**Course Description:**
This course examines how family needs and within family dynamics inform decisions to migrate and describes how migration alters family and household organization in sending and receiving communities. With this aim in mind, the course considers concepts and theories in the migration and family literature to examine decisions to migrate and the impact of individual and community level migration on family formation, family dynamics, family exchanges, fertility, and union dissolution.

**Prerequisite(s):**
Enrollment in the third or fourth year standing in any module of the Department of Sociology. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. The decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

**Anti-requisite(s):**
Family Studies 2225: Immigration and Family

**Learning Outcomes:**
In this course, students will:

1) Assess how social norms and institutions influence decision to migrate and the assimilation outcomes of immigrant families

2) Identify the risk and protective factors influencing the outcomes of immigrant families

3) Recognize that migration is a multifaceted phenomenon shaping the lives of immigrant families, non-migrants in the country of origin, and the native born population in the destination country

4) Process and synthesize information from multiple sources and discuss current events in intelligent manner
Required Text(s):
You can download all articles online on-campus using www.jstor.org or scholar.google.com. The instructor reserves the right to change some of the readings during the course in response to student interests.

Method of Evaluation:
Below is a detailed description of the work requirements of this course.

Participation (25%)

(1) Students are responsible for all the readings in the syllabus. Students are expected to actively read, which means that they need to know the content of the readings and identify the common themes across readings for each week. Students are expected to actively participate in class. They must answer the questions posed by the instructor; provide comments about the papers they read; ask clarification questions; and offer thought-provoking questions/comments about the subject in discussion.

(2) Students must make an intellectual contribution to the course to receive a passing grade. An intellectual contribution entails making comments and asking questions relevant to the course. Students should substantiate all comments with empirical findings from course readings and/or academic insights from the sociology of migration, family demography, and political sociology.
   a. Participation grade depends on both quality and quantity of the verbal contribution to the class, with 70% of the grade depending on quality and 30% of the grade depending on quantity. I take detailed notes about your participation at the end of every class; therefore, attendance is key. On week 2, I will provide a 12 minutes power point presentation on what constitutes as good participation and pass out a rubric detailing the conditions necessary to receive an A, B, C, D, and F on class participation.
   b. Migration has been the subject of heated debates. If the student repeatedly makes irrelevant, disruptive, and/or offensive remarks that fall vastly outside of scope of the course, the instructor will issue up to 2 written warnings. If the behavior continues after the 2 written warnings, the instructor will revoke the student’s right to participate in the remaining classes and the student will receive a participation grade of 20% for the entire class. It is at the sole discretion of the instructor to determine what is irrelevant, disruptive, or offensive.

(3) Students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner during class. They must be on time, focus on class activities, and be respectful to all members of the class.

(4) The instructor’s office hours are an extension of class time; therefore, students are subject to all class rules and regulations. Failure to do so will result in deductions in your participation grade.

(5) To provide adequate feedback, instructor will offer 3 participation grades (approximately every 4 weeks). A rubric will also be posted in the owl.uwo.ca site.

Reaction paper 1 (25%)

(1) Countries of origin have a dilemma. Migration brings in remittances, which can serve as the capital to fuel economic growth. Immigrants, however, are typically a positively selected group with higher levels of education, resulting in brain drain. Your task will be to design a policy that allows you to maximize remittances while minimizing brain drain.
Two weeks before the due date, I will provide you with (a) guiding questions to help you formulate your answers and (b) a grading rubric to show you the requirements of the paper and how it will be graded.

The policy brief is 1,500 words in length.

It will be due on **Wednesday, February 13, 2019**. A penalty of 10% will be applied for every late business day. If late, please submit in the drop box in front of SSC 5307. I will only read papers that are stamped by the staff of the sociology department. Please do not turn in your papers elsewhere.

**Exam (25%)**

1. Exam 1 will be held on Wednesday, March 14, 2019.
   a. This in-class exam will require that the student complete 4 to 5 essay questions.
   b. The answers will be handwritten. Answers that the instructor cannot read will be considered wrong.
   c. If you are unable to take this exam, you need to go to Academic Counselling or the Dean’s Office to obtain the necessary documentation to take the make-up exam. You can make up the exam **Monday, March 19, 2019 between 1:30-4:30pm**. The make-up exam will be the same format, but students will be asked different questions of similar difficulty (subject to instructor’s discretion).
   d. If the student also misses this make-up exam period due to a documented reason, then I will extrapolate your test grade based on the mean grade of the test, the standard deviation scores of the test, and the average number of standard deviations from the mean of your reaction papers.
      i. For students to be the beneficiary of this policy, they must obtain documentation from Academic Counselling, the Dean’s Office, or the Chair of the Department of Sociology at UWO. Verbal communication to the instructor does not meet the requirement, nor does a doctor’s note sent to the instructor.
   e. In cases where there is no approved justification for the absence, the student will receive a grade of zero on the exam.

