Course outline and reading list: SO4292 Migration 2013/14

Part II: The first and second generation in Europe and the United States

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Office hours (College Green 2.08):
Tuesdays 11am-1pm
Thursdays 2-4pm
Or by prior appointment

Background and aims

Part II of the module examines the social, cultural and economic integration of migrants and their children in Europe and the United States. After an introduction to the central theoretical perspectives in the ‘assimilation’ discourse, we explore the attainment of migrants in the labour market, education and socio-culturally. We examine how these integration dimensions are influenced by host country institutions, origin country social structures and how they interact.

Learning objectives

Upon completion of this course you will be able to:

- Critically evaluate concepts such as assimilation, integration and segmented assimilation
- Compare the different integration outcomes of first and second generation immigrants in Europe and the United States
- Assess the role of host country policies and contexts of reception, origin country factors and individual characteristics on outcomes
- Engage with the current empirical literature and policy documents in the field of immigrant integration

Teaching

There is one lecture per week from weeks 1 to 6 and 8 to 12 (Wednesday 3-4pm; Room 2041A), and one tutorial per student per week from weeks 2 to 6 and 8 to 11 (Thursday 10-11am in Arts Building Room 5033 or 12-1pm in 3 College Green Room 3). Active participation in tutorials is required (see reading list for details of preparatory readings).

Assessment

The course is assessed by a final 3 hour exam, in which student will answer 3 questions out of a choice of topics. Further details will be circulated in due course.
Week 1 - Overview

Overview of course materials, teaching and assessment, and introduction to main topics covered in the module. We will organise tutorial groups, but no tutorial takes place in this week.

Week 2 – Conceptualising immigrant incorporation: Integration, assimilation segmented assimilation?

We investigate concepts such as integration, assimilation and segmented assimilation and critically discuss their use in the literature. In the tutorial we review the theoretical literature, and discuss how integration can be studied empirically by focusing on the Irish Integration Monitor (McGinnity et al., 2011). This serves as a starting point for the coming weeks, when we investigate the empirical literature on immigrant integration across different countries.


Week 3 – Immigrants in the labour market

We will focus on the empirical literature about the labour market outcomes of immigrants in Europe and the United States, and link this to the theoretical debates around different modes of incorporation. In the tutorial we will compare the situation in Ireland with that in a range of other countries, and discuss potential reasons for the different patterns that emerge.

**Barret, Alan and David Duffy. 2008. ‘Are Ireland’s immigrants integrating into its labour market?’, International Migration Review, 42, 597-619.**


Week 4 – Social and political incorporation

We investigate the social and political integration of immigrants, with particular focus on residential segregation, contacts to members and institutions of the host society, political incorporation, as well as maintenance of homeland ties and transnational practices. In the tutorial we compare how different countries have approached social and political incorporation, and the outcomes of such policies.


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**Week 5 - ‘Clash’ of cultures?**

The focus of this week is on the role of culture and religion in migration. In the tutorial we review the empirical literature on immigrant religion in different countries, and evaluate the extent to which it serves as a bridge or a barrier to integration depending on the context.

**Foner, N. and Alba, R. (2008) ‘Immigrant religion in the U.S. and Western Europe: Bridge or barrier to inclusion?’, International Migration Review, 42(2), 360-392.**


Week 6 – Gender and multiculturalism

This week we continue to look at cultural integration, and particularly the controversies about gender and sexuality in the context of multiculturalism. In the tutorial we review different viewpoints and critically reflect on perceived ‘incompatibility’ of cultures.


Week 7 - Reading week (no classes)

Week 8 - The second generation in Europe and the United States

The specific situation of the second generation in Europe and the United States will be linked to the main theoretical debates in the recent literature. In the tutorial, we discuss the similarities and differences between the first and the second generation, as well as amongst members of the second generation.


Week 9 – Guest lecture: Discrimination in Ireland and beyond

This week, Dr. Frances McGinnity, Senior Research Officer at the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI), will speak on her research on discrimination of immigrants in Ireland. In the tutorials, we discuss the implications of this research for understanding discrimination more generally.


*OECD (2012) *Settling In: OECD Indicators of Immigrant Integration 2012*, OECD Publishing. (Chapter 9)


Week 10 – Immigrants and host societies: Contexts of reception

This week we explore how the native population reacts to migration, and discuss how different political, social and economic contexts all contribute to how migrants are received in a society, and how this can influence integration outcomes. Anti-immigrant attitudes, discrimination and its consequences are explored further in the tutorial, with focus on the evidence from different countries.


**MIPEX III, available on: [http://www.mipex.eu/download](http://www.mipex.eu/download)


**Week 11 - Migration and European welfare states**

Migration is often suggested as the solution for the ‘demographic crisis’ in Europe. In both the lecture and the tutorial we engage in the debate whether this is a likely scenario, and to what extent large scale immigration is compatible with European style welfare states.


**Week 12 – Exam preparation**

This week we will review the course material in preparation for the exam, and students are advised to prepare questions. No seminars take place.