

Course No: LRI 4021

International Migration

La Universidad de las Américas, Puebla

(Fall Semester, 2018)

Department of International Relations and Political Science

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Office Hours: Tuesday 11:00-12:00; Thursday 13:00-14:00; and by appointment.

Class Meets: M-W-F

Time: 16:00-16:50

Place: CS-106

“Perhaps one day the world, our world, won’t be upside down, and then any newborn human being will be welcome. Saying, ‘Welcome. Come. Come in. Enter. The entire earth will be your kingdom. Your legs will be your passport valid forever.’”

-Eduardo Galeano

“Even the most significant population movements of modernity (including the black and white Atlantic migrations) constitute lilliputian events with respect to the enormous population transfers of our time. A specter haunts the world and it is the specter of migration. All the powers of the old world are allied in a merciless operation against it, but the movement is irresistible.”

-Michael Hardt and Antonio Negri

In a report released by the United Nations in 2013, the UN estimated that over 231 million people, or approximately 3.2% of the world’s population was living in a country that they were not born in. This number represented an increase of over 33% contained in its 2000 report. The 2013 report went on to note that of these 231 million people, over 15 million were refugees.

Of greater importance to this idea of a so called “migration crisis,” are the UN most current estimates that indicate that there are over 65 million forcibly displaced persons worldwide, of which over 22 million are refugees. Of these 22 million refugees, over 55% are from three countries: South Sudan, Afghanistan and Syria. As the UN’s information from 2013 and 2017

clearly show, whether through migration or through other far more horrific methods, human beings are certainly in motion.

Migration has gained an increasing amount of political relevance over the past decades and for better or worse, has been elevated from “low politics” to “high politics.” This is not to suggest that migration is a somehow a new concept. In fact, most of the migration literature goes to great length of point out that migrations of human beings have occurred since time immemorial and it is generally accepted that migration is a natural response to escape poverty, conflict and environmental degradation. Yet, as we shall see, the process of migration has become far more complex with the establishment of the nation state system with its corresponding notion of formalized national borders coupled with the emergence of the industrial revolution. These two developments literally set into motion the massive movement of human beings from rural areas to urban centers both within and across national borders. A process, which according to UN information, continues to this day.

While it may be more fashionable to use the term “mobility” in that it can bring together the multiple forms of human movement and circulation. Yet, we need to keep in mind that term “mobility” does not fully consider that “people are not necessarily free to move.” Also “mobility” does not capture the fact that the world is still configured of nation states that is characterized by ever growing draconian/militarized border controls and national identities that map out the parameters of “inclusion” and exclusion.” As we shall see, these issues of border controls and national identities are further complicated by xenophobia, racism, the marginalization of migrants, the insecurities of migrants fueled by feelings of “everyday deportability” and the emergence of migrant resistance.

Course Objective: This course is intended to provide you with an introduction to the patterns of migration and more importantly, to the politics of migration, including the practices, policies and discourses in which both sending and receiving societies attempt to manage and control migration. The course will seek to familiarize you with the contemporary literature and debates within migration studies. Along with this objective, it is hoped that the course will allow you to appreciate the strengths and weaknesses of the competing approaches within the field.

While the course will tend to focus on the international relations aspects of migration, including refugees and the international ethics of migration, the course will also be somewhat interdisciplinary in that we will be engaging certain aspects of human geography, sociology, anthropology and history. It is hoped that this combination of academic disciplines will give us a much richer understanding on how migrants negotiate, accommodate and resist these very systems of management and control.

Over the term, we will be examining the theoretical perspectives underlying the study of migration as part of the foundation is understanding the differences within labor migration and other forms of migration which may be more politically motivated. However, as we will see, the distinction between economic migration and more reactive modes of migration (such as fleeing political persecution and/or socio-political violence) can become blurred.

