

12.01.2021
14:00-17.00 PM
(CET)



The Politics of Inhabitation

Nasser Abourahme | Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies,
New York University, NY, US

Ph.D Course

The camp: researching
violence, exclusion and
temporariness

Prof. Camillo Boano

To join the class:

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Zoom link

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88951454077)

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Password 333941

The figure of the camp towers over our present. Our planners find it indispensable. Our political grammar finds it unavoidable. Our very conceptions of “the city,” and its once stable inside/outside demarcations, find its challenge insuperable. Camps are no longer temporary sites of emergency management. They are a global logic of government, an enduring colonial technology at the heart of the response to the climate/border crisis. Taking up the example of the Palestinian refugee camp, this article argues that camps no longer teach us anything about legal exceptions; rather they underline the politics of inhabitation. Camps enact the collapse of the separation between life and politics by making the very fact of inhabitation in itself the basis of both political control and contestation.

Nasser Abourahme is a Faculty Fellow at the Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies at NYU, New York, where he works between political geography and colonial studies. He is the author of several important publications on camps in *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East*, *City*, *IJURR*, and *Public Culture*.



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