SGO 2600

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 a geographical approach by giving more attention towards spatial concepts related to migration such as place, space and territory. 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 on 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

Prerequisites

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.