

PhD Course – Perspectives and Use of Theories in Studying Migration, Ethnic Relations and Global Inequalities (5 ECTS)

Course code and name	Perspectives and use of theories in studying migration, ethnic relations and global inequalities
Course type	Elective
Study location	Bodø
Dates	Week 36 (Sept. 6-9)
Course coordinator	Associate professor Yan Zhao
Teaching language	English
Teaching semester	Fall 2021
Offered as independent course (E-TYPE)	yes
Costs	The course is free for candidates admitted to the PhD in Sociology at Nord University. Other candidates should pay a course fee of 1000,- NOK
Course evaluation	Oral evaluation at the end of the course
Short introduction (E-INNHOLD)	<p>The aim of this PhD course is to provide PhD students with the key theoretical perspectives in studying migration and related issues. These include perspectives from postcolonial theories, feminist theories, transnationalism, and critical whiteness/race theories, with a focus on their applications, also in combination with other sociological/social theories in empirical studies. Additionally, the course will address some of the recent trends and debates in the field of migration studies, and discuss the dilemmas and difficulties the individual researcher can encounter in researching migration, race, ethnicity, and other forms of social differences and inequalities.</p> <p>Amongst the themes covered are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Migration-related diversities, ethnic/racial relations and integration • Migration, welfare and care • Intersectioned power relations and inequalities • Migration, labour and social mobility • Trafficking, border regimes and forced migration • Transnationalism, diaspora, identity and belonging • Researcher positionality and reflexivity in migration studies
Learning outcomes (E-LÆR)	<p>Knowledge: The participants will gain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • knowledge on the introduced concepts and theories

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • overview of the theoretical and empirical discussions/debates in the field of migration studies • knowledge of key research needs and research challenges in the field <p>Skills: By the end of the course, the participants can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Select and apply relevant theories in their own thesis projects • Reflect upon the contents of the course in relation to the candidates' own research context and needs • Produce a paper of high scientific quality <p>General competence: By the end of the course, the participants can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop theoretical framework and analytical perspectives according to their own research needs • Participate in critically reflective discussions on the central themes and theories in migration research • Develop a self-reflexive stance on researchers' positionality and strategy for conducting reflexive research
Prerequisites (E-OPPTAK)	The course is open to students enrolled in a doctoral program.
Mode of delivery	We hope to have it as an on-campus course, but are also prepared to have it online (e.g. on Zoom)
Learning activities and teaching methods	The course consists of a combination of independent study and lectures, seminars and discussions. A high degree of independent work is expected in connection with the writing of the paper.
Course literature and recommended reading	<p>Total page count: Approximately 850 – 900 (compulsory) Course literature, compulsory by lecture:</p> <p>Anne-Jorunn Berg: Racialising Whiteness – Postcolonial Issues Literature:</p> <p>Andreassen, R. and Myong, L., 2017. Race, Gender, and Researcher Positionality Analysed through Memory Work. <i>Nordic Journal of Migration Research</i>, 7(2), pp.97–104. DOI: http://doi.org/10.1515/njmr-2017-0011</p> <p>Berg, Anne-Jorunn 2008. "Silence and Articulation—Whiteness, Racialization and Feminist Memory Work" i <i>NORA—Nordic Journal of Women's Studies</i>, 16:4, 213-227 https://www.tandfonline-com.ezproxy.nord.no/doi/pdf/10.1080/08038740802446492?needAccess=true</p> <p>Dankertsen, Astri 2020. "Sami Feminist Moments: Decolonization and Indigenous Feminism" in Sarah Nickel and Amanda Fehr (eds.) <i>Good Relation: History, Gender, and Kinship in Indigenous Feminism</i>. Winnipeg: University of Manitoba press</p> <p>Frankenberg, R. 1993. <i>White women, race matters: the social construction of whiteness</i>. London: Routledge, chap.1</p> <p>Keskinen, Suvi and Rikke 2017 "Developing Theoretical Perspectives On Racialisation and Migration" I <i>Nordic Journal of Migration Research</i>. Vol.7, no2. https://search-proquest-</p>

com.ezproxy.nord.no/docview/1915793280?accountid=26469&rfr_id=info%3Axri%2Fsid%3Aprimo

Recommended:

Knoblock, Ina & Rauna Kuokkanen (2015) Decolonizing Feminism in the North: A Conversation with Rauna Kuokkanen, *NORA - Nordic Journal of Feminist and Gender Research*, 23:4, 275-281

https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/08038740.2015.1090480?casa_token=S6VBFkwc-oYAAAAA:WIIJ2szRDwYSEgHh94rxQCN0dsqKdc1v9BJQ-YZf-Kbp_fe3ZuXEchciM5gsYqxN872g14jb-fp