While we may tend to focus a lot of our attention on migration from Latin America to the United States; we will also familiarize ourselves with other issues the issues, including labor migration in Europe. Also of great importance to our course will be an examination of the increasing numbers of migrants/refugees traveling from North Africa toward Europe and the accompanying rise of right-wing anti-immigrant political parties within Europe. Currently, these migrants, who, like the migrants from Central America who attempt clandestine entries through mountains and deserts, literally face death every day while traversing the Mediterranean Sea in hopes of a better and more secure life.

I do realize that during the semester, you will be busy with lots of other courses and activities, and when the semester is over, I know that you all will on to many wonderful adventures and accomplishments. I understand that you will not remember everything from this International Migration class (least of all the course number). But hopefully you will remember some key concepts which will allow you to critically assess that newspaper article, blog post, television news program and speeches by the anyone affected by the process of contemporary migration. Therefore, my strategy is to teach the course with life-long learning in mind.

Course Structure: The course will be structured around lectures which will occur on Monday and Wednesdays; and seminars which will be held on Friday. Seminars will allow for your individual and group participation based on the lectures and required readings for each topic that we will discuss. Since you all will be extremely valuable contributors to the course, please make every effort to read the required readings for each topic which will allow us all to have a much richer experience. Part of your grade will be based upon class participation both during the lectures and seminars, which will also figure into your grade. The lecture notes will be posted after each session in order keep us all engaged and in an active learning mode.

As part of the course work, there will be an oral group project. The group presentation of 15 minutes which will be presented to the class, can be on any subject concerning contemporary issues in international migration.

Also, there will be a research essay, which will be typed in English, between eight and ten pages in length (including the bibliography), which will be due on the date of the final exam. The purpose of the essay will be to have you consider a specific question and/or issue about

international migration and to construct a logical and critical argument while engaging with, and citing the relevant literature.

The essay questions will be provided within the next two weeks of the start of the semester.

We will begin each regular with a short five-minute discussion of any current events that concerns issues of migration anywhere in the world.

Breakdown of Grade:

Mid-Term Exam: 15%

Group Presentation: 35%

Research Essay (Due on the day of the Final Exam): 40%

Class Participation: 10%

Week 1

Introduction to the Course; Discussion on Key Concepts and Terms; Making Sense of Migration: Is There a Migration Crisis; or Do Crises Cause Migration: Migration and IR

No Required Readings

Week 2

Theoretical Perspectives on Migration Part I

Required Reading: Stephen Castles, *et al.*, (2014) *Age of Migration*, Chapter 2.

Suggested Reading: Douglas S. Massey, *et al.*, (2005) *Worlds in Motion*, Chapters 1 and 2.

Week 3

Theoretical Perspectives on Migration Part II

Required Reading: Stephen Castles, *et al.*, (2014) *Age of Migration*, Chapter 2

Suggested Reading: Elizabeth Mavaroudi and Caroline Nagel: (2016) *Global Migration: Patterns. Process and Politics*, Chapter 2.

Week 4

Labor Migration: Who Profits? Who Gains? Who Loses? Operation Wetback

Required Reading: Stephen Castles, *et al*, (2014) *Age of Migration*, Chapter 11.

Suggested Readings: Nicholas De Genova (2011) "Alien Powers: Deportable Labor and the Spectacle of Security," in *The Contested Politics of Mobility: Borderzones and Irregularity*, ed. Vicki Squire.

Timothy J. Dunn (1996) *The Militarization of the U.S. Mexico Border, 1978-1992: Low Intensity Conflict Doctrine Comes Home*.

Jonathan Xavier Inda (2011) "Borderzones of Enforcement: Criminalization, Workplace Raids and Migrant Counterconducts," in *The Contested Politics of Mobility: Borderzones and Irregularity*, ed. Vicki Squire.

Jonathan Xavier Inda (2006) *Targeting Immigrants: Government, Technology and Ethics*

Elizabeth Mavaroudi and Caroline Nagel: (2016) *Global Migration: Patterns. Process and Politics*, Chapter 3.

