

Migrants, Refugees, and Housing

University of Oregon Portland – Urban Architecture

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The United Nations estimates that there are about 250 million migrants in the world, of which more than 65 million people are refugees (United Nations, 2015). This means that one in every 113 people alive today are now displaced by war, violence, and persecution (UNHCR, 2017). Refugee arrivals in Europe continue at crisis levels, particularly in Germany, where more than 435,000 asylum seekers arrived in the first half of 2016 alone (UNHCR, 2016). These forced migrants joined the nearly one million earlier arrivals to Germany in 2015, most still in limbo awaiting asylum approval or appeals. In the United States and an ever-growing number of countries, migration issues are divisive and at the fore of public debate and protest. How the world responds to this global crisis will arguably impact the trajectory of peace and well-being on this planet for generations to come.

The Portland Urban Architecture Research Lab (PUARL) has begun initial, preliminary research by developing a set of focal areas situated within the broader context of this international crisis. These focal topics are also referred to as building blocks within this larger study of refugee escape, assimilation, integration, and return to original home country. Current building blocks that are being studied include: urban morphology studies, building and typological studies, refugee legal frameworks, patterns and pattern languages for assimilation and integration of refugees, project languages for particular design and building projects, and lastly, case studies of cities towns and neighborhoods. Initial versions of this research were presented at the International PUARL Conference in San Francisco in October 2016, and other conferences in Europe in 2017.

In this seminar we will investigate the refugee crisis as a new world-wide phenomenon that seems to be a relevant aspect of the new global dynamics with its complexity, uncertainty and emerging new order. We will look at particular topics, themes, and clusters, that are relevant for life in this new context focusing on cluster 2 and 3:

1. **The Refugee Family; (draft available)**
2. **Welcome Place – Arrival City (Urban Morphology)**
3. **Housing, Living, and Live-Work; (Building Typology)**
4. **Economic Integration: Working and Work-learning;**
5. **Learning and Schooling;**
6. **Physical and Mental Health;**
7. **Recreation and Clubs;**
8. **Multi Cultures and Religions;**
9. **Modern Sustainable Transportation and Communication;**
10. **Taking Care and Actual Personal Help**
11. **Special:The Refugee Flight Patterns (RPL Sequence)**
12. **Migrants at the US-Mexican Border**

TERM TASK: Students will each work on one to two particular patterns, and together as a group we will develop a Pattern Language for one of the clusters above or for a new cluster defined by the students in the process of exploration.

ARCH 4/507 PUARL Research Seminar Spring of 2018 For more information, please check our refugee website: <https://refugee.uoregon.edu/>. Students are invited to present their work at the PUARL

conference in Portland, October 26-28, 2018: <https://blogs.uoregon.edu/puarl2018/>



Refugees at the Hungarian Border



Visiting Refugees