**Political Science 150 A, Summer Session I**

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**Introduction**

This course explores how the United States and other immigrant-receiving countries are responding to, and being transformed by, international migration. It addresses many key questions in migration studies and provides a comprehensive overview of the debates that have arisen among scholars and policymakers in the field. We will address many topics, including why people migrate, ethical debates related to efforts to control immigration, the politics and determinants of immigration policy, immigrant societal and political incorporation (and exclusion), and the relationship between immigration and national security.

The first half of the class will provide an overview of migration control policies in the U.S. and other receiving countries. We will discuss why people migrate and debate the merits of various theories of migration policymaking.

In the second half of the class, we will discuss the complex ethical challenges inherent in managing migratory flows. We will then shift our discussion from policies of admission and control to policies of integration and citizenship—policies concerning migrants that are already present in their host countries. Finally, we will discuss potential implications of migratory flows for international security.

The course readings will include both academic texts and policy reports.

By the end of this course, students will develop a nuanced understanding of migration debates in the United States and beyond.

**Course Materials**

It is recommended that you purchase the following textbook:


All readings are posted online on the course website on TED in the ‘Contents’ folder.
**My Expectations**

Come to class prepared to discuss the readings. Immigration is an extremely complex issue and we will engage with a variety of perspectives. I urge you to read each piece with an open and reflective mind.

Your papers should demonstrate not only that you read and understood the readings, but that you have thought about them critically and formed an opinion. I expect you to be able to articulate your opinion in a thoughtful, balanced way, acknowledging the pros and cons of your argument. You should also demonstrate that you can integrate concepts from the readings in an organized, succinct manner.

As you work on your papers, I am always available to read drafts and will also post writing tips online.

**Grading**

You will be graded based on your participation, a 2-3 page policy memorandum, and a 7-8 page final paper.

The policy memorandum will be collected at the beginning of class on July 24th. On July 17th, you will be presented with 3 policy scenarios (within the broader context of immigration policy) to choose among. You will put yourself in the shoes of an immigration policymaker, briefly proposing a solution to the policy problem of your choice. Drawing from the readings, you will weigh the pros and cons of your argument in a succinct manner. You should write as if you are writing for government audiences – a template and sample memoranda will be provided.

Your final paper will be due on July 31st. You will be given a prompt on July 24th with 4-5 questions pertaining to the course readings. I expect you to write a 7-8 page paper answering one of these questions to the best of your ability, keeping in mind the expectations stipulated above.

Your grade will be calculated as follows:

20% Participation.

30% Policy Memo, 2-3 pages, due July 24th.

50% 7-8 page final paper – July 31st

**Late Policy**

Your grade will drop one half a letter grade (e.g. A to A-) for each day you are late. After one week, I will not accept papers without a documented medical or family excuse.
Course Schedule

July 1: Course Overview: Why do People Migrate?


July 3: Theories of Migration

*Key Question: Why do people migrate across borders?*


July 8: Sources of Migration Policy

*Key Question: What social forces shape immigration policy?*


July 10: Migration Policy in the U.S.

*Key Question: How has U.S. immigration policy evolved over time?*


July 15: Immigration: A Global Concern

*Key Question: How have other countries responded to immigrant inflows?*


**July 17: The Ethics of Migration Control**

*Key Question: What responsibility do states have toward migrants?*


**July 22: Undocumented Migration**

*Key Question: What rights should the U.S. government grant undocumented migrants?*


**July 24: Political Integration**

*Key Question: What factors determine immigrants’ civic and political integration into their host countries?*


**July 29 Societal Responses to Migration**

*Key Questions: How do people react to migratory inflows? How can anti-immigrant sentiment be explained? What explains the rise of extreme right parties in Europe?*


**July 31 Forced Migration; Migration and Security**

*Key Questions: How does migration impact international security? What responsibilities do states have towards refugees and asylum seekers? Is a multilateral approach to refugee flow management possible?*