Ronaldo Munck, *et al*, eds., (2012) *Migration, Work and Citizenship in the New Global Order*

Nicola Phillips, ed., (2011) *Migration in the Global Economy*

Robyn Magalit Rodriguez (2010) *Migrants for Export: How the Philippine State Brokers Labor to the World*.

Week 5

Refugees and Asylum Seekers-Who Decides?/Survival Migration

Required Readings: Elizabeth Mavaroudi and Caroline Nagel: (2016) *Global Migration: Patterns. Process and Politics*, Chapter 5.

Alexander Betts (2013) *Survival Migration: Failed Governance and the Crisis of Displacement* (Chapter 10).

Suggested Readings:

Alexander Betts (2009) *Forced Migration and Global Politics* (Introduction).

Tom Farrer (1995) "How the International System Copes with Involuntary Migration: Norms, Institutions and State Practices," in *Threatened Peoples, Threaten Borders: World Migration and U.S. Policy*, eds. Michael S. Teitelbaum and Myron Weiner.

Margaret E. McGuinness (2003) "Legal and Normative Dimensions of the Manipulation of Refugees," in *Refugee Manipulation: War, Politics and the Abuse of Human Suffering*, eds. Stephen John Stedman and Fred Tanner.

Edward Newman (2003) "Refugees, International Security and Human Vulnerability," in *Refugees and Forced Displacement: International Security, Human Vulnerability and the State*, eds. Edward Newman and Joanne van Selm.

Peter Nyers (2006) *Rethinking Refugees: Beyond States of Emergency*.

Stephen John Stedman and Fred Tanner (2003) "Refugees as Resources of War," in *Refugee Manipulation: War, Politics and the Abuse of Human Suffering*, eds. Stephen John Stedman and Fred Tanner.

Astri Suhrke (2003) "Human Security and the Protection of Refugees," in *Refugees and Forced Displacement: International Security, Human Vulnerability and the State*, eds., Edward Newman and Joanne van Selm.

Mid-Term Exam

Week 6

War, Climate Change and Displaced Persons

Required Readings: Elspeth Guild (2009) *Security and Migration in the 21st Century*, Chapter 4.

Stephen Castles, *et al.* (2014) *Age of Migration*, Chapter 9.

Suggested Reading: Nora Hamilton, and Norma Stoltz Chinchilla, (1991) "Central American Migration: A Framework for Analysis," *Latin American Research Review*, 26(1), 77-110.

Week 7

Does Migration Change Sending and Receiving Nations?

Required Reading: Stephen Castles, *et al.*, (2014) *Age of Migration*, Chapter 3

Suggested Reading: Jorge G. Castañeda (2012) *Manaña Forever? Mexico and the Mexicans*.

Judith Adler Hellman (1999) (2nd Edition) *Mexican Lives*.

Judith Adler Hellman (2008) *The World of Mexican Migrants: The Rock and a Hard Place*.

Ruud Koopmans, *et al.* (2005) *Contested Citizenship: Immigration and Cultural Diversity in Europe*, eds. Ruud Koopmans, *et al.*

Paul Scheffer (2011) *Immigrant Nations*.

Week 8

Migration as a Site of Inclusion and Exclusion

Required Reading: Susan Bibler Coutin (2011) “Legal Exclusion and Dislocated Subjectivities: The Deportation of Salvadoran Youth from the United States, in *The Contested Politics of Mobility: Borderzones and Irregularity*, ed., Vicki Squire.

Suggested Reading: Elizabeth Mavaroudi and Caroline Nagel: (2016) *Global Migration: Patterns. Process and Politics*, Chapter 7.

Nick Vaughn-Williams (2012) *Border Politics: The Limits of Sovereign Power*, Chapter 4.

Matthew J. Gibney (2002) “Security and the Ethics of Asylum after 11 September.”

Elsbeth Guild (2009) *Security and Migration in the 21st Century*, (Chapters 2-3).

Week 9

Border Controls and the Ethics and Migration

Required Readings: Roxanne Lyn Doty (2007) “States of Exception on the México-U.S. Border: Security, ‘Decisions,’ and Civilian Border Patrols, *International Political Sociology*.

