistive technology or believe that our platforms might be a barrier to participating, please contact [Student Accessibility Services](#), [sas@mcmaster.ca](mailto:sas@mcmaster.ca), for support.

## E-MAIL POLICY

E-mails must originate from a valid McMaster account, and be sent to the instructor's McMaster email. Please do not use the Avenue messaging function. You must use your McMaster email account to message the instructor. Any email originating from another provider will be deleted (we cannot confirm that the email has come from you).

## STUDENTS WITH ACCOMMODATIONS (SAS)

Please discuss your accommodations with the instructor early in the term so that accommodations can be in place before they are needed.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COURSE POLICIES

Your registration and continuous participation to the various learning activities of *INSPIRE 3EL3* will be considered to be an implicit acknowledgement of the course policies outlined above, or

of any other that may be announced during lecture or through other communication vehicles. It is your responsibility to read this course outline, to familiarize yourself with the course policies and to act accordingly. Lack of awareness of the course policies cannot be invoked at any point during this course for failure to meet them. It is your responsibility to ask for clarification on any policies that you do not understand. The instructor reserves the right to modify elements of the course and will notify students accordingly.

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity. It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty.

Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: "Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty"), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, located at <https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/university-policies-procedures-guidelines/>

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

- Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one's own or for which other credit has been obtained.
- Improper collaboration in group work.
- Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

## AUTHENTICITY / PLAGIARISM DETECTION

Some courses may use a web-based service (Turnitin.com) to reveal authenticity and ownership of student submitted work. For courses using such software, students will be expected to submit their work electronically either directly to Turnitin.com or via an online learning platform (e.g. A2L, etc.) using plagiarism detection (a service supported by Turnitin.com) so it can be checked for academic dishonesty.

Students who do not wish their work to be submitted through the plagiarism detection software must inform the Instructor before the assignment is due. No penalty will be assigned to a student who does not submit work to the plagiarism detection software. All submitted work is subject to normal verification that standards of academic integrity have been upheld (e.g., online search, other software, etc.). For more details about McMaster's use of Turnitin.com please go to [www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity](http://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity).

## COURSES WITH AN ONLINE ELEMENT

Some courses may use online elements (e.g. email, Avenue to Learn (A2L), LearnLink, web pages, capa, Moodle, ThinkingCap, etc.). Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of a course using these elements, private information such as first and last names, usernames for the McMaster email accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in a course that uses online elements will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure, please discuss this with the course instructor.

## ONLINE PROCTORING

Some courses may use online proctoring software for tests and exams. This software may require students to turn on their video camera, present identification, monitor and record their computer activities, and/or lock/restrict their browser or other applications/software during tests or exams. This software may be required to be installed before the test/exam begins.

## CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS

As a McMaster student, you have the right to experience, and the responsibility to demonstrate, respectful and dignified interactions within all of our living, learning and working communities. These expectations are described in the Code of Student Rights & Responsibilities (the “Code”). All students share the responsibility of maintaining a positive environment for the academic and personal growth of all McMaster community members, whether in person or online.

It is essential that students be mindful of their interactions online, as the Code remains in effect in virtual learning environments. The Code applies to any interactions that adversely affect, disrupt, or interfere with reasonable participation in University activities. Student disruptions or behaviours that interfere with university functions on online platforms (e.g. use of Avenue 2 Learn, WebEx or Zoom for delivery), will be taken very seriously and will be investigated. Outcomes may include restriction or removal of the involved students’ access to these platforms.

## ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students with disabilities who require academic accommodation must contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) at 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or sas@mcmaster.ca to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. For further information, consult McMaster University’s Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities Policy.

## REQUESTS FOR RELIEF FOR MISSED ACADEMIC TERM WORK

McMaster Student Absence Form (MSAF): In the event of an absence for medical or other reasons, students should review and follow the Academic Regulation in the Undergraduate Calendar “Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work”.

## ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION FOR RELIGIOUS, INDIGENOUS OR SPIRITUAL OBSERVANCES (RISO)

Students requiring academic accommodation based on religious, indigenous or spiritual observances should follow the procedures set out in the RISO policy. Students should submit their request to their Faculty Office normally within 10 working days of the beginning of term in which they anticipate a need for accommodation or to the Registrar's Office prior to their examinations. Students should also contact their instructors as soon as possible to make alternative arrangements for classes, assignments, and tests.

## COPYRIGHT AND RECORDING

Students are advised that lectures, demonstrations, performances, and any other course material provided by an instructor include copyright protected works. The Copyright Act and copyright law protect every original literary, dramatic, musical and artistic work, including lectures by University instructors.

The recording of lectures, tutorials, or other methods of instruction may occur during a course. Recording may be done by either the instructor for the purpose of authorized distribution, or by a student for the purpose of personal study. Students should be aware that their voice and/or image may be recorded by others during the class. Please speak with the instructor if this is a concern for you.

## EXTREME CIRCUMSTANCES

The University reserves the right to change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances (e.g., severe weather, labour disruptions, etc.). Changes will be communicated through regular McMaster communication channels, such as McMaster Daily News, A2L and/or McMaster email.