

TERM: Spring 2026

COURSE NUMBER & CATEGORY: ENGL 3600: Race, Intersectionality, and Power

COURSE TITLE: Narratives of Migration

SECTION TIMES/DAYS: MW 11:50 am – 1:30 pm

INSTRUCTOR: Rubén Martínez

COURSE DESCRIPTION/PRINCIPAL TOPICS:

Los Angeles has become the focus of militarized urban immigration enforcement action, with severe impacts on vast swathes of the region, “Narratives of Migration” investigates human migration through the experiences of diasporic communities in the United States, focusing on how they are represented and how they represent themselves through literature, art media and other imaginative acts. The central issue of the course is an examination of the relation between who is doing the gazing and who is being gazed upon. Among the communities explored are Central Americans in Los Angeles; Mexicans, who make up the vast majority of the local immigrant population; and the strong “Pacific Rim” presence, among them Koreans, Chinese and Japanese. We also look at the classic “push and pull” factors that characterize international migration and the “transnational” experiences of migrant communities.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Develop critical skills in the ethics of representation of migrant communities.

Strategies for creating an “ethics of care” in representing migrant communities.

Knowledge of the history and culture of diasporic populations in the Los Angeles region.

Familiarity with discourses of indigeneity.

Experience of literary, cinematic and other popular texts representing migrant communities.

CLASS LEVEL RESTRICTION:

Junior/Senior Only

RECOMMENDED/PREREQUISITES:

N/A

COURSE ATTRIBUTES:

OLD CURRICULUM

- ☐ GENRES (LD)
- ☐ HISTORIES (LD)
- ☐ AUTHORS (UD)
- ☐ CRITICAL/THEORETICAL (UD)
- ☒ COMPARATIVE (UD)
- ☐ CREATIVE/ARTISTRY

CORE ATTRIBUTES:

N/A

NEW CURRICULUM

- ☐ DISCIPLINARY RESEARCH (LD)
- ☐ HISTORY OF LIT, MEDIA, AND CULTURE (LD)
- ☐ READING AND WRITING GENRES (LD)
- ☐ THEORY, POWER, AND RHETORIC (LD)
- ☐ PRE-1800 (UD)
- ☐ CREATIVE ARTISTRY (UD)
- ☒ RACE, INTERSECTIONALITY, AND POWER (UD)
- ☐ UPPER-DIVISION ELECTIVE (UD)
- ☐ 5000-LEVEL SEMINAR (UD)