Around the world, we are seeing a record number of people on the move, mostly due to extreme poverty, political insecurity, and hopelessness. This is significantly affecting regional and global peace and stability, and is increasing platforms for terrorism, sexual and gender-based violence, and human rights abuses. How are the people of God called to respond to these realities? Through a survey of recent situations of forced migration (e.g., Syria, Somalia, Ethiopia, and eastern Congo), refugee stories, and an examination of the role of UN agencies and international NGOs, we will explore themes of justice, human rights abuses, forgiveness, and resilience.

Upon the successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Explain major concepts regarding forced migration (including definitions, e.g., refugee, asylum-seeker, internally displaced person) and relate them to core themes (e.g., justice, human rights, ethnicity, identity).
2. Articulate key causes and consequences of forced migration.
3. Identify various missiological responses to forced migration, and consider their own vocation as individuals and church communities in responding to this issue in light of the gospel.

Day 1 Exile: Biblical History and Forced Migration Today
Day 2 Causes and Consequences: Case Studies from Syria and Africa
Day 3 Causes and Consequences: Global Insecurity and Human Security
Day 4 Field Visit to Kinbrace Society
Day 5 Christian Response: Personal and Church Vocations

Required Texts

All prices subject to change without notice. The Regent College Bookstore offers a 20% discount on regularly priced books (some exceptions may apply).

Special Note
There will be an offsite visit to Kinbrace, a local refugee housing and support ministry in east Vancouver. Students will have the choice to attend on either Thursday afternoon, 1:00-4:00 pm, or evening, 6:30-9:30 pm. More details and sign up will be forthcoming on the first day of class.