



Political Science

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Pol 410 H1S/: LEC0201

TOPICS IN COMPARATIVE POLITICS:

Global Migration: Laborers, Refugees, Expellees, and Others

Wednesdays, 09:00-11:00

Winter term 2024

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Description

Today, more people are on the move than at any time in human history: 284 million. This figure has more than tripled since 1975 (90 million) and almost doubled since 1990 (153 million). Migration discourse conceptualizes various concepts to explain these movements, such as ‘involuntary’, ‘voluntary’, and ‘feminization of migration’.

In 2023, the total number of involuntary (forced) migrants – refugees, internally displaced persons, and asylum seekers – crossed the 100 million mark, a historic high and a *doubling* in less than a decade. Voluntary migration (particularly economic) also occurs on all continents and in all countries. Almost 164 million are migrant workers. Most countries across the global north *and* global south depend on immigration. Within both categories, almost half of migrants are females, whose number is consistently increasing due to increasing female specific jobs in host countries, changing gender norms (in favor of females) in origin countries, increasing trends of marriage migration, and trafficking of females into sex industry. Together, flight, expulsion, voluntary movement, and multiple combinations of the three transform societies, underpin economies, disrupt politics, and change gender relations. Migration is one of the defining issues of our age.

Focusing on the Middle East, Europe, and Asia, the course will examine the history, policy on, economics, and politics of involuntary (forced including refugees) and voluntary migration. It will provide a comprehensive grounding in the subject for students considering (further) postgraduate or professional work in the field, and it will pursue an overarching theme: that the exigencies of economies, the need for work, and dependency drive the majority of global migration.

Learning Outcomes:

This course will aid students in:

1. Gaining a broad empirical overview of major involuntary and voluntary migration in the Middle East, Europe, and Asia.
2. Becoming acquainted with the theoretical debates informing migration studies.
3. Understanding the drivers of global migration.
4. Exploring the structural dependence of Asian and European economies on migration.
5. Acquiring insights into varying gender based migratory processes and outcomes.

Requirements and Grade Breakdown

1. **Essay outline (10%): 2-pages, double-spaced maximum.**

Due date: January 24, 11:59 pm. Submit to Quercus.

Instructions: Write an outline of your essay. The outline should summarize your argument, which you should be able to state in at most three sentences, as well as the evidence you will cite. Foreign language citations are fine. Indeed, they are to be encouraged, but translate them into English. The same scholarly standards of course apply. Fifteen sources, the majority peer-reviewed, are advisable.

2. **Essay (50%): 2,000 words.**

Due Date: March 20, 11:59 pm. Submit to Quercus

Write a 2000-word on one of the following topics:

1. Compare the role of undocumented labor in Italy or Spain, on the one hand, and Germany or Sweden, on the other.
 2. Are in-country processing settlement a solution to the global refugee crisis?
 3. Is low-skilled immigration the cause or the effect of lower working-class wages?
 4. Is human trafficking more common in southeast Asia than Europe? If so, why?
 5. Underline the role of transnational networks to shape irregular migration choices.
 6. Differentiate the 'gender' and 'integration' needs of male and female migrants during pre- and post-migration phases.
- Discuss

3. **Final Take-Home Test (25%): April 10, 09:00-11:00**

TBA.

4. **Tutorial Participation (15%)**

Students will be graded on their collaborative presentation, their class attendance, and their participation in seminar discussions.

Late Penalties & Extensions

The penalty for late submission is a modest **3% per day** (*including weekends*), to a maximum of two weeks.

Extensions must be requested for legitimate reasons (illness, family tragedy, etc.) at least full three days before the essay is due (for instance, by 11:59 pm on January 15 for the first assignment). After that, no extensions are given. **Extensions are in all cases for a maximum of two weeks; after that, no work will be accepted.** This policy may appear firm, however, there is no ill-will implied by it; on the contrary, managing deadlines is an essential life skill, and private sector employers take an uncompromising view of deadlines. We are not doing you any favors with an overly generous extension policy. Start your work early, and you will have no difficulty meeting deadlines. Good luck!

Email Communication

Students are encouraged to raise questions not answered by the syllabus in class, tutorial, and office hours. **Email should be a last, not a first, resort.** For matters that cannot be raised in class, my email is: wajidtahir@daad-alumni.de [Emails hours: 9am-5pm].

