



Western University
SOCIOLOGY 9375
Immigration Policy Development
& Evaluation Strategies

Winter 2016 Friday 9:30-12:30, SSC RM 5406 (seminars) & RM 1032 (Labs)
Professor Michael Haan
Office hours by appointment
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Introduction

This course is a research seminar on immigration policy in advanced capitalist democracies in general, and, in Canada in particular. It is a course in professional preparation, which means that each of you will be an integral part of course content delivery. It will provide you with a familiarity of *some* of the techniques necessary for analytically rigorous policy evaluation as it pertains to immigration in Canada.

This is not a course in econometrics or statistics, but I do assume that you have the requisite background knowledge to keep up with the material in this course. My goal here is to take what you already know and demonstrate how your knowledge can be used to conduct public policy research.

In most weeks, I will send the list of readings to you via email, so please check your email regularly. You are expected to read these articles each week, as they will form the backbone of the seminar for the coming week. Please note that I focus primarily on government and NGO reports for the readings.

There are no prerequisites for the course, but my assumption is that you have a basic knowledge of statistics. This means that you have a familiarity with descriptive statistics and multivariate techniques like ordinary least squares regression.

Required Text

There is no text for this course. Instead, weekly readings will be assigned and will form the foundation for each topic. This course is very demanding, so please allot sufficient time to fulfill all of the requirements, and to catch up when/where necessary.

Method of Evaluation:

Test: 22%
Participation: 15%
Assignment: 15%
Presentation: 15%
Final paper: 33%

Course Content

This course will provide an overview of:

- 1) The broad suite of immigration policies in Canada, and the many changes that have occurred to these policies in recent history.
- 2) The extent to which the labour markets of cities, regions, and/or jurisdictions need and can support immigrants.
- 3) The success of recruitment and retention strategies.
- 4) The effectiveness of immigration policies at multiple levels of government.

In the early weeks of the course we will explore the basic dimensions of the immigration system in Canada. You will learn about the admission system for permanent residents, the many different types of temporary statuses that individuals use to enter Canada. We will also look at the mechanisms whereby temporary residents can transition to permanent status.

In the second part of the course, we'll briefly look at the quantitative techniques to measure differences in immigrant outcomes (by source country, settlement region, etc.). When appropriate, we'll compare to other countries.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this course students should be able to:

- Cogently present on an immigration-relevant topic.
- Critically contribute to the discourse on immigration in Canada.
- Design an immigration-related research project
 - Identify the appropriate data and analytical techniques to conduct this research.

Course Schedule and Readings (tentative, incomplete, and based on your preferences):

Part 1: Setting the Stage

Week 1: Introduction to the Class and The Program Logic Model

Week 2: Justice or 'Just us'? Immigration in the Canadian Welfare State

Read: ***Why Canada Needs a Flood of Immigrants***. Globe and Mail. Available: <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/time-to-lead/why-canada-needs-a-flood-of-immigrants/article4105032/?page=all>

Grubel, Herbert. 2005. Immigration and the Welfare State in Canada: Growing Conflicts, Constructive Solutions." Fraser Institute. Available: <https://www.fraserinstitute.org/sites/default/files/ImmigrationandWelfareState.pdf>

Nannestad, Peter. 2004. "Immigration as a challenge to the Danish welfare state." *European Journal of Political Economy* 20 (3): 755-767.

Week 3: The Economic Outcomes of Immigrants to Canada

Picot, Garnett and Arthur Sweetman. 2005. The Deteriorating Economic Welfare of Immigrants and Possible Causes: Update 2005

<http://www.publications.gc.ca/Collection/Statcan/11F0019MIE/11F0019MIE2005262.pdf>

Bonikowska, Aneta, Feng Hou and Garnett Picot. 2015. "Which Human Capital Characteristics Best Predict the Earnings of Economic Immigrants?"

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/11f0019m/11f0019m2015368-eng.pdf>

Week 4: The Social Outcomes of Immigrants to Canada

Week 5: Immigrants and their Impact on Host Societies

Week 6: Moving from Consumption to Production: The program logic model

Part 2: Off the Armchair

Week 7: Data and Their Discontents - Haan

This session will be dedicated to the Canadian datasets that can be used to study immigration. If there is time, we will begin to explore the 2006 Census Public-Use Microdata File.

Week 8: Descriptive and Basic Multivariate Statistics

Week 9: Measuring Community Economic Need

Week 10: Difference in Difference (and 'triple diff') Models

Week 11: Oaxaca-Blinder Decomposition Models

Week 12: Instrumental Variable Models

Week 13: Fixed and Random Effects Models

Important Policies

Policy on Laptops and other Electronics/Phones in Class

Laptops are permitted in class but if it is observed that students are on social networking sites such as Facebook or Twitter, they will be told to close the lid and they will not be permitted to use it for the remainder of the class. Be sure that all cell phones are turned off at the beginning of class.

Students will be allowed to use calculators in class and during exams.

Plagiarism

Students must write their assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major scholastic offence. See **Scholastic Offences** (below) for the link to Scholastic Discipline regulations.

Plagiarism Checking

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com: <http://www.turnitin.com>

Scholastic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following web site: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/appeals_discipline/index.html

Accommodation

Only in exceptional circumstances may a student be provided special accommodation in the completion of a course requirement (i.e., exams, papers). To request a one-time accommodation (brief illness, family emergency), the student should inform the professor when they are able so accommodation can be made. To request other accommodation(s), the student must first meet with the Graduate Chair to discuss options. Medical documentation, where required, will be kept on file in the Sociology graduate program office.

Completion of Course Requirements

Course requirements must be completed by the end of the term in which the course is offered (Fall-December 31; Winter-April 30, Summer-August 31). Only in exceptional circumstances may a student take additional time to complete the course requirements. In such a case, the student must first meet with the Graduate Chair to request permission to carry the incomplete. Medical documentation, where required, will be kept on file in the Sociology graduate program office. More details regarding incompletes are outlined in the Graduate Handbook: http://www.sociology.uwo.ca/graduate_handbook/course_information.html

Mental Health

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Health and Wellness Western for a complete list of options on how to obtain help - <http://www.uwo.ca/uwo.com/mentalhealth/>

Health and Wellness

As part of a successful graduate student experience at Western, we encourage students to make their health and wellness a priority. Western provides several on campus health-related services to help you achieve optimum health and engage in healthy living while pursuing your graduate degree. For example, to support physical activity, all students, as part of their registration, receive membership in Western's Campus Recreation Centre. Numerous cultural events are offered throughout the year. Also, we encourage you to check out the Faculty of Music web page <http://www.music.uwo.ca/>, and our own McIntosh Gallery <http://www.mcintoshgallery.ca/>. Students seeking help regarding mental health concerns are advised to speak to someone they feel comfortable confiding in, such as their faculty supervisor, their program director (graduate chair), or other relevant administrators in their unit. Western's School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies' *Living Well* website provides tips for thriving at grad school and other helpful information: http://grad.uwo.ca/current_students/living_well/index.html