

Sociology track:

Migration, displacement and (trans)national solidarities in Ukraine in the global contexts

Course coordinator: Viktoriya Sereda (Ukrainian Catholic University, Department of Sociology, currently at the Forum transregionale Studien, Berlin)

This course aims at the examination of various societal impacts of migration and displacement processes in the contemporary world with a special focus on multi-level challenges brought by the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The course begins with overview of diverse forms of migrations, from deportations and forced politically driven refugee-seeking resettlements to economically caused labor short-term pendulum or long-term long-distance migrations. It will discuss major demographic trends. The changing trends of Ukrainian emigration will be explored through the research-oriented individual and collective student projects that would work with existing data collections and field work materials. Special attention will be paid to war-driven displacement as a factor of societal transformations in comparative perspective.

The course will also explore the inter-relation between the process of migration and the rearticulation of the sense of belonging by both resettled groups and receiving communities. This requires borrowing conceptual tools from the theories of nationalism with a special focus on 'everyday nationalism' approach with its orientation towards the study of practices, symbolic systems and state institutional arrangements that account for the everyday (re)reproduction of frameworks of belonging. This shall open new perspectives on such issues as multiculturalism, diversity, integration, cohesion and social solidarities in receiving communities. The course participants will engage in the collaborative discovery of several key problems such as Ukraine's place in the care chain, gender aspects of migration, global diasporas, migrants as important transnational development agents, and the artistic representations of migration.

By exploring research potential of various historical and sociological approaches the course shall introduce students to the current trends in theoretical discussions in the field of migration studies, and help them to rethink the main concepts and their applicability to the region. The course shall instruct students to compare data on the cultural and social aspects of transnational and internal migrations in Ukraine and Europe. In addition, it will introduce students to a wide range of case studies, and it will teach them how to translate theoretical knowledge into the practical field.

The course will consist of the following components:

1. Globalization of migration. Demographic trends
2. Typologies of migration
3. Theories of nationalism. Debates over multiculturalism
4. Refugees and internally displaced people in and outside Ukraine
5. Political, gender and cultural aspects of migration

The course is planned to be co-taught by the international team of scholars. Invited scholars include:

Franck Düvell (University of Osnabrück)

Gwendolyn Sasse (ZOiS, Berlin, Director)

Kateryna Ivashchenko (NGO SeeD, Ukraine)

Tetiana Kostyuchenko (National University Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, Department of Sociology, currently at the Free University of Berlin)

Tamara Martseniuk (National University Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, Department of Sociology, currently at the Free University of Berlin)

Oksana Mikheieva (Ukrainian Catholic University, Department of Sociology, currently at the European University Viadrina, Frankfurt/Oder)

J. Paul Goode (Carleton University)