

## 2019 Humanities Summer School

University of Bergamo (Italy) in collaboration with Fairleigh Dickinson University (USA)

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# Migration, identity and memory in a transnational perspective

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*"They would close to the newcomer the bridge that carried them and their fathers over"*  
Source: "Looking Backward", Puck, 11 January 1893, by Joseph Ferdinand Keppler

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course aims at exploring contemporary migration, migrants' identity and memory in a transnational setting - the way in which memory and identity migrate, glocalize, transform, multiply over temporal and spatial dimensions. Transnationalism as a concept is neither new nor limited to migration-related phenomena, but refers to a wide range of actions, processes and institutions that cross the boundaries of states or national-communities. In contemporary debates, the notion of transnationalism has been generally used to refer to migrants' ongoing ties with source countries. By emphasising the transnational dimension, we can move beyond the nation state as unit of analysis and explore the linkages, interconnections of memory, migration, and identity between different localities in Europe and beyond. The course sketches contemporary trends and dynamics of international migration and the evolution of migration in and outside Europe. In this context, the EU polity shows open contradictions between border openings and closures, market integration processes and restrictive immigration policy. In the meantime, questions related to immigrant integration and transnationalism are coming to the fore and they demand a thorough revision of the immigration policy thinking. New patterns of circular, transit and return migration in Europe provide a set of challenges for integration policies. Therefore, we look at migration and memory processes in a continuum including the way these real and virtual flows of people and ideas reshape the sense of belonging across several

generations. At the end, the participants will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the current trends and dynamics of international migration; of the European immigration history since the end of the Second World War; of the interrelation between migrant transnationalism and immigrant integration; of the way memory, identity and migration intersect beyond the nation states; and finally, of the challenges that different migrant generations are currently facing.

### **Course outline**

The course will be articulated in six sessions each including two lectures as follows:

Session 1: International migration: current trends and dynamics

Session 2: European immigration since the Post-Second World War era

Session 3: Migrant transnationalism: concept and practices

Session 4: Transnationalism and immigrant integration

Session 5: Migration, identity and memory beyond the nation state;

Session 6: Conclusions. Theoretical and empirical challenges ahead.

### **Course requirements and assessment**

#### Indicative learning activities

##### *In session*

Tutor presentation on key readings, other relevant publications and migration related sources (databases, glossaries, videos, etc.).

Elaborating one's own position about the current extent of international migration and memory processes in Europe and beyond through group and plenary discussion.

Presentation of one's own position about international migration and memory processes in Europe and beyond through group and plenary discussion.

##### *Follow-up*

Revising/focusing/sharpening one's own position about the current size and breadth of international migration flows, the linkage between migration and memory in a transnational setting and the challenges faced by different migrant generations based on the moderated discussions in session.

#### Approaches to teaching and learning

Independent self-study

Personal experience on the topic

Lecture

Reflection

Moderated discussion

Presentation

Final written exam

## General references and sources

- Castles, S., De Haas, H., Miller, M. (2014) *The Age of Migration. International Population Movements in the Modern World*, Fifth Edition, Basingstoke: Palgrave-Macmillan.
- Bauböck, R., Faist, T. (2010) (Eds) *Diaspora and Transnationalism. Concepts, Theories and Methods*, IMISCOE Research, Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press.
- Martiniello, M., Rath, J. (2010) (Eds) *Selected Studies in International Migration and Immigrant Incorporation*, IMISCOE Textbooks, Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press.
- Bade, K. J. (2003) *Migration in European History*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Creet, J., Kitzmann, A. (Eds) *Memory and Migration: Multidisciplinary Approaches to Memory Studies*, Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

## Glossaries and Statistics

- Perruchoud, R., Redpath-Cross, J. (2011) (eds.) *Glossary on Migration*, 2nd Edition, International Migration Law, N. 25, Geneva: International Organization for Migration (IOM). At: [https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/im125\\_1.pdf](https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/im125_1.pdf)
- EMN – European Migration Network (2010) *Asylum and Migration Glossary. A tool for better comparability*, Brussels: EC DG-JLS/EMN. At: [http://www.emn.fi/files/179/EMN\\_GLOSSARY\\_Publication\\_Version\\_January\\_2010.pdf](http://www.emn.fi/files/179/EMN_GLOSSARY_Publication_Version_January_2010.pdf)
- Eurostat - Statistics Explained, *Migration and migrant population statistics*, Data extracted in March 2019, Brussels: European Commission. At: [http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Migration\\_and\\_migrant\\_population\\_statistics](http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Migration_and_migrant_population_statistics)

## Contents of the single sessions

Each session comprises two lectures each of two hours (dates and time to be agreed)

### Session 1

#### *International migration: current trends and dynamics*

This preliminary session represents an opportunity to get acquainted with global migration trends, push, and pull factors of worldwide migration flows and the current changing character of international migration for students who lack pre-knowledge on these issues as well as possible refreshment for those more experienced on this topic. Additionally, it also includes a short introduction to a visual ethnographic approach to urban environments.

