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:


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](http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize)

**COURSE OUTLINE**

1. **January 10: Introduction**


   **Recommended:**


   **Part I: Involuntary (Forced) Migration**

2. **January 17: International Law and practice on refugees**


   **Recommended:**


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”


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


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

Michael N. Barnett, “Refugees and Humanitarianism,” *Handbook*


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


7. Reading Week: No classes.
Part II: Voluntary (sort of) Migration

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


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


** 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.


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

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


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


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

TBA.