

SOCIAL JUSTICE AND THE MEDIA:

A GERMAN STUDIES LECTURE SERIES

FOURTH LECTURE



Refugees and Roma: The Politics of Welcome and Hospitality

Monday, March 27, 4:00 PM

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The dramatic rise in numbers of refugees entering Germany from 2014 to 2016 has elicited worldwide attention, even as the “welcome culture” seen as enabling this influx has already been deemed a failure in much of the English-language and German-language press.

Similarly, recent coverage about the conditions facing European Roma often relies on a similar language of “welcome” and “helping.” In her talk, Professor Weber argues that expectations of refugee gratitude and likeability foreclose an acknowledgement of racism through a politics of good feeling. When refugees and Roma are deemed ungrateful or unresponsive to hospitality and welcome, the closing of borders is seen as legitimate.



BEVERLY WEBER is an associate professor of German Studies and Jewish Studies at the University of Colorado Boulder. Her first book, *Violence and Gender in the “New” Europe: Islam in German Culture*, examines how current thinking about Islam and gender violence prohibits the intellectual inquiry necessary to act against a range of forms of violence.

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