Lapiņa Linda & Mantē Vertelytė (2020) "Eastern European", Yes, but How? Autoethnographic Accounts of Differentiated Whiteness, *NORA - Nordic Journal of Feminist and Gender Research*, 28:3, 237-250, DOI: 10.1080/08038740.2020.1762731

Mulinari, D., Keskinen, S., Irni, S., and Tuori, S. 2009. 'Introduction: Postcolonialism and the Nordic Models of Welfare and Gender' in S. Keskinen, S. Irni, S. Tuori and D. Mulinari (eds.), *Complying with colonialism: gender, race and ethnicity in the Nordic region*. Surrey: Ashgate.

Ann Toril Tørrisplass: A dialogue between two theoretical perspectives – Using intersectionality and institutional ethnography to understand unaccompanied refugee girls meeting with the Norwegian welfare state

Literature:

Anthias, F. (2012). Transnational Mobilities, Migration Research and Intersectionality. Towards a translocational frame. *Nordic Journal of Migration* 2(2), 102-110. DOI: 10.2478/v10202-011-0032-y

Campbell, M. L. (2016). Intersectionality, Policy-Oriented Research and the Social Relations of Knowing. *Gender, Work and Organization* 23(3). DOI: 10.1111/gwao.12083

Carbado, D. W., Crenshaw, K. W., Mays, V. M., Tomlinson, B. (2013). Intersectionality. Mapping the Movements of a Theory. *Du Bois Review* 10:2, 303-312. DOI: 10.1017/0S1742058X13000349

Hussey, I. (2020). Challenges for Institutional Ethnographers: On the Paradox of Standpoint Epistemology and the Complexities of Difference. *Socialist Studies/ Études socialistes* 14(1).

Devault, M. L. (2006). Introduction : What is Institutional Ethnography? *Social Problems*, 53(3), 294-294.

Anna Przybyszewska: Studying migration and human mobility – an overview of theories and an example of active theory use

Literature:

King Russel. 2012. "Theories and typologies of migration: an overview and a primer." Willy Brandt Series of Working Papers in International Migration and Ethnic Relations 3/12: 3-41. Malmö University.

Sohlberg Peter, and Håkon Leiulfstrud. 2017. "Theory and theoretical operations." In: P. Sohlberg, and H. Leiulfstrud (eds.) *Theory in action: theoretical constructionism* (pp. 1-22). Leiden: Brill Academic Publishers.

- Pratsinakis, Manolis, Panos Hatziprokopiou, and Russell King. 2017. "Beyond migration binaries and linear transitions: the complexification of Greece's migratory landscape at times of crisis." Sussex Centre for Migration Research Working Paper Series No. 92. University of Sussex.
- Korpela, Mari. 2020. "Searching for a countercultural life abroad: neo-nomadism, lifestyle mobility or bohemian lifestyle migration?" *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* 46 (15):3352-69. doi: 10.1080/1369183X.2019.1569505.
- Thatcher, Jenny and Kristoffer Halvorsrud. 2016, *Migrating habitus: a comparative case study of Polish and South African migrants in the UK*. In: N Ingram, B Ciarán, J Abrahams, and J Thatcher (eds.), "Bourdieu: the next generation. The development of Bourdieu's intellectual heritage in contemporary UK sociology" (pp. 88-106). London: Routledge.

Emma Seyram Hamenoo: Human trafficking in migration discourses – a critical perspective

Literature:

- Borraccetti, M. (2017). Human Trafficking. In S. Salomon, L. Heschl, G. Oberleitner, & W. Benedek (Eds.), *Blurring Boundaries: Human Security and Forced Migration* (pp. 187 - 210).
- Campana, P., Campana, P., Varese, F., & Varese, F. (2016). Exploitation in Human Trafficking and Smuggling. *European journal on criminal policy and research*, 22(1), 89-105. doi:10.1007/s10610-015-9286-6
- Sandu, A. (2016). An Introduction to Social Constructionism. In A. Sandu (Ed.), *Social construction of reality as communicative action* (pp. 1-12).
- Shelley, L. I. (2010). The Rise and Cost of Human Trafficking. In L. I. Shelley (Ed.), *Human trafficking : a global perspective* (pp. 37 -138; 201-228). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Stephane, P., Dessy, S. (2003). *The Economics of Child Child Trafficking*. Retrieved from <https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/6371683.pdf>

Recommended:

- Hamenoo, E. S. & Mantey Agyire-Tettey, E.E** (2018) 'Understanding Child Trafficking within Ghana: Stakeholders' Perspective' *Journal of Modern Slavery*, Vol 4, Issue 1.

