

Bachelor Course in Human Geography (2000 level)

Migration, Transnationalism and Development

Course description:

Content:

The course provides an understanding of the process of international migration and transnationalization and discusses the migration-development nexus in a global context. It gives an overview of theories and geographies of migration and mechanisms of migration management and settlement. Furthermore, the course discusses theories of transnationalism and places a focus on transnational practices of migrants. Remittances will be used as an example of transnational practice and different dimensions of remittances will be discussed to illustrate the migration-development nexus. The course will also explore some of the debates and attempts to develop new agenda in academic and policy arenas on migration and development.

The course adopts geographical approach by giving more attention towards spatial concepts related to migration such as place, space and territory. While recognizing the fact that the field of migration studies has become an interdisciplinary one, the course is designed in a way to include contributions from various disciplines.

Learning outcomes:

Knowledge

Students shall attain:

- An overview and understanding of theories of migration and mechanisms of migration management and settlement
- Knowledge of theories of transnationalism and transnationalization of migrant life
- A good understanding of the concept of diaspora and the migration-remittance-development nexus
- Familiarity with academic and policy debates within migration, transnationalization and development

Skills

Students shall attain:

- Ability to critically read, discuss and use relevant literature within the field of migration, transnationalism and development
- Ability to use key concepts and theories in concrete studies within the migration-transnationalism-development nexus
- Ability to conduct a short field study on a migration related issue and to write an academic report based on field observations

Competences

Students shall attain:

- Reflexivity around the links between international migration, transnationalism and development and around policy debates within the same field
- Reflexivity around challenges of doing research on international migration and transnationalism

Admission

Students who have been admitted to study programmes and individual courses at the University of Oslo are eligible to take the course by registering at the student web and after paying the semester fee. Students enrolled at other universities within Norway and exchange students from other countries can also take the course by contacting the Study Coordinator for Human geography at the University of Oslo.

Prerequisites

Formal prerequisites

No obligatory prerequisites beyond the minimum requirements for entrance to higher education in Norway.

Recommended prior knowledge

General reading and observation of migration and transnationalization and development issues is recommended.

Teaching:

The Course includes 10 lectures and six seminars. The seminars will be organized as group seminars and the number of groups will be decided based on the number enrolled. Lectures and seminars will be held in English language.

The course will be taught at Blindern Campus at the University of Oslo. Electronic portal FRONTER will be actively used. Guest lecturers will also take part in the course.

Criteria for access to teaching resources

A student who has completed compulsory instruction and coursework and has had these approved, is not entitled to repeat that instruction and coursework. A student who has been admitted to a course, but who has not completed compulsory instruction and coursework or had these approved, is entitled to repeat that instruction and coursework, contingent on available capacity.

Exam Information

The Faculty of Social Science is responsible for the exam(s), and exam(s) are/is normally held at The University of Oslo, Blindern campus. Other locations in Oslo may be used.

The examination includes a group assignment and a school exam. The group assignment will count as 40% of the final examination. A 3-hour written examination will count as 60% of the final examination.

For the group assignment, students will be divided into groups of four and the assignment will be based on a short field study for two- three weeks. The general task of the group assignment is to move around Oslo city, identify and study a migration related issue and write a report on the field observations. Report should not exceed 3000 words in length. The guidance for the field work will be given at the group seminars.

When submitting the essay the candidate is also required to submit a statement regarding plagiarism, also called a compulsory statement

Any take home exam or essay etc. handed in at the University of Oslo may be checked for plagiarism by use of the Ephorus text recognition software.

Language of examination

The exam questions will be given in English, and students can answer the questions in English or in any of the Scandinavian languages.

Assessment and grading

Examination results will be available in Student Web no later than three weeks after the date of the examination, provided no other information is given on the web page for the current semester.

Course grades are awarded on a descending scale using alphabetic grades from A to E for passes and F for fail. Read more about [the grading system](#) .

An external auditor regularly evaluates the academic quality of the course, including the form of exam used for the course.

Explanations and appeals

[Explanations & appeals at the Department of Sociology and Human Geography](#)

Exam options for students with special needs

If you wish to use a dictionary during the exam, the dictionary has to be checked. Please hand it in to the exam advisor 3 days prior to exam.

Application forms for special examination arrangements on school-exams should be sent to The Faculty of Social Science. Applications for special examination arrangements for other exams should be sent to the Department which organizes the course.

Evaluation of this course

This course is evaluated half way through every semester and every four years the course undergoes a thorough evaluation.

An external auditor regularly assesses the academic quality of the course and reports to the Department every year.