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PSCI 431.01: Politics of Global Migration

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POLITICS OF GLOBAL MIGRATION

PSCI 431 (3 cr) FALL 2016

***Professor Peter Koehn, Department of Political Science
Office hours: W 1:30-4:00 and by appointment (LA 348)
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Course Description

The proactive and reactive migration of peoples within countries and across national boundaries constitutes one of the fundamental challenges of international relations and domestic politics in the 21st Century. In preparation for these challenges, this course explores recent population movements from a multidisciplinary perspective. Geographical coverage centers on Asia, Africa, North America, and Europe. Attention initially will be devoted to transnationalism and associated economic, social, and political transformations. Then, we will explore key dimensions of transmigration and connect transmigration, transnational competence, global health, and sustainable development.

Course Objectives

Students should develop familiarity with approaches to and dimensions of transnationalism as well as its potential transformative effects in the 21st Century; awareness of global migration patterns, pressures, processes, and implications; understanding of how population movements are related to the emergence of a world mobility system that involves an expanding flow of people across national boundaries in ways that challenge the geopolitical framework of nation states and are facilitated by transnational competence; the ability to connect transmigration and transnational competence with global health and sustainable development; familiarity with the arguments and issues behind current debates and conflicts over policies that impact migration, health, and development; and enhanced individual and group analytic and problem-solving skills.

Course Conduct

Class sessions will emphasize student presentations, questions, contributions, and involvement based upon the assigned reading about the topic under discussion.

Course Requirements and Assessment

3-page (B&R) film review (due 19 Oct.): 20%

Debates (1): 10%

Discussion facilitator performance (2): 20%

Individual research project (due 7 Dec.): 30%

Class/discussion participation, including presentation of research project: 20%

Late papers will be penalized by one + or – grade (e.g., from B+ to B) through 9 December, by an additional + or – between 10 December and 14 December, and by an additional + or – for each day that passes without submission after 14 December. For credit/no-credit grading, students must attain an overall grade of D- to receive a “CR.” Reported final grades will reflect pluses and minuses. See the *Catalog*’s policy on incompletes, disability accommodations, and plagiarism. The instructor will deny late-drop petitions (after the 31st day of instruction).

Required Reading*

Steven Vertovec, *Transnationalism* (Routledge, 2009) [TN]

All other readings are on moodle.

This syllabus is presented as a general guide to the course that is subject to amendment or deviation.

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at <http://www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/index.cfm/page/1321>. See the University of Montana *Catalog's* policy on incompletes and plagiarism. The instructor will deny late-drop petitions (after the 31st day of instruction).

Accessibility

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction by supporting collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students. If you have a disability that requires an accommodation, contact me at the beginning of the semester so that proper accommodations can be provided. Please contact Disability Services for Students <<http://life.umt.edu/dss/>> if you have questions, or call Disability Services for Students (DSS) for voice/text at 406.243.2243.

270 to Win: Electoral College Competition

This year we elect our 45th president, which does affect the politics of global migration. Our course and several other political science classes will engage in the 270 to win competition this semester. The goal of this assignment is for our class to select which states will go “blue” or “red” for the 2016 presidential election. Class selection will occur the week of October 10 (**due 12 Oct.**) and submitted to the Pi Sigma Alpha Political Science Honorary society executive team. Start conducting your research today: <http://www.270towin.com/>

The class closest to the Electoral College outcome will receive free pizza during the final week of the semester provided by Pi Sigma Alpha.