University of Toronto Mississauga – Sociology
SOC 375H5S
Sociology of International Migration
May/June 2016
Mondays & Wednesdays 1-3pm, IB 250

Instructor Information

Instructor: Naomi Lightman, PhD
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Blackboard/Course web site: Portal

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Course Description

Who migrates from one country to another and why? Can and should this movement be controlled? What are the key challenges and opportunities which migrants experience in incorporating into the “majority” society? What is unique about the Canadian immigration experience? These questions will structure our analysis of the sociology of international migration.

In Canada today, migrants are diverse in terms of race, religion, class and gender, as well as in the intensity of the links they maintain to their originating societies. Part I of this class will focus on theory and policy: we will examine some of the formative theories on how and why people migrate, trace the evolving immigration policy process in Canada, as well as critiquing what is meant by “transnational” migration. Part II will focus on specific issues related to immigrant incorporation (or exclusion) into Canadian society. We will analyze the categories that are used to allow or deny individuals entry into the country, discuss the gendered nature of immigration, the labour market experiences of both high and low skill migrants (and the problems with framing employment in this manner), health outcomes of aging and elderly migrants, as well as the role of the education system, specifically for the 2nd generation children of immigrants. Our review will draw on the connections between the various themes covered in the lectures and readings.

Prerequisites, Exclusions, CSL Group

Prerequisites: SOC 221H5, 231H5, 0.5 SOC credit at the 200 level. Exclusion: SOC 344Y1.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course students will be able to:
- **identify** key stances within the major theoretical and empirical debates in the sociology of international migration and immigrant incorporation, and the major researchers associated with them;
- **explain** how these positions relate to each other;
• apply their knowledge to analyses and critiques of contemporary developments in international migration and immigrant integration, specifically within the North American context; and
• articulate their own, theoretically grounded opinions about contemporary developments related to issues covered in the course.

Textbooks and Other Materials

Readings have been selected to enhance your knowledge and understanding of the key issues covered in the course. We will draw on the readings in the lectures, in our discussions and in the assignments for this course. It is therefore important to complete the required readings each week. Knowledge of required readings will be evaluated and graded as part of tests and assignments. Students are expected to have done the required readings by the beginning of the class for each session as per the course schedule.

The required textbook is available for purchase at the UTM bookstore:

Shields, John, and Harald Bauder, eds. 2015. Immigrant Experiences in North America: Understanding Settlement and Integration. Toronto, ON: Canadian Scholars' Press Inc.

In addition, there are several required academic journal articles and a podcast associated with the course which will be posted on the course website on Blackboard.

Evaluation Components and Grading Policies

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date(s) Due</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In-class test</td>
<td>In-class test</td>
<td>May 25&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take-home assignment</td>
<td>Interview and written memos (2 in total)</td>
<td>May 18&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; &amp; June 1</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take-home assignment</td>
<td>Critical essay based on readings, external sources and interview</td>
<td>June 13&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Make-up in-class test</td>
<td>In-class test</td>
<td>June 27&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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<td>100%</td>
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Grading

1. In-Class Test (25%)

The in-class test will take place on May 25th. It will be one hour and fifty minutes long and will consist of short answer and essay questions covering readings, lectures, and discussions from sessions 1-4 of the course. Books, notes, and reading materials may not be consulted during the in-class test.

The make-up test for the in-class test will be held on Monday June 27th at 10am. The location will be announced by the Department at a later date. No one is automatically allowed to sit for a make-up test. See Policies and Procedures below for instructions on how to receive permission to sit for a make-up test.

2. Interview with an Immigrant & Memos (2 x 5% = 10%)

The informal interview & 2 memos will allow you to connect the content of the class to the real-life experiences of an immigrant in your metropolitan area. You will have the opportunity to hear first-hand about the challenges and opportunities in migrating to Canada.

The interview will serve several purposes: 1) to compare and contrast the course’s theoretical content with real-world experiences 2) to keep apace of the readings 3) to practice critical reading skills and; 4) to formulate, in writing, a cogent viewpoint on key issues addressed by the course.

