

ASSIGNMENT

Refugee Narratives and the Rhetorics of Global Mobility

Final Project Guidelines

Your final project asks you to do some outside research and find representations of refugee experience that you can analyze in relation to the many ideas that we have talked about this semester.

Like the first two papers, you must use some sort of theoretical approach and/or reading strategy to help you analyze these representations. This time, though, you need to examine representations beyond the Lost Boys of Sudan. You might examine Hmong experiences in Wisconsin, or other populations in Kakuma refugee camp, the Lost *Girls* of Sudan, Hurricane Katrina survivors, etc. Essays, stories, novels, poetry, photographs, comics, music, film – all are possibilities for this project. Be creative with the representations you use, but make sure to apply the ideas from class directly to these examples. Remember to show evidence through direct quotation, images, etc. You may analyze these representations *in relation to* the stories of the Lost Boys, but your analysis should focus on the representations you found for this project and on creating new ideas that can add to what we discussed in class.

The emphasis on reflection here is much greater than in the previous essays. As you read, write, and analyze according to the above suggestions, I want you to also consider and respond to the following questions:

What responsibility does the reader/viewer have when consuming stories of refugee experience? How have you tried to account for this responsibility in your own writing? What positions of privilege do you have as a reader and writer in this class in relation to the people, cultures, and experiences that you are writing about? If your impulse is to compare your life to someone else's, then why is that? If your impulse is to feel sympathy, pity, empathy toward the people in these stories, then why, and more importantly, where do these impulses come from?

These are difficult questions to answer, but it is what I will be looking at most closely as I read your final project.