

**EURR 5307 / MGDS 5202**  
**War and Displacement**  
**Wednesdays 6:05 p.m. – 8:55 p.m.**  
**ONLINE COURSE**

**I     General Information**

Instructor:  
Office hours (virtual: Zoom®; in-person: by special request)  
Email:

Dr. Martin Geiger  
Mondays 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.  
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**II     Course Description**

The course introduces students to the study of conflict/war-induced displacement and refugee movements and discusses historic and ongoing wars/conflicts and processes of (protracted) internal and international displacement. We will study the situation of different groups of refugees and displaced populations, the nature of their displacement, i.e., the conflicts and wars causing their displacement, and the responses of states, non-state and inter-state actors, including humanitarian efforts, international assistance, and refugee resettlement.

This course is conceptualized as a fully online course providing students with the opportunity to progress at their own speed (asynchronous online content) combined with a select number of synchronous online class meetings and full and small group meetings. Students will first acquire relevant knowledge and understanding with the help of three online modules (I-III), available on Carleton's Brightspace platform, and in the following, be asked to research a topic assigned to them and present their research findings finally at plenary online class meetings towards the end of the term. Their research work will result in final papers to be submitted at the end of the term (take-home papers).

**III    Course Format**

Fully online, based on a mix of synchronous Zoom® lectures with asynchronous e-learning modules (using Brightspace®; for more details see VIII).

**IV     Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the course, students will be familiar with basic concepts and theories related to the study of refugees and other displaced populations, conflict-related situations of forced migration/displacement, and state and global responses to refugees and displacement. They will be able to understand the central debates, issues, and challenges related to the relevance and importance of specialized international organizations (e.g., UNHCR, IOM), (international) non-governmental organizations, and other entities. The assignments and discussions in our course will enable students to understand different cases of displacement and evaluate the response of states and international agencies to refugees and situations of conflict and war and

conflict- induced (protracted) displacement. Students will be able to justify their position with respect to refugee rights, state and international responsibilities, evolving modes of global governance and particular challenges in world politics; the relationship between refugee groups, international humanitarian efforts, and state sovereignty; specific policy challenges (e.g., internal displacement, protracted displacement, smuggling and trafficking of refugees); and evolving and possible future governance structures and global responses beyond the state. This course will enable students to participate in academic and policy-oriented debates about refugees, internal and international displacement, conflicts and wars, the contexts and outcomes of state-led, civil-society-led, refugee-led, and international humanitarian efforts, and the current state and possible future(s) of global governance (e.g., UN Global Compact for Refugees). In addition, by the end of this course, students will have acquired advanced and comprehensive research skills necessary to conduct academic research effectively and successfully, including their future master's or doctoral thesis projects.

## **V Textbook and Reading Material – Free of Charge through Brightspace course page**

Students are not required to purchase any reading or learning materials for this course. All readings will be provided on Brightspace®, and will be accessible, free of charge, from our course page (including through 'Ares' links provided by Carleton library services). Required readings are included in the two mandatory e-learning modules and in the syllabus (see VIII).

## **VI Evaluation (at a glance) (all times are Ottawa times)**

Online quiz I (covering module I)	10%	October 8 (by 9:00 p.m.)
Annotated research bibliography	15%	October 12 (by 11:59 p.m.)
Online quiz II (covering modules I and II)	15%	November 5 (by 9:00 pm)
Individual research presentation	20%	November and early December (tbc)
Research paper (take-home)	30%	December 20 (by 11:59 pm)
Participation & Attendance	10%	all synchronous class meetings

## **VII Assignment: General Policies and Evaluation in Detail**

**In this class, the use of artificial intelligence, e.g., by using ChatGPT, is generally prohibited**, and not permitted for any of our class assignments. Furthermore, it is not permitted that students submit work or substantial parts of assignments previously submitted to other courses.

**The University takes instructional offences (including plagiarism) very seriously.** Please make sure that you are familiar with the regulations regarding instructional offences, which are outlined in the Undergraduate Calendar. It is also not acceptable to submit the same assignment in two or more different courses. All assignments in this class are individual assignments.

