

## ENGL 4346: American Diasporas

America has long been a nation of diasporas, of immigrant communities who travel from their homelands and make new homes within our nation's borders. Formed under a variety of conditions—be it the slavery that brought Africans to America by force, the Manifest Destiny that drove Native Americans westward from their ancestral lands, or the religious freedom and economic possibilities that drew many in the hopes of finding a better life—these diasporic communities have their own stories to tell of America and what it means to be American.

In this course, we will engage with those stories. Reading novels like Toni Morrison's *Paradise*, Louise Erdrich's *Roundhouse*, and Mohsin Hamid's *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*, as well as selected theoretical texts on exile, nationalism, and American exceptionalism, we will explore how American diasporas challenge from within our notions and of what and who America is and should be.