Reading Refugees, Reading Migration

An (Online) Orientation Course for College and University Teachers

The Calcutta Research Group (CRG) is organising its first online orientation course for individuals interested in teaching refugee and migration affairs. The course—Reading Refugees, Reading Migration—will be held from 17 July to 29 August, 2021. Classes will be held online during Saturdays and Sundays in the said period, from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. IST.

Our contemporary moment is marked by massive movements of people across international and local borders—setting up of refugee colonies, long treks of migrant workers and those forcibly displaced, movements across terrains as varied as deserts and seas, pandemic-induced closure of borders and loss of remittance from migrant workers. Migration and forced migration, therefore, encapsulate our present history. While Refugee and Migration Studies are established (and emerging) courses in various universities around the world, migration and forced migration are key components in different established disciplines: History, Demography, Geography, Political Science and International Relations, Anthropology, Literary and Cultural Studies, Economics, and many more.

The orientation course will elucidate the basic concepts and concerns of this interdisciplinary field of study, showcase new research, and address questions of methods. Taught by prominent scholars and practitioners of the discipline, it aspires to maintain a global outlook and provide holistic guidance in the intricacies of teaching this complex and vital subject.

While the course is primarily aimed at college and university teachers, there will also be participants from different walks of life, all of whom will join the course from different regions of the globe. Exceptional participants will be invited to a Teachers' Workshop expected to be held in December 2021.

The course, funded by the Institute for Human Sciences (IWM), Vienna, is a part of CRG's ongoing programme on Migration and Forced Migration Studies, supported by Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung, IWM, and several other universities and institutions in India.