C LIT 323 A: Studies In The Literature Of Emerging Nations
Narratives of Exile and Displacement

Meeting Time: MW 3:30pm - 5:20pm

Location: MGH 254

SLN: 11846

Instructor: Norma Kaminsky
View profile

Additional Details:
The 2015 migrant crisis in Europe is the most recent and visible example of massive geographical displacement of human populations. Yet the phenomenon of voluntary and involuntary migration is not new. War, human rights abuses, economic hardship, and political upheaval force individuals and entire communities to migrate to places where their lives are not threatened. While the study of displacement has typically been taken up by political scientists, sociologists, and historians, fictional literature also contributes to sharing and understanding the experience of geographical dislocation. This course will examine cases of migration and exile from North Africa, Southern Africa, and Latin America, as portrayed in novels, short stories, and memoires. We will discuss the historical background of each case in order to situate the literary work; we will also practice literary analysis and discover how works of literary are different from those produced by other disciplines, how extra-textual information helps to achieve a richer understanding of a literary text, and, conversely, how fictional works enrich our understanding of historical and social facts.

Catalog Description:
Novels and short stories, from Africa, the Middle East, and South Asia. Discusses relationship of Western literary genres to an oral literary tradition, as well as issues like colonialism, gender relations, narrative technique, native and non-native languages.
Department Requirements Met:
Literature Core

GE Requirements Met:
Diversity (DIV)
Visual, Literary, and Performing Arts (VLPA)

Status: Active

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