

Syllabus

Research Seminar, GPS, Fall, 2016

The Syrian Refugee Crisis in International Perspective

Instructor: Ivan Major

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Lectures: Tu, Th 8:00–9:20 a.m.

Location: RBC 1428

Course Objectives

Hundreds of thousands of Syrians packed up their personal belongings and left their home country to escape the war that vastly escalated between ISIS and the Assad government. The Syrian refugees' outflow toward Europe—and to a lesser extent to the US—swiftly expanded to an international crisis within the European Union, but also between the US and Russia.

The current wave of immigration has been preceded by several large “booms” of immigrant flows from the Middle East to Europe. This process can—and will also be—contrasted with the continuous inflow of Latin American, mostly Mexican, immigrants to the United States in this course.

We shall start discussing the current refugee crisis and previous periods of immigration hikes in the framework of international economics. We shall make a distinction between the short-term and the long run benefits and costs of immigration.

Remaining in the field of economics, we shall address the host countries' policy and practice toward the immigrant in a political economy framework. Notably, we shall discuss and analyze immigration and the host countries' response in the framework of the “Tragedy of the Anti-Commons”.

We shall turn to the social and humanitarian issues of immigration next. West European and American opposition against immigration is based on the following arguments:

- Immigrants put a huge burden on the host country's tax payers because its the tax payers who bear the financial burden of financing social services—health care, education and social support—provided to the immigrant population.
- Immigrants arrive from countries of completely different cultural, historical and religious background than in the host country that triggers a huge tension—even violent conflicts—between the incoming and the incumbent population.

- Immigrants are usually under-educated and accept a work position at a much lower wage level than local employees that results in unemployment in the host country.

We shall analyze the data base of *Eurostat*—the statistical agency of the European Union—and those of the relevant US agencies to test the above assertions. We shall also consult the rapidly expanding international literature and the media sources on the above issues.

By the end of this course you will be expected to formulate your own hypotheses and theory on one or more aspects of international immigration, and test those based on empirical analysis and formalized models.

Required readings

Robert C. Feenstra and Alan M. Taylor, *International Trade*, 3rd edition, Worth Publishers, N.Y.: New York, 2011 (hereafter: **F&T**), selected chapters.

Meier, G.M. and Rauch, J. *Leading Issues in Economic Development*, 8th edition, Oxford Univ. Press, 2005 (hereafter: **M&R**), selected chapters.

Cornelius, W., Tsuda, T., Hollifield, J. and Martin, P. eds. 2004. *Controlling Immigration: Global perspectives*. 2nd ed. Stanford CA: Stanford Univ. Press.

Course reader – online on TritonEd

Recommended readings

O'Reilly (2012), *International Migration and Social Theory*. Palgrave-MacMillan.

Sassen, S. (1999), *Guests and Aliens*. New York, N.Y.: The New Press.

Lectures and presentations

Each class will start with a presentation based on the topic that had been covered in previous classes. Then the lecture will follow. Lecture notes will be available from the course's website at <http://tritoned.ucsd.edu>.

Presentation and Outline

You are required to hand in your preparatory work as a detailed outline of your presentation. Papers, presentations and discussion will help you apply the sophisticated tools that the course offers.

Presentations should not run longer than 10–15 minutes. You are encouraged to use a slide presentation. Please send your slide presentation to me by email before the day of your scheduled presentation. Each presentation will be followed by a discussion. The outline of your presentation should not be longer than 5 pages double-spaced. It will be due at the beginning of class on the day of your scheduled presentation.

Grading

Letter grades will be based on your presentation, your mid-term essay (max. 10 pages), and on your final paper (max. 15 pages). You need to submit your midterm essay and your final paper in print on the due date that is given under “Class Schedule” below.

Presentation and outline	30%
Midterm essay	30%
Final paper	40%

Grading Scale

–50 point	F
51–55 points	D
56–59 points	C–
60–63 points	C
64–67 points	C+
68–71 points	B–
72–75 points	B
76–79 points	B+
80–84 points	A–
85–89 points	A
90–100 points	A+

I’ll also use a curve in calculating your grade based on the class’s average.

Schedule of Class

Week 1

September 22, 2016

Introduction 1: The History of Immigration in the US and in Europe

Readings: Collected Papers (see on TritonEd)

- “German immigration.” The Economist, December 19, 2015
- “How many migrants to Europe are refugees?” The Economist, September 7th 2015.

