

<https://www.uio.no/studier/emner/sv/iss/SOSGEO2800/index.html>

SOSGEO2800: Migration, diversity, and integration

(NB: New name. Previous name: Migration, diversity, and inequality)

Course content

This course provides a theoretical and empirical introduction to contemporary migration and consequences of migration. Whereas migration always has characterized human societies, contemporary patterns of global migration are novel in their political, ethnic and religious significance for diversity and equality within and across nation-states. International human rights regimes counter regional and nation-state independence in struggles over asylum requirements, family reunion rules, welfare rights for migrants and their children, and integration policies. Discussion of migration, refugees and integration increasingly characterize public debate, and questions concerning migration and integration rate high in national as well as regional polls about important political issues and elections.

This course will focus on understanding contemporary migration in a historical and comparative perspective, with a major empirical focus on Europe. Why does migration create such political turbulence, and what are the reasons behind contemporary migration? How does migration connect with diversity, and does migration increase or decrease national and global patterns of inequality? Do for instance the children of immigrants and ethnic minorities fare worse or better than natives in getting jobs, education and more informal social inclusion? Theories of ethnicity, nationalism, transnationalism and racism will inform the discussion of how migration links with diversity and inequality in the contemporary world.

Learning outcome

The course will provide:

- 1) An overview of major historical and geographical trends in global migration
- 2) An overview of the different categories and motives of migration
- 3) An introduction to central theories of and relevant concepts related to migration, diversity, and integration
- 4) An insight into how nation-states, political parties and majority populations address and react to issues related to international migration, diversity, and integration
- 5) An insight into how questions related to migration, diversity and integration are addressed on the research front

6) Critical perspectives on lay discourse and academic studies related to migration, diversity and integration

Formatert: Ingen punktmerking eller nummerering

Knowledge

The course will provide:

- an overview of major trends in global migration and its consequences for diversity and inequality within and across nation-state borders
- key social-science concepts and theories used in the study of migration and diversity
- analytical perspectives in explanations of migration, diversity and inequality

Skills

You will develop the skills to:

- critically assess media and political debates about migration and integration
- use different concepts and theories in order to understand and explain migration and diversity
- critically review empirical studies of migration and diversity
- discuss and write about migration and diversity, following the basic rules of scientific inquiry

General competence

You will be able to:

- think analytically about migration, diversity and inequality
- think about contemporary processes in a comparative and historical perspective
- distinguish between academic knowledge versus personal perceptions
- develop respect for ethical considerations involved in scientific work in general