Essay Submission

Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to the University's plagiarism detection tool for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the tool's reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of this tool are described on the Centre for Teaching Support & Innovation web site (<https://uoft.me/pdt-faq> (Links to an external site.))

Course Materials

There are two required texts for the course:

Elena Fiddian-Qasmeyeh (ed.), *The Oxford Handbook of Refugee and Forced Migration Studies* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014). Hereafter *Handbook*. Available online at Robarts.

James F. Hollifield et al., *Controlling Immigration: A Comparative Perspective* (Stanford University Press, 2022). Hereafter *Controlling Immigration*.

NB: you need the 2022 version; please do not confuse it with earlier editions of *Controlling Immigration: A Global Perspective*.

The reading load in this course is relatively heavy; this is unavoidable given the range of countries and topics covered. Much of the readings are, however, historical and should be easier to get through than, for instance, readings in political theory.

Academic misconduct

Cheating and plagiarism are serious academic offenses and will be dealt with accordingly. For further clarification and information, please see the University of Toronto's policy on plagiarism at <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize>

COURSE OUTLINE

1. January 10: Introduction

The Guardian, "Five myths about the refugee crises," June 18, 2018.

Economist, "Who counts as a refugee?" July 27, 2021.

Recommended :

Hannah Arendt, "The Decline of the Nation-state and the Rights of Man". *The Origins of Totalitarianism*, 267-302 (Meridian Books, [1951] 1966).

Hannah Arendt, "We Refugees." *Altogether Elsewhere: Writers on Exile*, ed. Marc Robinson (London: Faber, 1994).

Part I: Involuntary (Forced) Migration

2. January 17: International Law and practice on refugees

Guy Goodwin-Gill, "The International Law of Refugee Protection," *Handbook*.

Oliver Blakewell, "Encampment and Self-Settlement," *Handbook*.

Loren B. Landau, "Urban Refugees and IDPs," *Handbook*.

Walter Kalin, "Internal Displacement," *Handbook*.

Recommended:

Jérôme Elie, "Histories of Refugees and Forced Migration Studies." *Handbook*.

3. January 24: Migration and the nation state

Brubaker, Rogers. "Migration, Membership, and the Modern Nation-State: Internal and External Dimensions of the Politics of Belonging"

Vigneswaran, Darshan and Joel Quirk, eds. *Mobility Makes States: Migration and Power in Africa* (Philadelphia, PA: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2015). Chapter 1 (Mobility Makes States).

Mongia, Radhika Vyas. *Indian Migration and Empire: A Colonial Genealogy of the Modern State* (Durham: Duke University Press, 2018), Introduction.

4. January 31: Irregular Migration: Involuntary and Voluntary Perspectives

Christine, M. Jacobson, & Marry-Anny Karlsen. "Unpackig the temporalities of irregular migration" in *Waiting and the Temporalities of Irregular Migration*, ed. Christine M. Jacobsen, Marry-Anne Karlsen and Shahram Khosravi, 1-20. Routledge, New York.

Tahir, Kauser, & Bury. Irregular migration toward Greece: Narratives of irregular migrants. *International Migration*, 56(1), 78-97.

Stephan Scheel, Vicki Squire. "Forced Migrants as 'Illegal' Migrants". *Handbook*.

5. February 7: Humanitarianism as a Response to Forced Migration

Michael N. Barnett, "Refugees and Humanitarianism," *Handbook*

Chimni, Bhupinder S. 2000. "Globalization, Humanitarianism, and the Erosion of Refugee Protection." *Journal of Refugee Studies* 13(3): 243-263.

Phil Orchard 2010. "The Perils of Humanitarianism: Refugee and IDP Protection in Situations of Regime-Induced Displacement." *Refugee Survey Quarterly* 29(1): 38-60.

Nicholas Stockon 1998. "In Defence of Humanitarianism," *Disasters* 22(4): 352-360.

6. Feburary 14: Explaining the Largest Flows of Forced Migrants

Dawn Chatty and Randa Farah. "Palestinian refugees." In vol. 2 of *Immigration and Asylum: From 1900 to the Present*, ed. Matthew J. Gibney and Randall Hansen, 465-471. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, 2005.