Week 2

September 27, 2016

Introduction 2: Economic, Social and Humanitarian Aspects of Immigration

Readings:

- F&T, Chapter 1;
- M&R, Chapter 2
- Collected Papers (see on TritonEd)

September 29, 2016

History and Numbers: Point of Departure and Destination of Immigrants in Historical Perspective

- Immigration to the U.S.A. in the 18th century
- Jewish immigration to Europe
- Asian migration to colonial countries
- Immigration after the first world-wide economic crisis
- Immigration after World War II.
- Globalization and Immigration after the 1980s

Readings: Collected Papers (see on TritonEd)

Week 3

October 4, 2016

History and Numbers: Point of Departure and Destination of Immigrants in Statistics

- Definitions: Immigrants and Refugees
- How to Read Statistics?
- Methods of Statistical Analysis
- Statistical Sources on Immigration
- European Value Study and World Value Survey
- Regression analysis

Readings

- Abel, G.J. and Sander, N. (2014) “Quantifying Global International Migration Flows”, Wittgenstein Centre for Demography and Global Human Capital (IIASA), Vienna Institute of Demography (Austrian Academy of Sciences);
- Eurostat, <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/population-demography-migration-projections/migration-and-citizenship-data>;
- US Census Bureau, <https://www.archives.gov/research/immigration>, and USCIS, <http://www.dhs.gov/immigration-statistics>;
- *A Synthesis of Annual Policy Reports 2014, submitted by EU Member States and Norway*, European Migration Network EMN Annual Report on Immigration and Asylum 2014.

Presentations

- Immigration in History
- Social, Economic and Humanitarian Aspects of Immigration

October 6, 2016

Values, Politics of Immigration and Immigration Policy in Europe

Readings

- Dronkers, J. and Vink, M.P. (2012), “Explaining access to citizenship in Europe: How citizenship policies affect naturalization rates”, *European Union Politics*, **13** (3) 390–412

Week 4

October 11, 2016

Values, Politics of Immigration and Immigration Policy in the US

Readings

- Alba, R. and Foner, N. (2014) “Comparing Immigrant Integration in North America and Western Europe: How Much Do the Grand Narratives Tell Us?” Center for Migration Studies of New York, *IMR* **48** (1), 262–290;

Presentations

- Immigration Flows in History
- Refugees and Immigrants: Immigration Data

October 13, 2016

The Economics of Immigration 1

Readings

- F&T, Chapter 5
- Pilot research study for the European Migration Network on “The Impact of Immigration on Europe’s Societies”: Contribution from the UK Contact Point (TritonEd)

Week 5

October 18, 2016

The Economics of Immigration 2

Readings

- F&T, Chapters 3 and 4;
- Collected papers (see on TritonEd)
 - Immigration in Europe, *The Economist*, Sept 7, 2015
 - Sari Pekkala Kerr and William R. Kerr (2011), *Economic Impacts of Immigration: A Survey*, Harvard Business School Working Paper.

Presentations

- Values, Politics and Immigration Policy in the United States
- Values, Politics and Immigration Policy in Europe

October 20, 2016

The Economics of Immigration 3

Readings

- F&T, Chapter 7
- Borjas, G.J. (1994), "The Economics of Immigration." *Journal of Economic Literature*, **XXXII** (December 1994), pp. 1667–1717.

Week 6

October 25, 2016

The Economics of Immigration 4

Readings

- "Is Migration Good for the Economy?"
<http://www.oecd.org/migration/OECD%20Migration%20Policy%20Debates%20Numero%202.pdf>
- Borjas, G.J. (2000), "Introduction to 'Issues in the Economics of Immigration'",
<http://www.nber.org/chapters/c6051.pdf?origin>
- *Economics of Immigration*, <http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/issues/economics>
- Perri, G. (2013), "The Economic Benefits of Immigration." *Berkeley Review of Latin American Studies*.

Presentations

- Immigration and the Labor Market
- Immigration and Economic Welfare

Your Midterm Essay is due on October 25, 2016 at the beginning of class.

October 27, 2016

The Syrian Refugee Crisis: Facts and Comparison with Previous Immigration Waves from the Middle East to Europe

Week 7

November 1, 2016

The Syrian Refugee Crisis and the “Tragedy of the Anti-Commons”

Readings

Collected papers (see on TritonEd)

Burchardt, M. and Michalowski, I. (2014), *After Integration: Islam, Conviviality and Contentious Politics in Europe*, Springer.