#### Required readings:

- Koser, K. (2007) *International Migration: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Krase, J. (2011) “Ethnic Crossroads: Visualizing Urban Narratives”, in C. Allemann-Ghionda, W. D. Bukow, *Orte der Diversität: Formate, Arrangements und Inszenierungen*, Wiesbaden: VS Verlag, pp. 93-112.
- Ruspini, P. (2014) “The Transformative Character of International Migration and its Impact on Integration Practices and Learning Needs”, in F. Bignami, M.G. Onorati (Eds) *Intercultural*

*Competences for Vocational Education and Training. Experiential Learning and Social Contexts for Enhancing Professional Competences*, Milan: Egea, pp. 89-98.

## **Session 2**

### ***European immigration since the Post-Second World War Era***

Post-war migration into the western societies since the 1950s was central to the economic reconstruction of these countries and was structured by the development of the European economy that generated demand for migrant workers. The post-war economic boom in Western Europe was sustained by migrants from other European countries and beyond. There was, however, the assumption that this labour migration was temporary and that migrants would return to their countries of origin when economic conditions changed. By the late 1970s it was clear that supposed temporary migration had turned into permanent settlement. The session will provide an overview of three main periods of the European immigration history: (1) Labour migration between the 1950s and 1973-4 driven to a great extent by the exigencies of west European economic reconstruction; (2) Family migration from the 1970s onwards once labour recruitment was terminated; (3) The 'third wave' of migration developed in the aftermath of the end of the Cold War in 1989 with emphasis on asylum seeking migration and migration defined by state policies as 'illegal'.

#### Required readings:

Castles, S., De Haas, H., Miller, M. (2009) "Migration in Europe since 1945", in S. Castles, H. De Haas, M. Miller, *The Age of Migration. International Population Movements in the Modern World*, Fifth Edition, Basingstoke: Palgrave-Macmillan, pp. 102-125.

Geddes, A. (2003) "Analysing the Politics of Migration and Immigration in Europe", in A. Geddes, *The Politics of Migration and Immigration in Europe*, London: SAGE Publications, pp. 1-28.

Fassmann, H. (2009) "European migration: Historical overview and statistical problems", in Fassmann, H., Reeger, U., Sievers, W. (2009) (Eds) *Statistics and Reality. Concept and Measurements of Migration in Europe*, IMISCOE Reports, Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, pp. 21-44.

At: <http://www.oapen.org/search?identifier=340025;keyword=Statistics%20and%20reality>

Ruspini, P. (2008) "The Post-Enlargement Migration Space", in C. Bonifazi, M. Okólski, J. Schoorl, P. Simon (Eds) *International Migration in Europe: New Trends, New Methods of Analysis*, IMISCOE Research, Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, 179-196.

At: <http://www.oapen.org/search?identifier=340088;keyword=imiscoe>

## **Session 3**

### ***Migrant transnationalism: concept and practices***

The concept 'transnationalism' became usual in the last few years. However, the term is neither new nor limited to migration-related phenomena, but refers to a wide range of actions, processes and institutions that cross the boundaries of states or national-communities. The earliest use of this term regarding immigration is probably a famous essay by Randolph Bourne from 1916 in which he described America as a 'transnational nation' composed of, and constantly changed through, immigration from diverse origins. In contemporary debates, the notion of transnationalism has been generally used to refer to migrants' ongoing ties with source countries.

#### Required readings:

Portes, A., Guarnizo, L. E. & Landolt, P. (1999) "The study of transnationalism: pitfalls and promise of an emergent research field", *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, Volume 22, Number 2, March 1999, pp. 217-237.

Kivisto, P. (2001) "Theorizing transnational immigration: a critical review of current efforts", *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, Vol. 24, No. 4, July 2001, pp. 549-577.