For the informal interview and the memos you will be asked to:

a) Find an immigrant to Canada and engage this person in an informal interview. Details will be discussed on the first day of class and an interview guide will be posted to Blackboard. The interviews are to be recorded but not transcribed.

b) Draw on the course readings and notes from the informal interview to write two interview memos. Guidance on the content of the memos will be provided on the first day of class and posted to Blackboard. The memos are due on May 18th and June 1st. They are to be handed in on blackboard by midnight on the day indicated. Late memos will not be accepted. The memos will be graded as pass/fail.

3. Critical Essay Assignment (30%)

In this assignment, you will be asked to draw on the course readings, notes and recordings from the informal interview and memos, and external academic sources to complete a critical essay assignment (8-10 pages, double-spaced, excluding bibliography). Details on the content and structure of the assignment will be discussed in class and posted to Blackboard. The assignment is due at the beginning of class on June 13th. It is to be handed in to the instructor in hard copy at the beginning of class.
4. Final Exam (35%)  

The final exam will be held between June 22nd and June 24th (date to be set by the registrar). It will be two hours long and will consist of key concept definitions, short-answer and essay questions. Books, notes and reading materials will not be allowed in the final exam. The content will be based on the readings, lectures and discussions for the entire semester, with an emphasis on sessions 6 to 12.

Class Format  

The class format mixes formal lectures with interactive question and answer sessions and small group exercises. Students are expected to attend class, arrive on time, take good notes, keep up with assigned readings, and prepare for and participate in classroom discussions. You should expect to be asked questions in class. Students are expected to be respectful of fellow classmates in discussions and lectures at all times.

No formal attendance will be taken in this course. The lectures are designed to complement and extend the material contained in each session’s required readings. They will also contain guidance on tests and assignments. In the event of an absence, it is the responsibility of the students to familiarize themselves with any additional material covered in lectures, as this material may be the subject of the in-class test and final exam. June 6th is the final date to drop this course.

Course Schedule  

Please note: Every attempt will be made to follow this schedule, but it is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

PART 1 – THEORY AND POLICY IN INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

Session 1 – May 9th. Introduction: Why Study the Sociology of International Migration?  

Note: The first lecture will provide an overview of the course. Students are expected to have read the course syllabus; course policies, assignments and expectations will be reviewed only briefly, on a Q&A basis.

Textbook:  


Session 2 – May 11th. Theories of International Migration & Integration  

Portal:  


Session 3 – May 16th. Canada: An Evolving Immigration Policy Landscape

Textbook:


Portal:


Session 4 – May 18th. Connecting “Here” and “There”: Transnational Migration

Portal:


NOTE: Memo #1 is DUE on blackboard (no hard copy required).
NOTE: No class May 23rd – University is closed for Victoria Day.

Session 5 – May 25th. In-Class Test

NOTE: the test starts promptly at 1:10. NO LATE ADMITTANCE.

PART II: IMMIGRANT INCORPORATION (AND EXCLUSION)

Session 6 – May 30th. Categorizing Migrants: Entry Class, Citizenship and “Illegalized” Migrants

Textbook:


Sharma, Nandita. 2015. “Immigration Status and the Legalization of Inequality”. Pp. 204-222. (Chapter 8)
Podcast:


Session 7 – June 1st. A Gendered Lens: Women and International Migration

Textbook:


Portal:


NOTE: Memo #2 is DUE on blackboard (no hard copy required).