Benjamin N. Gedan, "Venezuelan Migration: Is the Western Hemisphere Prepared for a Refugee Crisis," *SIS Review of International Affairs* 37/2 (2017), 57-64.

Randall Hansen, "Drunk on Oil & Gas: The Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan," in *War, Work & Want* (OUP, forthcoming).

Randall Hansen, "ISIL and the European Refugee Crisis," in *War, Work & Want* (OUP, forthcoming).

7. Reading Week: No classes.

Part II: Voluntary (sort of) Migration

8. February 28: Immigration in Northern Europe: Germany, Austria, and the Nordic Countries

Phil L. Martin and Dietrich Thränhardt, “Germany: Managing Migration in the Twenty-First Century,” *Controlling Immigration* + commentaries.

Grete Brochmann, *Governing Immigration in the Scandinavian Welfare States*, in *Controlling Immigration* + commentaries.

Melanie Kolbe, “When Politics Trumps Economics: Contrasting High-Skilled Immigration Policymaking in Germany and Austria,” *International Migration Review* 55/1 (2002): 31-57.

Barbara Herzog-Punzenberger, “Ethnic Segregation in School and Labor Market – 40 Year Legacy of Austria Guestworker Policy,” *International Migration Review* 37 (2003): 1120-1144.

9. March 6: Immigration in Southern Europe: Italy, Spain, Greece & Turkey

Ted Perlmutter, “Italy: Immigration Policy,” in *Controlling Immigration* + commentaries.

William Chiaromonte and Veronica Federico, “The Labour Market Needs Them, But We Don’t Want Them to Stay for Good: the Conundrum of Migrations, Refugees, and Asylum Seekers’ Integration in Italy,” in Veronica Federico and Simone Balioni (eds.), *Migrants, Refugees, and Asylum Seekers’ Integration in European Labour Markets* (IMISCEO, 2021), chapter 10.

Miryam Hazán and Rut Bermejo Casado, “Spain: An Uneasy Transition from Labor Exporter to Labor Importer,” in *Controlling Immigration* + commentaries.

Fiona Adamson & Gerasimos Tsourapas, “Greece and Turkey: From State-Building and Developmentalism to Immigration and Crisis Management,” *Controlling Immigration* + commentaries.

**** Research Paper due ****

10. March 13: Immigration after Empire: France, Britain, the Netherlands

James F. Hollifield and François Héran, “Immigration and the Republican Tradition in France,” in *Controlling Immigration* + commentaries.

Randall Hansen, “UK Immigration and Nationality Policy: Radical and Radically Uninformed Change,” in *Controlling Immigration* + commentaries.

William Maas, “The Netherlands: From Consensus to Contention in a Migration State,” in *Controlling Immigration* + commentaries.

11. March 20: Migration, Refugees and Labor in Asia

Erin Aeran Chung, “Japan and South Korea,” in *Controlling Immigration* + commentaries.

Supang Chantavanich and Ratchada Jayagupta, “Immigration to Thailand: the Case of Migrant Workers from Myanmar, Laos, and Cambodia,” in Uma A. Segal et al. (eds.), *Immigration Worldwide: Policies, Practices, and Trends* (Oxford: Oxford, University Press, 2010).

Amarjit Kaur, “Labour migration, irregular movements and regional policies,” in Juliet Pietsch and Marshall Clark (eds.), *Migration and Integration in Europe, Southeast Asia, and Australia* (Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, 2015).

Randall Hansen, “The Political Economy of Human Trafficking in South Africa and Thailand (work in progress).” NB: skim the sections on South Africa.

12. March 27: Feminization of Migration, Integration Strategies, and Challenges

Brell, Courtney, Christian Dustmann, and Ian Preston. 2020. “The Labor Market Integration of Refugee Migrants in High-Income Countries.” *The Journal of Economic Perspectives* 34 (1): 94-121. <https://doi.org/10.1257/JEP.34.1.94>.

Tahir, M.W. 2020. “Combating discrimination at workplaces through mainstreaming ‘gender’ and ‘integration’ needs in legislation: Testing a new analytical framework in Germany and Sweden”. *Women’s Studies International Forum* (Vol. 81).

Foner, N. (2018). Benefits and burdens: Immigrant women and work in New York City. In *Immigrant women* (pp. 1-20). Routledge.

13. April 10: Final online test: 12:00-14:00

TBA.