November 3, 2016

Applying the Theory of the Anti-Commons

Readings

- Heller, M.A. (1998), “The Tragedy of the Anti-Commons: Property in the Transition from Marx to Markets”. *Harvard Law Review*, **111** (3), 621–688;
- Buchanan, J. M. and Yoon, Y. J. (2000), “Symmetric Tragedies: Commons and Anti-Commons”. *The Journal of Law and Economics* 43, 1–14.
- Parisi, F., Schulz, N. and Depoorter, B. (2004), “Simultaneous and Sequential Anti-Commons”. *European Journal of Economics* 17: 175–90.
- Major, I. (2014), “A Political Economy Application of the ‘Tragedy of the Anti-Commons’: The Greek Government Debt Crisis”. *International Advances in Economic Research*, 20: 425–37.
- Major, I. (2016), “The Syrian Refugee Crisis in International Perspective – A Political Economy Application of the ‘Tragedy of the Anti-Commons’.” manuscript.

Presentations

- Economic Issues of Immigration
- Immigration and the Labor Market

Week 8

November 8, 2016

The Sociology of Immigration: Demography

Readings

- Groth, H. and Souza-Posa, A. (eds), *Population Dynamics in Muslim Countries: Assembling the Jigsaw*. Springer, 2012;
- Cohen, J.E. (2003), “Human Population: the Next Half Century.” *Science* (302), 1172–75;
- Eberstadt, N. and Shah, A. (2011), “Fertility Decline in the Muslim World: A Veritable Sea-Change, Still Curiously Unnoticed.” THE AMERICAN ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE WORKING PAPER SERIES ON DEVELOPMENT POLICY, No. 7, DECEMBER 2011.

November 10, 2016

The Sociology of Immigration: Culture and Religion

Readings

- Kaufmann, E.P., Skirbekk, V. and Goujon, A. (2012), “The end of secularization in Europe? A socio-demographic perspective”. *Sociology of Religion* 73 (1), pp. 69–91;
- Bianchi, M., Buonanno, P. and Pinotti, P. (2012), “Do Immigrants Cause Crime?” Hal Archives, <https://halshs.archives-ouvertes.fr/halshs-00670036>;
- Burner, B. (2012), “Religiousness And Fertility Among Muslims In Europe: Does Islam Influence Fertility?” *Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences, Faculty of Social Sciences*;
- Johansen, B. and Spielhaus, R. (2012), Counting Deviance: Revisiting a Decade’s Production of Surveys among Muslims in Western Europe.” *Journal of Muslims in Europe*, 1, 81–112;
- Archick, K., Belkin, P., Blanchard, C.M., Ek, C. and Mix, E. (2011), “MUSLIMS IN EUROPE: PROMOTING INTEGRATION AND COUNTERING EXTREMISM.” *Current Politics and Economics of Europe*, 22 (4), 563–629.

Presentations

- The Syrian Refugee Crisis and the EU
- Coping with Immigration: An Example on the Tragedy of the Anticommons

Week 9

November 15, 2016

Immigration and the Law

Readings

- BORDER SECURITY: DHS’s Progress and Challenges in Securing U.S. Borders
- Statement for the Record by Rebecca Gambler, Director Homeland Security and Justice, GAO, 2013.
- COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No 343/2003 of 18 February 2003, establishing the criteria and mechanisms for determining the Member State responsible for examining

an asylum application lodged in one of the Member States by a third-country national.
Official Journal of the European Union.

November 17, 2016

Immigration and Its Cultural Benefits

Readings

Collected papers (see on TritonEd)

Presentations

- Immigration and Demography
- Immigration and Religion

Week 10

November 22, 2016

Immigration and Gender Issues

Readings

- Collected papers (see on TritonEd)

November 24, 2016

Immigration, Education and Health Care

Readings

- Collected papers (see on TritonEd)

Presentations

- Regulating Immigration
- Immigration and Its Cultural Impact on Host Countries

Week 11

November 27, 2016

Refugees, Immigrants and Host Country Policy: What Is the Solution?

Readings

- Collected papers (see on TritonEd)

- Savage, T.M. (2004), “Europe and Islam: Crescent waxing, cultures clashing.” *The Washington Quarterly*, 27 (3), 25–50.
(<http://dx.doi.org/10.1162/016366004323090241>)

November 29, 2016

Immigration and National Security

- Collected papers (see on TritonEd)

Presentations

- Immigration and Women’s Position in Society
- Immigration, Education and Health Care

YOUR FINAL PAPER IS DUE ON December 4, 2016