McGill University Department of Sociology - Fall Term 2017
SOCI 212: International Migration
Tuesday and Thursday 16:05 to 17:25 in EDUC 129

Instructor: Thomas Soehl
e-mail: Thomas.soehl@mcgill.ca
Office: Leacock 729, Office Hours: Thursday 10:00 to noon and by appointment

OBJECTIVES:

This course is designed to give you an overview of some of the key topics in the study of
international migration. While we will focus on sociological approaches the reading list will
reflect the interdisciplinary and methodologically pluralist nature of the field of international
migration research: stretching from the demography and economics of migration, through
political science, geographical and mainstream sociological approaches, to the ethnography and
oral history of migrants.

There is too much to cover it all and any attempt to do so would result in a very
superficial treatment of each topic. So I had to make choices as to what to cover. In the first part
of this course we will draw on a broad set of literatures that can help us understand the social,
economic and political forces that drive international migration as well as the barriers to global
human mobility. In the second part we survey the research on the socio-economic, political and
cultural aspects of the immigrant experience, in particular to questions related to the settlement,
adaptation and social organization of international migrants in their host countries.

I believe learning is an activity. Consequently, I designed this course with a large
component of active, participatory elements. Many of these exercises are new so we'll have to see
how it all works out as we go along.

EVALUATION:

Quizzes - 40%: We will have 3 quizzes throughout the semester. The first two will be worth 15%
each and the last one 10%. These will be mostly short answer and multiple-choice questions
although we might ask to write a (short!) essay once or twice as well.

Reading Annotations 15%: In this course we will use an online reading annotation tool called
perusall. I will introduce this system early on in the course. Essentially this means you have to
complete assigned readings *before* class and you have to show, by making annotations, that you
engaged the texts. For every reading assigned on perusall you will have to provide annotations.
For now we will set 2pm the day of the class the reading was assigned for as the due date but we
may change this as the semester goes on.

Group Work 30%: You will complete several group exercises over the course of the semester. We
will announce the due date and parameters of the deliverables for each exercise as it nears. As a
group you will have to coordinate who edits and assembles the final product. Generally each
member of the group will receive the same grade on these assignments but I reserve the right to
make adjustments - see point below.

Group Participation 10%: At the end of the semester you will evaluate each member of your group (and each member of your group will evaluate you). We will provide a rubric to help your in this assessment. If the assessment shows exceptional problems with your group participation I reserve the right to adjust the credit you receive for your group's work.

Individual Work 5%: There will be some exercises where you will produce something on your own.

NOTES/POLICIES

Tentative nature of the syllabus: This syllabus is my best guess at how the semester will unfold. We may move faster or slower than I anticipated, or I may update some of the readings with newer/better material. Thus I reserve the possibility to amend the syllabus at any point during the semester. Any changes to readings will be announced at least one class in advance and posted on the course website. You are responsible for keeping up with any changes. Not being in class is not a valid excuse for not keeping up with any changes.

Attendance: Since this course will feature a lot of in-class exercises and active participation attendance is required during ALL classes. If you miss an in-class exercise without a documented valid excuse this will negatively affect your participation grade.

Language: In accord with McGill University's Charter of Students' Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded.

Academic Integrity and Misconduct: McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore, all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/ for more information).

Respect and use of electronic devices: As electronic devices distract from conversations they are not permitted in this class unless they are required for in-class exercises. In consideration for other students, as well as for the instructor, please make sure you that you arrive on time, and do not leave class early. Cell phones should be turned off.

Absences and late assignments: Only legitimate reasons recognized by McGill as excusable, such as illness, family emergency, and natural disaster will be accepted if you miss a quiz or in-class exercise. Individuals who miss a quiz because of health reasons must submit a note from a Doctor (a note from health services will not be accepted). In the case of quizzes I will determine the nature of the makeup exam: either a following quiz will be weighted more heavily, I will conduct a written make-up exam, or I will conduct a face to face oral exam in my office.

Schedule of Classes and Tentative list of readings

[IMPORTANT: It is possible that I change some of the readings as we move through the course, I may also add readings]

Date	Mtg	Topic	Reading
05-Sep	1	Introduction	
07-Sep	2	Normative Perspectives	Carens, Joseph. 1987. "Aliens and Citizens: The Case for Open Borders." *Review of Politics* 49
12-Sep	3		Walzer, Michael. 1983. *Spheres of justice: A Defense of Pluralism and Equality*. New York: Basic [Ch 2].
14-Sep	4	Who moves and why? Migration Decisions	Douglas Massey et al. 1998. *Worlds in Motion. Understanding International Migration at the End of the Millennium*. Oxford University Press [Chapter 1 & Chapter 2]
19-Sep	5		
21-Sep	6		
26-Sep	7	Regulating Migration – Immigration Policy	Freeman, Gary. 1995. "Modes of Immigration Politics in Liberal Democratic States." *International Migration Review* 29(4). Brubaker, Rogers. 1995. "Comments on 'Modes of Immigration Politics in Liberal Democratic States'." *International Migration Review* 29(4): 903-908
28-Sep	8	Quiz 1	
03-Oct	9	Immigration Policy ctd	Zolberg, Aristide.1999. "Matters of State: Theorizing Immigration Policy" in Hirschman et al. *The Handbook of International Migration*. Russell Sage.
05-Oct	10		Rosenblum and Tichenor. 2012. "Dimensions of Immigration Policy". In *Oxford Handbook of the Politics of International Migration*
10-Oct	11		
12-Oct	12		
17-Oct	13		
19-Oct	14	Ethnic Discrimination and Migration Policy	Joppke, Christian. 2005. *Selecting by Origin: Ethnic Migration and the Liberal State*. Harvard. [Introduction] Fitzgerald, David and David Cook-Martin. 2014. *Culling the Masses*. Chapter on Canada
24-Oct	15		
26-Oct	16	Attitudes towards immigration	Hainmueller and Hopkins. 2014. "Public Attitudes towards Immigration" *Annual Review of Political Science*
31-Oct	17		Wimmer, Andreas 2002. *Nationalist Exclusion and Ethnic Conflict: Shadows of Modernity*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Skim all of Chapter 3 but *read* Pages 57-64.
02-Nov	18	Quiz 2	

07-Nov	19	After Migration: Assimilation, Integration, Homeland Connections	Alba, Retiz and Simon. 2012. "National Conceptions of Assimilation, Integration and Cohesion" in Mollenkopf and Crul. *The Changing Face of World Cities*.
09-Nov	20		Portes and Rumbeaut: "Growing up American" Ch7 in *Immigrant America*
14-Nov	21		Roger Waldinger. 2015. *The Cross-Border Connection* Harvard. Chapter 3.
16-Nov	22		
21-Nov	23		
23-Nov	24	Citizenship	Fassin, Didier and Sarah Mazouz. 2009. "What Is it to Become French ? Naturalization as a Republican Rite of Institution." *Revue Francaise de Sociologie* 50:37-64
28-Nov	25		
30-Nov	26	Quiz 3	