

"Why don't refugees just come by plane?" -Historicizing Rapid Migration through New Media Works

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 2020

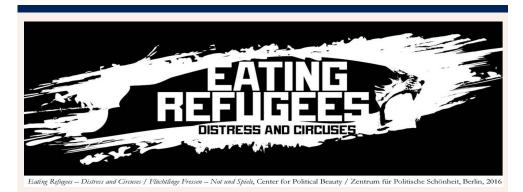
## LOCATION:

Student Union Memorial Center Agave Room

## TIME:

4:00 pm





Migration is an essential characteristic of humankind. And yet, one of the most ancient exercises of human freedom is presented as an issue. Why is that? Why does a person who quickly crosses a border encounter fear, judgment, or even persecution? This talk first contextualizes rapid migration within the sociopolitical parameters of nation-building in the twentieth century. Within a greater European and global context, it then focuses on select contemporary German artists and filmmakers whose projects offer a highly complex perspective on individuals officially identified as "refugees," "asylum seekers," and "illegals," ultimately compelling us to move past viewing rapid migration as a divisive reality, and towards a new kinship system of concepts for engaging with cross-border movements.

## DR. LJUDMILA BILKIĆ

Ljudmila Bilkić is Visiting Assistant Professor of German Studies at Kansas State University. She holds a B.A. in German and History of Art and Architecture from Middlebury College, and an M.A. and a Ph.D. in German Studies with a focus in Film from the University of Pittsburgh. Dr. Bilkić works at the intersections of refugee studies, critical geographies, postimperial biopolitics, and visual cultures. She is completing a manuscript that historicizes constructed notions of cross-border movement, specifically hyper-visuality, refugee camps, and networks of migrant communities as the new logic in contemporary globalization.