**Classroom teaching and e-learning activities, including lectures, discussions, presentations, etc., by both instructors and students, are copyright protected and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s).** All course materials, including PowerPoint presentations, outlines, and other materials, are protected by copyright and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s). Students registered in the course may take

notes and make copies of course materials for their own educational use only. Students are not permitted to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly for commercial or non-commercial purposes without express written consent from the copyright holder(s).

**To pass this course**, each student must access the Brightspace® page for this class and complete two (2) mandatory learning modules (see VIII). Completion of both modules (please respect set deadlines for each module) will be confirmed online.

**Late submissions** will be subject to a penalty of 2.5% of the assignment grade per 24 hours (not including weekends, or public or University holidays). Assignments will not be accepted later than seven business days after the due date. Learning modules must be completed by the deadline stated, see VIII.

**Exceptions to these regulations** will only be made for academic accommodations, as outlined below, or for medical or personal emergencies substantiated by official documentation. If you anticipate any problems, please approach the instructor as soon as you can and well in advance of the respective assignment.

**Standing in a course** is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by an instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

**Respect in the classroom:** All students are expected to treat all members of the course with respect and understanding at all times. Students are reminded that all members of the Carleton University community have a right to a learning, teaching, working and living environment that is free of discrimination and harassment as prohibited under the Ontario Human Rights Code. Carleton University aims to create a climate of mutual respect and understanding of the dignity and worth of each University Community member. All students are advised to read and understand Carleton University policies that provide details on this responsibility and the consequences of not upholding these standards:

(1) Human Rights Policy: <https://carleton.ca/secretariat/wp-content/uploads/Human-Rights-Policy-and-Procedures-2025.pdf>

(2) Student Rights and Responsibilities Policy: <https://carleton.ca/secretariat/wp-content/uploads/Students-Rights-and-Responsibilities-Policy.pdf>

### **Assignments 1 and 3, Online Quizzes I and II, October 8 (10%) and November 5 (15%)**

Our two asynchronous online modules, their content, and related readings are connected to two online quizzes. Students must take these quizzes to complete all course requirements. Students who do not take the mandatory online quizzes or fail to complete the required course modules will fail the course. Online quiz I must be taken during the regular class time on October 1 (to be completed by 9 p.m.) and can only be taken by students after completing module I. Online quiz II must be taken during the regular class time on November 5 (to be completed by 9 p.m.) and can only be taken by students after completing modules I and II. Quiz I and quiz II will consist of a mix of multiple choice and short written answer questions. Quiz I draws on content conveyed in course module I, while quiz II will draw on content conveyed in both course modules (course modules I and II).

### **Assignment 2, Annotated research bibliography, October 12 (15%)**

At the beginning of the course/term, each student will be assigned an individual research topic and asked to conduct extensive literature research covering academic and non-academic sources. By October 12 (cut-off: 11:59 p.m.), each student must submit a detailed annotated

research bibliography listing at least 10 relevant sources (majority of academic sources). Each source (cited correctly using a standard bibliographic citation style of the student's choosing) must be accompanied by a 2-3 sentence explanation that speaks to the source's relevance for the student's research project. The annotated research bibliography must be submitted online (to Brightspace) as a PDF file. Students are not allowed to work in groups on this assignment; they will receive feedback and a grade for this assignment five business days after submitting their written assignment.

#### **Assignment 4, Individual research presentation, November and December (tbc) (20%)**

Our course concludes with synchronous online class meetings (see *VIII*) featuring individual student presentations. Each student will present on the topic that was assigned to them at the beginning of the course, and based on their topic, their presentation will take place either during November or at the last class meeting in December during our regular online class time (6:05 pm. - 8:55 p.m.). Students are allowed to use PowerPoint but encouraged to consider different presentation formats/tools. The length allocated to each student presentation depends on the overall enrolment and will be communicated to students at the beginning of the term. In addition, each student will be asked to name one designated reading for the other students to read ahead of the relevant presentation and class meeting, making them familiar with the topic and providing them with preliminary understanding and knowledge about it. Students must report their suggested reading to the course instructor before/by November 5.

