



Western University
SOCIOLOGY 3381G
Migration and Family
Wednesday 1:30-4:30, SSC 3010
Instructor: Kate H. Choi

Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 4:30-5:30pm
Department of Sociology, Office: SSC 5331
Email: hchoi228@uwo.ca

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 (20%)

- (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.
- (3) 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. I will provide you with a rubric detailing the conditions necessary to receive an A, B, C, D, and F on class participation.
- (4) When students participate, they must substantiate their statements with **facts**. Factually inaccurate statements will be considered irrelevant and low quality contributions to class discussions.

“Everyone is **entitled** to his own **opinion**, **but** not his own **facts**” – Daniel P. Moynihan

- (5) 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.
- (6) 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.
- (7) 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.
- (8) 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.

Quiz (20%)

- Quiz will be held on **Wednesday, February 6, 2019**.
- 1 or 2 essay question(s) on the “Theories of Migration”.

- 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 be excused from the quiz. In cases where there is no approved, official justification for the absence, the student will receive a grade of zero on quiz.
- If you have an official reason for missing the quiz, your grade will be interpolated using the class average and standard deviation scores and how well you fared in your other assignments (i.e., average number of standard deviations your other grades are to the class mean).

Exam (35%)

- (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 10:25am-1:20pm (Place: TBD)**. 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. Notes from parents also do not meet this requirement.
 - 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 1 (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. Students need to turn in the assignment in the mailbox in front of SSC 5307. The staff in the Sociology department will date-stamp the document. I will only grade those with a date-stamp.

Evaluation Breakdown:

The course grade will be computed using the following weights:

- Active participation 20%
- Quiz 20%
- Exam 35%
- Reaction paper 25%

Incomplete for the course

- If the student fails to complete two or more assignments by the last day of class (i.e., April 10, 2019), they will receive an *incomplete* for the course. You will need to write a 4500-word essay on one of the listed substantive topics until the deadline stated by the university. This essay will be graded and will substitute the grades for the missed assignments. If they fail to meet this 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. The Privacy Act precludes the instructor from having discussions about other students' grades.
- 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 before responding.
- During weekends, allow for 48 hours before responding.
- 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.

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

Massey, D., J. Arango, Graeme Hugo, A. Kouaouci, A. Pellegrino, and J. Taylor. "Theories of International Migration: A Review and Appraisal". *Population and Development Review* 19(3): 431-466.

In class: Watch documentary on [Ellis Island](#)

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

de Haas, H. (2005). "International Migration, Remittances and Development: Myths and Facts." *Third World Quarterly*, 26(8): 1269-1282.

Nobles, Jenna. 2013. "Migration and Father Absence: Shifting Family Structure in Mexico." *Demography* 50(4):1303-1314.

Dreby, J. 2006. "HONOR AND VIRTUE Mexican Parenting in the Transnational Context". *Gender and Society* 20(1): pp. 32-59.

Supplementary analyses

World Bank. 2012. "Remittances to Developing Countries will surpass \$400 Billion in 2012." Migration and Development Brief #19. Development Prospects Group, November 20. (ER)

Ruhs, M. & P. Martin. (2008). "Numbers vs. Rights: Trade-Offs and Guest Worker Programs." *International Migration Review*, 42(1): 249-265.

In class: Enrique's journey

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

WEEK 5 (2/6): Quiz on "Theories on Migration"

Who Migrates? Immigration politics and migration

Akbari, A.H. & M. MacDonald. (2014). "Immigration Policy in Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and the United

States: An Overview of Recent Trends.” *International Migration Review* 48(3): 801-822. (JSTOR)

Legomsky, S. (2012). “[Immigration Policy from Scratch: The Universal and the Unique](#)”. *William & Mary Bill Rights Journal* 21(2): Article 3.

Walsh, J. 2008. “Navigating Globalization: Immigration Policy in Canada and Australia: 1945-2007”. *Sociological Forum* 23(4): 786-813

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

Hansen, R. & D. Papademetriou. (2014). [Securing Borders: The Intended, Unintended and Perverse Consequences](#). Washington, DC: Migration Policy Institute, Pp. 1-13.

Donato, K., B. Wagner, and E. Patterson. 2008. “The Cat and Mouse Game at the Mexico-U.S. Border: Gendered Patterns and Recent Shifts” *International Migration Review* 42(2): 330-359.

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

WEEK 7 (2/20): Family day break

II. CONSEQUENCES OF MIGRATION FOR IMMIGRANT FAMILIES

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

Wang, W. 2012. “Marrying Out One-in-Seven New U.S. Marriages Is Interracial or Interethnic” Pew Report.

Choi, K and M. Tienda. 2016. “Marriage Markets and Intermarriage”. *Journal of Marriage and the Family*.

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

Suarez-Orozco, C. I. Todorova, J. Louie. 2004. “Making Up For Lost Time: The Experience of Separation and Reunification Among Immigrant Families”. *Family Processes* 41(4): 625-643.
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1545-5300.2002.00625.x/full>

Alvarez, Pricilla. Dec 27, 2017. “Deterring Illegal Immigration by Separating Parents and Children”. *The Atlantic*. <https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2017/12/trumps-plan-to-deter-immigrants-from-coming-to-the-united-states/549221/>

WEEK 10 (3/13): Exam (Cumulative – all materials until 3/6/2018).

WEEK 12 (3/20): Watch *Documented*.

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

Waters, M. and T. Jimenez. 2005. “Assessing Immigrant Assimilation: New Empirical and Theoretical Challenges”. *Annual Review of Sociology* 31: 105-125.
DOI: [10.1146/annurev.soc.29.010202.100026](https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev.soc.29.010202.100026)

Baum, S. and S. Flores. (2011). “Higher Education and Children in Immigrant Families”. *The Future of Children* 21(1): pp.171-183. 10.1353/foc.2011.0000

Gonzales, R. 2011. "Learning to Be Illegal: Undocumented Youth and Shifting Legal Contexts in the Transition to Adulthood" *ASR* 74(6): 602-619.

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

Vang, Zoua, J. Sigouin, A. Flenon, and Alain Gagnon. "Are immigrants healthier than native-born Canadians? A systematic review of the healthy immigrant effect in Canada". *Ethnicity and Health* 22(3):209-241.

Riosmena, F, R. Frank, I. Akresh, and R. Kroeger. 2012. "US Migration, Translocality, and the Acceleration of the Nutrition Transition in Mexico". *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 102(5): pp. 1209-1218.

WEEK 13 (4/10): Conclusion

Reaction Paper 1 due