**Reaction paper 2 (25%)**

1. Students will be asked to write a reaction paper after watching the documentary *Documented*. The paper is 1,500 words in length and is due **Wednesday, April 11, 2019**. I will not accept any late assignments. Unless student has approval from the instructor, they cannot just e-mail the assignment.

**Evaluation Breakdown:**

The course grade will be computed using the following weights:

- Active participation 25%
- Reaction paper 1 25%
- Exam 25%
- Reaction paper 2 25%

**Incomplete for the course**

- If the student fails to complete two or more assignments by the last day of class (i.e., April 4, 2019), they will receive an incomplete for the course until the deadline stated by the university. If they fail to meet that deadline, they will receive a failing grade.
Grade appeal

- If students do not agree with the mark received for participation, exam, and reaction papers, students should put their complaint in writing within 7 days of when the mark was issued. In this memo, the student should indicate why they deserve a higher grade.
- The instructor will issue a ruling within 7 days of reviewing the memo. This ruling will be provided by the student in writing as well.
- Although the instructor is happy to provide feedback about ways to improve the grade in the next set of assignments, verbal complaints will not be entertained by the instructor.
- Instructor will only discuss grades with the student.
- If the student cannot agree with the instructor’s ruling, the student needs to formally appeal their grade pursuant to the university rules and regulations listed below:
  http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf

Contacting the instructor

- E-mail is the best way to contact me.
- During weekdays, allow for 24 hours until response.
- During weekends, allow for 48 hours until response.
- If student’s comments and questions are applicable to the group, the instructor will send a group message via owl.

Important Policies (Standard Western Policies)

Policies for Assignment Deadlines:
A penalty of 10% will be applied for every late business day. If late, please submit in the drop box in front of SSC 5307. I will only read papers that are stamped by the staff of the sociology department. Please do not turn your papers in elsewhere.

If you miss an exam date or the due date for an assignment due to illness or for any other unforeseen reason, you must notify your Academic Counselor within 48 hours. Please follow the Academic Counselor’s instructions about proper documentation. For example, if your problem is medical in nature, you should hand in a doctor’s note to the Academic Counselor for the exam date or due date of the assignment. If your Academic Counselor agrees that your reasons are legitimate and are supported by your medical doctor’s documentation, you will be allowed to write a makeup exam or hand in your reaction paper late. You can only reschedule your makeup exam date once. Please choose your makeup exam date wisely.

A Note on 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 (the Scholastic Offence Policy can be viewed in the Western Academic Calendar).
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 detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking 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 (www.turnitin.com).

Policies on Examinations
Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

Policy on Laptops and other Electronics/Phones in Class:
Laptops are permitted in class; however, 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.

Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness
Western’s policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness can be found at www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf.

Students must see the Academic Counsellor and submit all required documentation in order to be approved for certain accommodation: http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/medical_accommodation.html

Accessibility Options:
Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 519 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation. Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar’s website: www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated_exams.html

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: www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Mental Health
Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/index.html) for a complete list of options how to obtain help.

By enrolling in the course, the student agrees that they have reviewed all rules and regulations and guarantees that they will abide by all rules and regulations listed in this document.
**TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE** (Subject to some variation)

**WEEK 1 (1/9): Introduction**
- Orientation to course requirements and schedule

**I. FAMILIES IN THE CONTEXT OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION**

**WEEK 2 (1/16): Theories of migration**

*In class:* Watch documentary on [Ellis Island](https://www.example.com)

**WEEK 3 (1/23): Migration & Development: Work, Remittances, & Return Migration**


**WEEK 4 (1/30): Watch Los Que Se Quedan**

**WEEK 5 (2/6): Who Migrates? Immigration politics and migration**


**WEEK 6 (2/13): Border Control and Regulation**


*In class:* David Fitzgerald. “Mexican Migration to the United States 20 years After Migration”. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qgyivEX-4WI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qgyivEX-4WI)

Reaction paper 1 due
WEEK 7 (2/20): Family day break

II. CONSEQUENCES OF MIGRATION FOR IMMIGRANT FAMILIES

WEEK 8 (2/27): Migration and Union Formation

WEEK 9 (3/6): Migration, Family Separation, and Divorce

WEEK 10 (3/13): Exam


WEEK 11 (3/27): Immigrant Children and their Socioeconomic Wellbeing

WEEK 12 (4/3): Migration, Health, and Obesity

WEEK 13 (4/10): Conclusion
Reaction Paper 2 due