Session 8 – June 6th. The Labour Market, Part I: High Skill Immigration

Textbook:


Portal:


Session 9 – June 8th. The Labour Market, Part II: Low Skill Immigration

Portal:


**Session 10 – June 13th. Complexities of Care: Older Immigrants and Healthcare (Guest Lecture by Maureen Coyle)**

*Portal:*


*NOTE: A printed hard copy of your critical essay assignment IS DUE at the beginning of class.*

**Session 11 – June 15th. Education and the 2nd Generation: Experiences and Outcomes for the Children of Immigrants**

*Textbook:*


*Portal:*


**Session 12 – June 20th. The Spatial Dynamics of Migration & Course Review**

*Textbook:*


**Procedures and Rules**

**Missed Tests or Assignments**

Students who miss a term test or assignment will assigned a mark of 0 unless they satisfy the following conditions.

**Reason:** UTM policy permits accommodation for these reasons beyond a student’s control:

- Illness
- Religious observances (i.e., holy days), or
  - [http://www.viceprovoststudents.utoronto.ca/publicationsandpolicies/guidelines/religiousobservances.htm](http://www.viceprovoststudents.utoronto.ca/publicationsandpolicies/guidelines/religiousobservances.htm)
• Other unplanned circumstances entirely beyond the student’s control (e.g., a court subpoena for which you have no option except to show up, a funeral, a car accident).

Reasons such as “too much work”, technology failure, weddings, family vacations, or not adding the class in time, are not compelling reasons.

Missed Tests:

Please read the instructions below carefully and follow the guidelines listed at:
http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/sociology/resources-students

You will have to:
1. **Provide appropriate supporting documentation** (e.g., Verification of Student Injury or Illness form available at: [http://www.illnessverification.utoronto.ca](http://www.illnessverification.utoronto.ca)) a death certificate, an accident report).
2. You must declare your absence on ROSI. If you are a student registered with AccessAbility, a medical note is required only if you miss an assignment deadline/test date for a reason not connected to your registered disability, otherwise the required documentation may be supplied by the UTM AccessAbility Resource Centre.
3. You must present your case to the DEPARTMENT by submitting the Special Consideration Request form. You will find the link to this form and important instructions at: [http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/sociology/](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/sociology/)

**Timing:** Requests for accommodation and supporting documentation must be submitted within 72 hours of the missed test or assignment.

To request accommodation for a **missed assignment** you must present your case to the INSTRUCTOR via email.

• In order not to be considered late, assignments must be submitted by the due date on the syllabus. Memos must be submitted on Blackboard, the critical essay must be submitted in hard copy at the beginning of class. You are expected to keep a back-up, hard copy of your assignment in case it is lost.

• For lateness beyond your control, the documentation must indicate that you were unable to engage in school work on the due date of the assignment for a ONE day extension. For a longer extension you must prove that you were unable to engage in school work for a longer period or prove an exceptional, unforeseen circumstance. In the unlikely event that your documentation indicates that you are too ill to make-up an assignment within the term, you must petition the office of the registrar for an extension of time to complete term work.

• Late assignments for reasons that are within your control will be penalized 10% the first day and 5% for each day following. The penalty will run from the day the assignment was due until the day it is submitted via Blackboard, not to the department office staff, to other instructors or by email. For the essay assignment you are still required to submit a hard copy at the next class; the electronic copy must be identical to the hard copy submitted. The penalty period does include weekends and holidays. Assignments that are more than 7 days late will not be accepted.

**Final examinations** are scheduled, administered, and governed by the policies set out by the Office of the Registrar (see the UTM Calendar).
Grade appeals. Instructors and teaching assistants take the marking of assignments very seriously, and will work diligently to be fair, consistent, and accurate. Nonetheless, mistakes and oversights occasionally happen. If you believe that to be the case, you must adhere to the following rules:

- If it is a mathematical error simply alert the TA of the error.
- In the case of more substantive appeals, you must:
  1. Wait at least 24 hours after receiving your mark.
  2. Carefully re-read your assignment, all assignment guidelines and marking schemes and the grader’s comments.
  3. You have up to one month from the date of return of the item to inquire about the mark beyond the course instructor. In order to meet this deadline, you must inquire about the mark with your instructor no longer than 15 days after receiving your mark. If you are not satisfied with the instructor’s re-evaluation, you may appeal to the Associate Chair, if the term work is worth at least 20% of the course mark. If your work is remarked, you must accept the resulting mark.