#### **Assignment 5, Research paper (take-home), December 20 (30%)**

On December 20 (due, online, no later than 11:59 p.m.), each student needs to submit a full research paper ("case study") on the topic assigned to them at the beginning of the term. Instructions for preparing this assignment will be provided during the term. The final paper requires advanced, extensive research, including independent research based on academic sources and other relevant material. Each research paper must be saved and submitted to our Brightspace page online, in PDF format. The final research paper should be max. 5,000 words long (including footnotes/endnotes). The final paper will be assessed and graded based on the following criteria: Argumentation, Organization, and Logic (Is the paper and case presented logically and convincingly?); Research and Use of Evidence (Is the case study based on a comprehensive literature review and does it make effective use of available research sources? Does the paper include a minimum of 15 sources (majority academic sources)? Does the paper have proper footnotes/endnotes and bibliographic citations?); Communication (Is the case study structured and written as clearly and concisely as possible?). The paper should also be free of spelling and grammatical errors. Case studies that do not address the topic assigned to the student at the beginning of the term will receive a "fail" grade. The case study must be based on the student's own intellectual work; group work with other students is prohibited.

#### **Participation (and attendance) (10%), taken during all synchronous class meetings**

Students will be evaluated on the basis of their regular attendance of synchronous class meetings, their active, constant, informed and thoughtful participation in these meetings, and the evidence of their preparation for these discussions. Students are expected to do all the readings and come prepared to each meeting. Not actively contributing to the meeting, missing meetings, late arrivals and early departures will cause students to lose marks or not pass the course. Students that cannot attend one or more synchronous class meetings for valid reasons (e.g., medical reasons) need to provide the instructor with documentation that justifies their absence (e.g., doctor's note, self-declaration).

## **VIII Course schedule**

### **September 3, 2025**

- No class meeting  
Students invited to start with background readings, provided on Brightspace

#### **Synchronous online class**

### **September 10 (6:05 p.m. - 8:55 p.m., Zoom)**

- Course Overview and Start on Research Tasks
- Mandatory online class

#### **Asynchronous online content (learning module on Brightspace)**

### **Online learning module I (opens September 3; closes October 8)**

- Foundations of migration and refugee studies
- Key concepts and terminologies
- Statistics related to migration and displacement
- Instructions for class assignments, e.g., annotated research bibliography
- Mandatory readings included in course module I accessible through Brightspace
- Students must take **quiz I** by October 1 (11:59 p.m., Ottawa) at the latest

#### **Synchronous online class**

### **October 8 (6:05 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., Zoom)**

- Recap learning module I and quiz
- Students that have successfully passed module I, can take quiz I during remainder of class time.
- Last instructions for annotated research bibliography (due: October 12)
- Guidance on preparing individual research presentations and final paper

#### **October 8**

Students must complete quiz I (learning module I) by 9:00 p.m., Ottawa

#### **Asynchronous online content (learning module on Brightspace)**

### **Online learning module II (opens October 8; closes November 5)**

- Case studies/examples: war and conflict – forced displacement
- International humanitarian and refugee law; global politics on refugees and displacement
- Durable solutions
- Instructions for class assignments, e.g., individual research presentations, final paper
- Students must take **quiz II** (covering modules I and II) by November 5 (11:59 p.m., Ottawa) at the latest

#### **October 12**

Annotated research bibliography is due (online submission, by 11:59 p.m., Ottawa)

### **November 5**

Students must complete quiz II (covering modules I and II) by 9:00 p.m., Ottawa  
Students required to provide instructor with a reading related to their research

### **Synchronous online classes**

#### **November 12**

- Recap module II and quiz II
- Student research presentations I
- Mandatory background readings provided by presenters

#### **November 19**

- Student research presentations II
- Mandatory background readings provided by presenters

#### **November 26**

- Student research presentations III (tbc)
- Mandatory background readings provided by presenters

#### **December 3**

- Student research presentations IV (tbc)
- Mandatory background readings provided by presenters

### **December 20, 2025**

Take-home paper is due (online submission, by 11:59 p.m., Ottawa)

