## THE DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY PRESENTS

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## Monday, April 30, 2018 @ 3:00pm Social Sciences Building Room 107

Forced Displacement and Humanitarian Action: A Case Study with Syria Refugees
In the wake of the Syria crisis, we see numerous reports documenting the trauma, loss, and stress of
communities affected by war and forced displacement; a few also highlight evidence of resilience as
Syrian refugees rebuild their lives in new communities. In the Middle East region, the No Lost Generation
initiative is one example of a platform grouping together humanitarian programs focused on issues of
protection, wellbeing, and social cohesion. While interfacing with donors and the public, such programs
embrace a well-articulated narrative of risk and resilience, one in which notions of social justice and
human rights surface more or less explicitly. Over the past two years, I directed an research partnership
to engage interdisciplinary scholars with the No Lost Generation programming in Jordan. I helped to
assess a humanitarian program, evaluating how the impacts of stress can be measured over time and
what resilience means for young Syrian refugees and Jordanian hosts living side-by-side in communities
heavily impacted by the Syrian crisis. In this presentation, I examine how anthropologists can partner
with other scholars and humanitarians to engage in more critical discussions of fairness, dignity, and
accountability.