

SOP77052: Labour, Migration and Conflict

Duration: Hilary Term
ECTS: 10 credits
Lecturer: Dr Camila Devitt (devittca@tcd.ie)

Aims

This module focuses on two key interrelated areas within migration studies and political sociology, labour and conflict.

It introduces students to the literature on labour migration, theories and empirical research on the politics of immigration and scholarship on violent and non-violent conflicts revolving around or involving ethnic minorities or newly arrived immigrants.

The main area of interest is migration into and within Western Europe, but comparative references to other parts of the world are made and are welcome in discussions.

Learning outcomes

Upon completion of this module students will be able to critically discuss:

- the main theories of international labour migration
- the evolving role of the state in governing labour immigration
- conflict regarding labour immigration policies in Western Europe
- the growth of extreme right political parties in Europe
- work related discrimination and conflict involving migrant workers
- conflicts concerning Muslim practices in Europe
- violent conflict involving ethnic minorities and immigrants

Working methods

The module is delivered in 11 seminar slots consisting of a lecturing input, followed by a student presentation of a reading (identified by ∞ in the below reading list) and group discussions based around a few spontaneous and pre-defined questions. Students are expected to read the weekly reading identified by a *. Each week, two students will be in charge of leading group discussions.

Assessment

Presentation and discussion: 20% of overall grade.

Each student will present a reading each week using powerpoint. The student will demonstrate her/his understanding of the reading identifying: the key question; the methodology; and evaluating the strength of evidence supporting the author's argument.

The module is mainly assessed by an essay (80% of overall grade) on a topic of your choice related to one or more of the module classes (3000 word max). Please submit your essay on Turnitin by **9 a.m. on the 17th of April**. Your essays may be critical discussions or have a comparative or explanatory aim. The scope of your essay can be large or small; for example, you may choose to write an essay: comparing/contrasting immigration policy in two states; explaining why there is no extreme right political party in Ireland; accounting for a recent riot involving ethnic minorities or immigrants; or critically discussing how a particular trade union movement confronts migrant workers. Your essay will be primarily based on secondary literature; however, you may also refer to some media articles.

Key readings

- Massey, D. et al. (1993). "Theories of International Migration: A Review and Appraisal", *Population and Development Review* 19(3): 431-466
- Torpey, J. (2000). *The Invention of the Passport*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Messina, Anthony M. (2007). *The Logic and Politics of Post-WWII Migration to Western Europe*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
- Afonso, Alexandre and Devitt, Camilla (2016) Comparative Political Economy and International Migration, *Socio-Economic Review*, 14, (3), p395 - 417