This course is designed to be an introduction to the major theoretical debates in migration research. We will consider evidence for a series of questions: why do people (not) move? How are migration decisions made? What effect does migration have on (a) receiving societies, (b) sending societies, and (c) migrants themselves? How is migration organized by gender? What differentiates forced and unforced migration? How are immigrants incorporated into new societies? How is the context of reception affected by state policy and local institutions?

Although the class is listed within the demography sub-heading, the course is instead intended to be much broader in scope. We will read ethnographic, comparative-historical, demographic, and econometric work; we will read pieces from political science, economics, psychology, and geography in addition to those from sociology.

Evaluation
Grades will consist of weekly memos (30%), weekly participation (25%), one presentation (15%) and a final paper (30%).

Memos. Each week students will compose a short memo (3-6 paragraphs) in response to the reading. These should not summarize the readings, but should instead synthesize ideas and critically consider the questions, methods, and conclusions found in the readings. On occasion, a guiding question will be provided. Memos should end with one or two lingering questions the student finds confusing or feels remain unanswered in the texts.

The course meets on Monday afternoon. My expectation is that weekly memos will be posted to the class webpage by Sunday afternoon so that all students in the class have an opportunity to read each others’ responses.

Presentations. In teams, students will lead a short presentation (15-20 minutes) on the contemporary migration trends in a selected region. The presentations should emphasize the size and composition of migrant stocks and flows, the origins of this movement, the reception of immigrants, and major policy changes that have facilitated or hindered movement in recent decades.

Final Paper. The final paper for this class can take many forms; the goal is to move students’ own research forward. For the students not yet working on migration-related research, this could be a response piece to an existing publication or a review paper on a topic to be pursued empirically in the future. For students already working on a research project, this can be a proposal draft, or a manuscript
revision for publication. By November 10th, please email me two or three paragraphs describing your project and how you imagine it will draw from the material covered in this class.

Course Readings
All of the readings will be made available online at this course’s Learn @ UW site: https://learnuw.wisc.edu/. After logging in and clicking on “Sociology 971” in the “Courses” section of the home page, readings can be found by clicking on the “Content” tab located on the far left of the navigation bar at the top of the screen.

Anticipated discussion schedule (readings may be adjusted depending on our progress):
*Readings marked with an asterisk are optional

September 13 Introduction: Why People Move


September 20 Measuring and Modeling Migration


**Migrant Selection: Who Moves?**

**Trends in Migration to/from/within Latin America**


Trends in Migration to/from/within Europe

October 11 Migration and Development Revisited


**Trends in Migration to/from/within Africa**

**October 18**  
**Migration and Gender**


**Trends in Migration to/from/within Asia**
October 25  The Role of the State


Trends in Migration to/from/within the Middle East

November 1  Modes of Incorporation


November 8  Race and Ethnicity


November 10  **Final Paper Topics: (email to jnobles@ssc.wisc.edu)**

November 15  Transnationalism


November 22  The Institution of Family


November 29  Residential and Occupational Segregation – “Enclaves”


December 6 **Migration and Security; Present Day Europe and the United States**


December 13 **The 1.5, 2nd, and 3rd Generation in the United States**


*December 17* **Final Paper Due** (email to jnobles@ssc.wisc.edu)