

Soc 190 – Migration in the Global South

University of California, Berkeley

Instructor: Edwin Lin, Spring 2014

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Office Hours: Monday 8:30-10 am (drop-in anytime) and 12-1pm (with notification) @ Free Speech Movement Café, or by appointment

Overview of Course Content:

When we think of international migration, the most common images that come to mind are examples of south-to-north migration (e.g. Muslims in Europe, Mexicans in the United States, Asians in the Bay Area). Yet 73 million immigrants travel from one developing country to another, making migration in the global south over one-third of all migration in the world and only 1 million migrants fewer than those who travel from a developing country to a developed country. This senior seminar investigates this understudied, yet powerful phenomenon, addressing key issues such as the 'problem' of refugees and forced migration, the impact of remittances on development, and the effect of migrant labor on sending and receiving countries.

While this seminar focuses on case studies, theories, and examples from the global south that does not mean the scope of the course is limited to developing countries. On the contrary, we will find that the ideas of this course help us understand migration patterns in general, rather than constructing a dichotomous understanding between what happens in the global north and the global south. Unfortunately, because much of existing literature and research constructs such dichotomies, some of this division is unavoidable in our study, but in an effort to break these dichotomies, I have organized the course based on the strategies migrants employ to improve their lives through the use of mobility.

The goals of the course are to: 1) provide you with a well-rounded understanding of an often overlooked topic in immigration, 2) raise issues for you to think critically about existing research, approaches, and questions surrounding migration in the global south, and 3) provide support for improving your research and writing skills through the final research paper.

Soc 190 as Capstone Seminars

The university wants all undergraduates at Berkeley to have a “capstone” experience or undertake a capstone project before finishing their degree. There is no formal definition of what this entails, but in practice, in Sociology, our 190s have served this purpose by offering:

- Discussion-based learning with the instructor and fellow students
- A more concentrated, in-depth focus on a particular topic than more lecture classes
- A required project based on original work

Grade Breakdown:

Participation and Discussion	25%
Prep Paper Assignments	25%
Final Research Paper	50%

*****Attendance is mandatory.** This means you are expected to show up every week and will not get any ‘free points’ for attending class. You will be allowed one absence before your grade is affected (our class only has 12 weeks together, so missing 2 classes is missing 1/6 of the seminar!).

Participation and Discussion:

Please come to class prepared to discuss the week's reading. As this is a senior seminar, I expect everyone to contribute at least something to the discussion every week. The 1 hr 50 min we have each week will be broken down to approximately 50 minutes of "lecture," a 5 minute break, and then 50 minutes of discussion. I will do a little formal lecturing on course content—a large amount of time will be dedicated to "lecturing" about your research papers and providing necessary support/information to help you succeed in your final paper.

Your participation during class is crucial to learning and understanding the course material. "Participation" does not mean simply speaking out a lot. The content, quality, and depth of your participation is more important than how many times a week you speak. At the same time, showing that you are constantly engaged in our class discussions is also important.

For those of you who may dislike participating in groups or spontaneous participation, there are several options. I encourage you to send me an email before class (at least a day in advance) with your reflections, thoughts, or discussion questions. I may share some of these with your classmates in section or ask you to briefly summarize your email with the class. Also, because the week before I will be previewing each week's readings and discussion, you may prepare an answer to key questions of the readings beforehand. This way, when I ask the question in section, you will have a response ready. These suggestions are not required for anyone. If you regularly participate in classroom discussions, you will do just fine on your participation grade. If you are at all concerned about participation, please see me *early* in the semester in office hours to talk about this.

*****If English is not your first language**, or you have trouble writing in English, there are resources on campus to help in writing your papers. I am happy to point you to some of them, just send me an email. Also, if you are part of the **Disabled Students' Program (DSP)** and require any special accommodations, please talk to me within the next two weeks.

Prep Paper Assignments:

There are five prep assignments for your final research paper: a topic proposal, a literature review, a research question, a data analysis, and an outline for your paper. *Each prep assignment is worth 5% of your overall grade.* I use these assignments as an opportunity to communicate with you about your work and your interests. One of the goals of the course is to help you improve your research and writing skills, and the prep assignments are a crucial component to this. I will hand-out more specific instructions about each of these assignments, but the due dates are cited below in the semester schedule.

Final Research Paper:

Your final research paper will be a 15-20 p. paper that makes an *original argument* on a case of migration in the global south. Please refer to the Final Research Paper Handout for more details about your research paper. It is **due Friday, May 9**.

