The 2017 Camden Conference, “Refugees and Global Migration: Humanity’s Crisis”, will be presented live from the Camden Opera House, and live-streamed to the Strand Theatre in Rockland, the University of Maine Hutchinson Center in Belfast, and University of Southern Maine Lee Auditorium in Portland, February 17-19, 2017.

Keynote Conference Speaker: Jeanne Bourgault (Moderator) is President and CEO of Internews, an organization that focuses on the need for accurate information amid crises. In countries such as Afghanistan, Haiti and South Sudan, Internews provides access to news for people affected by wars and natural disasters. Before joining Internews in 2001, Ms. Bourgault worked in countries undergoing dramatic shifts in media and political landscapes. She served as a strategic advisor for media development programs in post-war Kosovo, as well as manager of community development projects in Serbia and Montenegro. She served for six years with the U.S. Agency for International Development, including three years at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow where she managed a $250 million portfolio of democracy assistance and educational exchange programs through a period of intense democratic transition. Ms. Bourgault serves on the Media, Entertainment, and Information Industries Steering Committee for the World Economic Forum, the Steering Committee of the Global Forum for Media Development, and World Learning’s Global Advisory Council. She earned a Master of Arts in International Studies and a Master’s in Public Affairs at the University of Washington. She commutes to projects around the world from her family’s home in Blue Hill, Maine.

This course accompanies the 2017 Camden Conference of the same theme. Some 60 million people are currently displaced, more than at any other time in history. Many different factors have caused this unprecedented global surge in migration. Some states have collapsed, while others suffer from protracted civil war. The population is growing rapidly in much of Africa, the Middle East, and Central America, while traditional employment is declining and climate change is making life even harder for the most vulnerable peoples. This course will look at a wide range of historical, political, and economic issues, asking such questions as, how can we best deal with the failed states and terrorist organizations that are both cause and effect of many mass migrations? To what extent are race, ethnicity, and religion causing regional dislocation? What is the impact on countries such as Turkey and Germany, which have absorbed great numbers of new immigrants, and how might the existing world order be altered by these challenges? Finally, as a country built by immigrants, how should the United States respond?

There are no prerequisites and instructor permission is not required for the undergraduate courses.

Course designators:
Undergraduate Level: POS 369, HON 338, INA 201, PAX 398, UST 400
Graduate Level: PAX 598, POS 596, SPI 590

Students seeking graduate credit should register for POS 596 or SPI 590 and consult with Paul Holman, paul.holman@umit.maine.edu; 207.236.7087 regarding course requirements.

Faculty:
Anna Welch, Professor, University of Maine Law School
Stefano Tijerina, Professor, Maine Business School
Paul Holman, Professor, Department of Political Science
Seth Singleton, Professor, Department of Political Science

To register, call the Division of Lifelong Learning 207.581.3143
For more information, call Theresa McMannus 207.581.4095
or visit dll.maine.edu

The University of Maine does not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, including transgender status and gender expression, national origin, citizenship status, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status in employment, education, and all other programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies: Director, Office of Equal Opportunity, 101 North Stevens Hall, 581.1216, oequinfo@umit.maine.edu.