Bauböck, R. (2003) "Towards a Political Theory of Migrant Transnationalism", *International Migration Review*, Vol. 37, No. 3, Transnational Migration: International Perspectives (Fall, 2003), pp. 700-723.

Vertovec, S. (2004) "Migrant Transnationalism and Modes of Transformation", *International Migration Review*, Volume 38, Number 3 (Fall 2004), pp. 970-1001.

Mihailov, D., Richter, M. and Ruspini, P. (2017) "Social Networks and Transnational Migration Practices", in M. Richter, P. Ruspini, D. Mihailov, V. Mintchev and M. Nollert (Eds) *Migration and Transnationalism Between Switzerland and Bulgaria*, New York: Springer, pp. 153-180.

#### **Session 4**

##### ***Transnationalism and immigrant integration***

New patterns of circular, transit and return migration in Europe provide a set of challenges for integration policies. Under conditions of globalisation, the growing transnationalism and the role of diasporas urges a redefinition of the traditional notions of integration. Notions of identity are evolving as individuals increasingly 'belong' to more than one country and society. Purpose of this session is to discuss current transnational patterns of migration in Europe, the impact of immigration policies and the equation transnationalism-integration.

#### Required readings:

Bivand Erdal, M. & Oeppen, C. (2013) "Migrants balancing acts: Understanding the interaction between integration and transnationalism", *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 39(6): 867-884.

Mügge, L. (2016) "Transnationalism as a Research Paradigm and Its Relevance for Integration", in B. Garcés-Mascareñas, R. Penninx (eds.), *Integration Processes and Policies in Europe. Contexts, Levels and Actors*, IMISCOE Research Series, New York: Springer Open, 109-125.

Ruspini, P. (2011) "Conceptualising Transnationalism: East-West Migration Patterns in Europe", in C. Allemann Ghionda, W.D. Bukow (Eds) *Orte der Diversität: Formate, Arrangements und Inszenierungen*, Wiesbaden: VS Verlag, 115-127.

Ruspini, P. (2019) "Migrants unbound? Transnationalism, Immigrant Integration and Return in Europe and Beyond" in P. Ruspini, *Migrants Unbound*, London: Transnational Press London, 7-18.

#### **Session 5**

##### ***Migration, identity and memory beyond the nation state***

Emphasis on the transnational dimension allows to move beyond the nation state as unit of analysis and explore the linkages, interconnections of memory, migration, and identity between

different localities in Europe and beyond. This session aims at exploring the way migrants' identity and memory migrate, glocalize, transform, multiply over temporal and spatial dimensions.

Required readings:

Mitzal, B. (2003) "Memory and identity", in *Theories of Social Remembering*, Maidenhead, England: Open University Press, 132-8.

Canefe, N. (2011) "Home in Exile: Politics of Refugeehood in the Canadian Muslim Diaspora", in J. Creet, A. Kitzmann (Eds) *Memory and Migration: Multidisciplinary Approaches to Memory Studies*, Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 156-180.

**Session 6**

***Conclusions. Theoretical and empirical challenges ahead***

Further readings:

Amelina, A., Faist, T., Nergiz, D. D. (2013) (Eds) *Methodologies on the Move. The Transnational Turn in Empirical Migration Research*, London and New York: Routledge and Ethnic and Racial Studies.

Creet, J., Kitzmann, A. (Eds) *Memory and Migration: Multidisciplinary Approaches to Memory Studies*, Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

Martiniello, M., Rath, J. (Eds) *An Introduction to Immigrant Incorporation Studies: European Perspectives*, IMISCOE Textbook Series, Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press.

***Classes schedule***

Tuesday, 18 June 2019 (h. 10.00 – 13.00 and 14.00 – 17.00)

*International migration: current trends and dynamics*

Thursday, 20 June 2019 (h. 10.00 – 13.00 and 14.00 – 17.00)

*European immigration since the Post-Second World War Era*

Friday, 21 June 2019 (h. 14.00 – 17.00)

*Migrant transnationalism: concept and practices*

Tuesday, 25 June 2019 (h. 10.00 – 13.00 and 14.00-17.00)

*Transnationalism and immigrant integration*

Thursday, 27 June 2019 (h. 10.00 – 13.00 and 14.00 – 17.00)

*Migration, identity and memory beyond the nation state*

Friday, 28 June 2019 (h. 14.00 – 17.00)

*Conclusions. Theoretical and empirical challenges ahead*

*Final written exam (open questions in class) or alternatively an 8/10-page paper (for submission by the 12<sup>th</sup> July 2019)*