If you wish to appeal:
   A. You must submit to the instructor a written explanation of why you think your mark should be altered. Please note statements such as “I need a higher grade to apply to X” are not compelling. Also, please note that upon re-grade your mark may go down, stay the same, or go up.
   B. Attach to your written explanation your original assignment, including all of the original comments. Submit a hardcopy of the package to the instructor during office hours.

Electronic communication and electronic learning technology: Email communication is rapid, convenient, and efficient—and you are encouraged to use it to enhance your learning and experience in the course. With that said, it is essential that you follow a few rules:

- Assignments will not be accepted via email. See above for how to submit them.
- All course communication should be conducted through Blackboard or your utoronto account.
- All emails must include the course code (e.g., SOC 123) in the subject line.
- All emails should be signed with the student’s full name and student number.
- Emails from students will generally be answered within [48] hours of receipt.
- Treat emails as you would any other professional communication.
- Emails that ask questions that are answered in the course syllabus or website (e.g., “how much is assignment X worth”) will not receive a response.
- All general questions about the course that are NOT addressed on the syllabus and course website should be addressed via email to the Instructor.

Emails that do not follow these guidelines will not receive a response.

Classroom etiquette
Students are expected to arrive at class on time. Laptop usage is allowed in class. However, laptops should be used for notes only. Other uses (e.g., emailing, web surfing) will result in the student being required to turn off the laptop.
• Videotaping and recording lectures is strictly forbidden without written permission from the instructor.

Academic integrity
• Copying, plagiarizing, falsifying medical certificates, or other forms of academic misconduct will not be tolerated. Any student caught engaging in such activities will be referred to the Dean’s office for adjudication and punishment. Any student abetting or otherwise assisting in such misconduct will also be subject to academic penalties.
• Students are expected to cite sources in all written work and presentations. See these links for department citation formats and tips for how to use sources well http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/sociology/resources/resources-students
(http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarsize)
• By enrolling in this course, you agree to abide by the university’s rules regarding academic conduct, as outlined in the Calendar. You are expected to be familiar with the “Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm) and Code of Student Conduct (http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/studentc.htm) which spell out your rights, your duties and provide all the details on grading regulations and academic offences at the University of Toronto.

Student resources
AccessAbility Centre. We take seriously our obligation to make this course as welcoming and accessible as feasible for students with diverse needs. Students are encouraged to registrar with the Centre (and, if appropriate, alert the instructor) as early in the term as possible. In many instances it is easier to arrange certain accommodations with more advance notice, so we strongly encourage you to act as quickly as possible. With that said we understand that disabilities can change over time and will do our best to accommodate you. Students seeking support must have an intake interview with a disability advisor to discuss their individual needs. To schedule a registration appointment with a disability advisor, please call the Centre at 905-569-4699 or e-mail at: access.utm@utoronto.ca. See also http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/access.

The Robert Gillespie Academic Skills Centre offers workshops, seminars and individual appointments to help students identify and develop their skills. It is located in Rm 390 of the Library, online at http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/asc/undergraduate-students and can be reached at (905) 828-3858.

A variety of other student resources can be found on the UTM website under “Current Students,” http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/sas/, including academic services, registrar and registration services, diversity & equity, administrative services, and others.

The University of Toronto is committed to equity and respect for diversity. All members of the learning environment in this course should strive to create an atmosphere of mutual respect. As a course instructor, I will neither condone nor tolerate behaviour that undermines the dignity or self-esteem of any individual in this course and wish to be alerted to any attempt to create an intimidating or hostile environment. It is our collective responsibility to create a space that is inclusive and welcomes discussion. Discrimination, harassment and hate speech will not be tolerated. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns you may contact the UTM Equity and Diversity officer at edo.utm@utoronto.ca or the University of Toronto Mississauga Students’ Union Vice President Equity at ypequity@utmsu.ca