Reading List and Semester Schedule

Introduction

Week 1 (1/27)

Introduction; Overview

- *UN Human Development Report*, 2009, Chapter 2, sections 2.1 and 2.2 (full report: <http://hdr.undp.org/en/reports/global/hdr2009/>)
- *Population Facts, No. 2012/13*, United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, June 2012 (full report: http://www.un.org/esa/population/publications/popfacts/popfacts_2012-3_South-South_migration.pdf)

Topic Proposal Handed Out

Theories of Migration in the Global South

Week 2 (2/3)

Theories/Discourse and Library Tour

- Ratha, Dilip and William Shaw, *South-South Migration and Remittances*, World Bank Working Paper No. 102, The World Bank, 2007: pp. 1-2, 15-21, 33-34.
- Massey, Douglas S. 1999. "Why Does Immigration Occur? A Theoretical Synthesis." Pp. 34-53 in *The Handbook of International Migration: The American Experience*, edited by C. Hirshman, P. Kasinitz and J. Dewind. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.

Literature Review Handed Out

Migration and Development

Week 3 (2/10)

Theories of Development and Migration

- Sen, Amartya. 1999. *Development as Freedom*, New York: Anchor Books, pp. 3-34.
- Haas, Hein de. 2010. "Migration and Development: A Theoretical Perspective" *International Migration Review*. 44(1): 227-264.

*****Topic Proposal Due*****

President's Day 2/17 (No Class)

Week 4 (2/24)

Brain Drain

- Anna Lee Saxenian, From Brain Drain to Brain Circulation
- John Gibson and David McKenzie, Eight Questions about Brain Drain

Week 5 (3/3)

Remittances

- The World Bank, "Migration and Development Brief No. 20," Migration and Remittances Unit, Development Prospects Group, April 19, 2013
(<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTPROSPECTS/Resources/334934-1288990760745/MigrationDevelopmentBrief20.pdf>)
- Page, John and Sonia Plaza, "Migration Remittances and Development: A Review of Global Evidence," *Journal of African Economies*, Vol. 15 (2): 2006, pp. 245-247, 260-280, 318.
- Ratha, Dilip, "Economic Implications of Remittances and Migration," 2nd International Conference on Migrant Remittances, London, November 13, 2006, slides/presentation.

Research Question/Method Handed Out

**Stepwise Migration
Week 6 (3/10)**

Filipino Domestic Workers

- Paul, Anju Mary, "Stepwise International Migration: A Multistage Migration Pattern for the Aspiring Migrant," *American Journal of Sociology*, Vol. 116, No. 6 (May 2011), pp. 1842-86.
- Parrenas, Rhacel, "Long Distance Intimacy: Class, gender and intergenerational relations between mothers and children in Filipino transnational families," *Global Networks*, Vol. 5, No. 4 (October 2005), pp.317-336.

**Ethnic Entrepreneurship
Week 7 (3/17)**

Small Pond Migration

- Forthcoming IMR Article "Small Pond Migration: Chinese Shop-Keepers in South Africa."
- Chua, Amy. *World on Fire*. Anchors Books, New York: 2004, pp.1-17, 23-48.

*****Research Question/Method Due*****

*****Literature Review Due*****

Data Analysis Handed Out

*****Spring Break 3/24-3/28*****

**Labor Migration
Week 8 (3/31)**

Rural-to-Urban Migration

- Stark, Oded. *The Migration of Labor*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1991, pp. 9-21.
- Zhao, Yaohui. "Labor Migration and Earning Differences: The Case of Rural China," *Economic*

Development and Cultural Change, Vol. 47 (4): July 1999, pp. 767-782.

Week 9 (4/7)

Overview and Debates on Refugees

- United Nations, "Refugees: The Numbers," Briefing Papers, 2013.
<http://www.un.org/en/globalissues/briefingpapers/refugees/index.shtml>
- United Nations, "Refugees: Overview of Forced Displacement," Briefing Papers, 2013.
<http://www.un.org/en/globalissues/briefingpapers/refugees/overviewofforceddisplacement.html>
- Rimmer, Susan Harris. December 2009. "Refugees, internally displaced persons and the 'responsibility to protect'." *New Issues in Refugee Research* Research Paper No. 185. UNHCR: PDES Working Paper.

*****Data Analysis Due*****

Outline Handed Out

**Forced Migration
Week 10 (4/14)**

Climate Refugees

- Biermann, Frank and Ingrid Boas, "Preparing for a Warmer World: Towards a Global Governance system to Protect Climate Refugees," *Global Environmental Politics*, Vol. 10 (1): February 2010, pp. 60-88.
- Hartmann, Betsy, "Rethinking Climate Refugees and Climate Conflict: Rhetoric, Reality and the Politics of Policy Discourse," *Journal of International Development*, Vol. 22 (2): March 2010, pp. 233-246.
- Myers, Norman, "Environmental Refugees: A growing phenomenon of the 21st Century," *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society*, Vol. 357, No. 1420 (April 2002), pp. 609-613.

Week 11 (4/21)

Final Paper Panels (Part 1)

*****Outline Due*****

Week 12 (4/28)

Final Paper Panels (Part 2)

Friday, May 9

*****Final Research Paper Due!*****