Roxanne Lynn Doty (2006) “Fronteras Compasivas and the Ethics of Unconditional Hospitality,” *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*.

Suggested Readings: Peter Andreas (2000) *Border Games: Policing the U.S.-Mexico Divide*.

Wayne Cornelius (2001) "Death at the Border: Efficacy and Unintended Consequences of US Immigration Control Policy," *Population and Development Review* 27(4): 661-685.

Timothy J. Dunn (2009) *Blockading the Border and Human Rights: The El Paso Operation That Remade Immigration Enforcement*.

Elsbeth Guild (2009) *Security and Migration in the 21st Century*.

Jason de Leon (2015) *Land of Open Graves: Living and Dying on the Migrant Trail* (Introduction and Chapter 1).

Oscar Martínez (2010) *The Beast: Riding the Rails and Dodging Narcos on the Migrant*.

Elizabeth Mavaroudi and Caroline Nagel: (2016) *Global Migration: Patterns, Process and Politics* (Chapter 6).

Joseph Nevins (2008) *Living to Die: A Story of U.S. Immigration in an Age of Global Apartheid*.

Nick Vaughn-Williams (2012) *Border Politics: The Limits of Sovereign Power* (Chapter 1).

Week 10

Migration and Issues of Security: Europe

Required Reading: Jef Huysmans (2006) *The Politics of Insecurity: Fear, Migration and Asylum in the EU* (Chapters 4 and 5).

Suggested Readings: Ruud Koopmans, *et al.* (2005) *Contested Citizenship: Immigration and Cultural Diversity in Europe*, eds. Ruud Koopmans, *et al.*

Week 11

Migration and Issues of Security: The Americas

Required Reading: Michael S. Teitelbaum and Myron Weiner (1995) "Introduction: Threatened Peoples, Threatened Borders and Migration and U.S. Foreign Policy," in *Threatened Peoples, Threatened Borders and Migration and U.S. Foreign Policy*, eds., Michael S. Teitelbaum and Myron Weiner.

Suggested Readings: Christopher Rudolph (2006) *National Security and Immigration: Policy Development in the U.S. and Western Europe Since 1945*.

Week 12

Group Presentations

Week 13

Group Presentations

Week 14

Moving Beyond Labor Migration: Violence and Migration; or Seeking Refuge?

Required Reading: Victoria Rio Contreras (2014) “The Role of Drug-Related Violence and Extortion in Promoting Mexican Migration,” *Latin American Research Review*.

Suggested Reading: :María Cristina García (2006) *Seeking Refuge: Central American Migration to México, the United States and Canada*

Oscar Martínez (2016) *A History of Violence: Living and Dying in Central America*

Week 15

Documentary Film: Which Way Home (2009)

Week 16

Aqui estaomas y no nos vamos/Undocumented and Unafraid/The Future of International Migration

Required Readings: William I. Robinson (2006) “Aqui Estamos y No Nos Vamos,” *Race and Class* 48(2), 77-91.

Stephen Castles, et al. (2014) *Age of Migration: International Population Movements in the Modern World* (Chapter 14)

Websites for Resources

Center for Comparative Immigration Studies

<http://ccis.ucsd.edu/>

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (CEPAL)

<http://www.cepal.org/en>

Forced Migration Online

<http://forcedmigration.org/>

International Migration Institute (University of Oxford)

<https://www.imi.ox.ac.uk/>

International Organization for Migration (United Nations)

<https://www.iom.int/>

Migration Policy Institute

<http://www.migrationpolicy.org/>

Pew Hispanic Center

<http://www.pewhispanic.org/>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

<http://www.unhcr.org/en-us>

Relevant Journals (In English)

International Migration Review

Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies

International Journal of Migration and Border Studies

Other Resources

DemocracyNow!: a U.S. based news source which covers stories about U.S. foreign policy, U.S. domestic policy, international affairs (including migration and refugee issues) and international social and justice activism (English language)

<https://www.democracynow.org/>