## **Appendix**

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### **Student Mental Health**

As a university student, you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus to support you. For more information, please consult <https://wellness.carleton.ca/>. Here is a list that may be helpful:

#### ***Emergency Resources ([on and off campus](#)):***

- Crisis/Urgent Counselling Support: 613-520-6674 (Mon-Fri, 8:30-4:30)
- Suicide Crisis Helpline: call or text 9-8-8, 24hrs a day, 7 days a week
- For immediate danger or urgent medical support: call 9-1-1
- **Carleton Resources:**
  - Mental Health and Wellbeing: <https://carleton.ca/wellness/>
  - Health & Counselling Services: <https://carleton.ca/health/>
  - Paul Menton Centre: <https://carleton.ca/pmc/>
  - Academic Advising Centre (AAC): <https://carleton.ca/academicadvising/>
  - Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS): <https://carleton.ca/csas/>
  - Equity & Inclusivity Communities: <https://carleton.ca/equity/>

- **Off Campus Resources:**

- Distress Centre of Ottawa and Region: (613) 238-3311 or TEXT: 343-306-5550, <https://www.dcottawa.on.ca/>
- Mental Health Crisis Service: (613) 722-6914, 1-866-996-0991, <http://www.crisisline.ca/>
- Good2Talk: 1-866-925-5454, <https://good2talk.ca/>
- The Walk-In Counselling Clinic: <https://walkincounselling.com>

## **Requests for Academic Accommodation**

Carleton is committed to providing academic accessibility for all individuals. You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. The accommodation request processes, including information about the *Academic Consideration Policy for Students in Medical and Other Extenuating Circumstances*, are outlined on the Academic Accommodations website ([students.carleton.ca/course-outline](https://students.carleton.ca/course-outline)).

## **Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity is an essential element of a productive and successful career as a student. Carleton's [Academic Integrity Policy](#) addresses academic integrity violations, including plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, misrepresentation, impersonation, withholding of records, obstruction/interference, disruption of instruction or examinations, improper access to and/or dissemination of information, or violation of test and examination rules. Students are required to familiarize themselves with the university's academic integrity rules.

### ***Plagiarism***

The Academic Integrity Policy defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This includes reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source. Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include, but are not limited to: books, articles, papers, websites, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, art works, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, material on the internet and/or conversations.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- Any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else;
- Using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, paraphrased material, algorithms, formulae, scientific or mathematical concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- Using another’s data or research findings without appropriate acknowledgement;
- Submitting a computer program developed in whole or in part by someone else, with or without modifications, as one’s own; and
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s work and/or failing to use quotations marks.

## ***Use of Artificial Intelligence***

Unless explicitly permitted by the instructor in a particular course, any use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools to produce assessed content (e.g., text, code, equations, image, summary, video, etc.) is considered a violation of academic integrity standards.

## ***Procedures in Cases of Suspected Violations***

Violations of the Academic Integrity Policy are serious offences which cannot be resolved directly with the course's instructor. When an instructor suspects a violation of the Academic Integrity Policy, the Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous process for academic integrity allegations, including reviewing documents and interviewing the student. Penalties for violations may include a final grade of "F" for the course. . More information on the University's Academic Integrity Policy can be found at: <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>.

## **Intellectual property**

Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).

Permissibility of submitting substantially the same piece of work more than once for academic credit.

If group or collaborative work is expected or allowed, provide a clear and specific description of how and to what extent you consider collaboration to be acceptable or appropriate, especially in the completion of written assignments.

## **Submission and Return of Term Work**

Papers must be submitted directly to the instructor according to the instructions in the course outline. The departmental office will not accept assignments submitted in hard copy.

## **Grading**

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor, subject to the approval of the faculty Dean. Final standing in courses will be shown by alphabetical grades. The system of grades used, with corresponding grade points is:

Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale	Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale
90-100	A+	12	67-69	C+	6
85-89	A	11	63-66	C	5
80-84	A-	10	60-62	C-	4
77-79	B+	9	57-59	D+	3
73-76	B	8	53-56	D	2
70-72	B-	7	50-52	D-	1