

SO 185
INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

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Course Description

This course will introduce students to some of the fundamental themes of international migration. Different types of migration will be defined and discussed, and the most dominant theories of international migration will be introduced. This course will incorporate case studies from different world regions, including Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean. Immigrant incorporation and integration into the receiving societies will also be discussed, particularly in reference to the ways in which race, class, gender, nationality, religion, and immigration status affect their assimilation. The course includes an overview of the immigration policies of the United States and European Union, as well as an analysis of the debates surrounding these policies. The relationships among migration, poverty, development, and globalization will be explored.

Course Goals

The main goals of the course are for students to:

- understand the major contemporary waves of international migration.
- understand the main types of international migrants, including refugees, asylum seekers, labor migrants, and undocumented migrants.
- explore migration from a regional context.
- understand some of the major debates surrounding international migration, including the immigration and emigration policies of developed and developing countries.
- study international migration from the perspectives of both the sending and receiving countries.

Course Requirements

1. Attendance and Participation (25% of final grade)
This is a seminar, which means that class time will involve much discussion. Attendance is mandatory. Active participation in all seminar discussions is required. Students are expected to have read the required material before class and arrive prepared for discussion.
2. Presentation of reading material (10% of final grade)
Each student will be required to present a summary and critique of reading materials. These will be assigned in class.
3. Reflection papers (20% of final grade)
Two reflection papers will be assigned, each worth 10%. These papers should be

- 2-3 pages in length, and should be critical reflections of the readings, discussions, and service experience, not summaries.
4. Research paper (30% of final grade)
Students will be required to write one research paper, 8-10 pages in length. The topics will be discussed in class. Due date TBA. **Late papers will not be accepted.**
 5. Research presentation (15% of final grade)
Students will be required to present the findings of their research paper to the class in an oral presentation. The allotted time will be 20 minutes each. Presentations should incorporate visuals such as PowerPoint, photographs, etc. Video clips may be used only if highly relevant, and should last no longer than 2 minutes.

Required Reading

1. Migration, Globalization, and Ethnic Relations: An Interdisciplinary Approach by Mobasher and Sadri
2. Illegal People: How Globalization Creates Migration and Criminalizes Immigrants by David Bacon

Supplementary articles will be available on Blackboard.

Course Outline & Schedule

January 20

Introductions and basics of international migration

January 27

Concepts and definitions of international migration and service learning

- Refugees and asylum seekers
- Economic migrants
- Undocumented migrants
- Human smuggling and trafficking
- Factors that lead to migration
- Networks and ethnic enclaves
- Theories of migration

Read: Migration, Globalization, and Ethnic Relations, chapters 1-5

February 3

Receiving Countries – Europe, North America, and Australia

- United States immigration policies and foreign policy
- Canadian immigration policies and the points system
- Australian immigration policies and 2013 changes

- The European Union and the Schengen Agreement
- Deportation
- Contemporary immigration debate

Read: Illegal People, Chapters 1-5

February 10

Global Refugee Crisis Part I

- Syria
- Europe
- Unaccompanied Minors
- Conflict in Africa

Read: Migration, Globalization, and Ethnic Relations, chapters 7-12

February 17

Global Refugee Crisis Part II

* First reflection paper due

February 24

Asia and Africa

- Internal migration within the continent
- Refugees
- Migration and AIDS in Africa
- African migration to Europe: the colonial link
- African migration to the United States and Canada
- Racial, ethnic, and religious discrimination against immigrants

Read: Migration, Globalization, and Ethnic Relations, chapters 24-26

March 2

Economics of Migration

- Highly skilled workers and the brain drain
- Migration selectivity
- Remittances

Read: Migration, Globalization, and Ethnic Relations, chapters 18-21

*Second reflection paper due

March 9 – Spring Break

March 16 – No class

March 23 – Latin American and Caribbean Migration

- Cuban and Haitian refugees

- Mexican migration to the United States
- Latin American migration to U.S. cities
- Unaccompanied minors
- DREAMers
- Transnational migration

Read: Migration, Globalization, and Ethnic Relations, chapters 13-16

March 30 – Film: *Balseros*

Research paper due

April 6 – no class

April 13 – research presentations

April 20 – research presentations

April 27 – research presentations

May 4 – Summary and review

Read: Illegal People, Chapters 6-8 & Migration, Globalization, and Ethnic Relations, chapter 22