Yan Zhao: Researcher positionalities, so what? – Methodological implications of researcher positionality in developing reflexive analysis in empirical studies

Literature:

- Carling, Jørgen, Erdal, Marta Bivand, & Ezzati, Rojan (2014) Beyond the insider–outsider divide in migration research, *Migration Studies*, Volume 2, Issue 1, Pages 36–54
<https://doi.org/10.1093/migration/mnt022>
- Dahinden, Janine, Fischer, Carolin & Menet, Joanna (2021) Knowledge production, reflexivity, and the use of categories in migration studies: tackling challenges in the field, *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 44:4, 535-554, DOI: 10.1080/01419870.2020.1752926

Nencel L. (2014) Situating reflexivity: Voices, positionalities, and representations in feminist ethnographic texts. *Women's Studies International Forum* 43 (2014): 75-83.

Nowicka, Magdalena, Cieslik, Anna (2014) Beyond methodological nationalism in insider research with migrants, *Migration Studies*, Volume 2, Issue 1, Pages 1–15, <https://doi.org/10.1093/migration/mnt024>

Zhao, Y. (2015) Exploring the interactive space of the 'outsider within': Practising feminist situated knowledge in studying transnational adoption. *European Journal of Women's Studies* 23(2) 140-154

Brigitte Suter: The migration-welfare nexus from a transnational perspective

Literature:

Levitt, P., Viterna, J., Mueller, A., Lloyd, C. (2017). Transnational social protection: Setting the agenda. *Oxford Development Studies*, 45(1), 2–19.

Oso, L. & Suárez-Grimalt, L. (2018) Towards a theoretical model for the study of productive and reproductive strategies in transnational families: Latin American migration and social mobility in Spain, *Journal of Family Studies*, 24:1, 41-58, DOI:10.1080/13229400.2017.1374202

Ryndyk, O., Suter, B. and Odden, G. (eds.) (2021) *Migration to and from Welfare States: Lived Experiences of the Welfare–Migration Nexus in a Globalised World*, Amsterdam: Springer IMISCOE Series.

Chapter 13: Securing Old-Age Pensions across Borders: Sudanese Transnational Families across the Netherlands, the UK and Sudan
By Ester Serra Mingot

Chapter 5: 'He Has a Better Chance Here, So We Stay'. *Children's Education and Parental Migration Decisions*
By Magdalena Ślusarczyk and Agnieszka Małek

Chapter 2: The Mobility of the Elderly and Family-Based Care: A Case Study of Chinese Migrant Grand(Parents)
By Yan Zhao and Yu Huang

Chapter 8: Welfare Considerations Underpinning Healthcare Workers' Decision about Migration: The Case of Slovenia
By Mojca Vah Jevšnik

Alison Mountz: Border regimes, externalization, and research on 'irregular migration', detention, and asylum in borderland sites hidden from view

Literature:

Mountz, A (2020) "Obituary" and "The island within the archipelago" from *The Death of Asylum* (University of Minnesota Press)

	<p>Maillet, P, A Mountz, K Williams (2018) Exclusion through imperio: entanglements of law and geography in the waiting zone, excised territory and search and rescue region. <i>Social & Legal Studies</i> 27(2): 142-163.</p> <p>Martin, L (2015) "Noncitizen detention: Spatial strategies of migrant precarity in US immigration and border control." <i>Annales de geographie</i>. No. 2: pp. 231-247.</p>
Assessment	Course participants will write a course paper on an elective theme that addresses a central issue from the course. The paper should be 4500-6000 words (including references) and will be assessed as pass/fail
Program (it can be some changes)	<p><u>Monday, September 6:</u> 12: 00 – 12: 15 Welcome and short introduction 12: 15 – 13:45 Anne-Jorunn Berg: Racialising Whiteness – Postcolonial Issues 14:15 – 15:45 Alison Mountz: Border regimes, externalization, and research on ‘irregular migration’, detention, and asylum in borderland sites hidden from view</p> <p><u>Tuesday, September 7:</u> 9:00 – 10: 30 Ann Toril Tørrisplass: A dialogue between two theoretical perspectives – Using intersectionality and institutional ethnography to understand unaccompanied refugee girls meeting with the Norwegian welfare state 11:00 – 12: 30 Anna Przybyszewska: Studying migration and human mobility – an overview of theories and an example of active theory use (12:30 – 13:30 Lunch break) 13:30 – 16:30: Seminar session(s): students presenting projects and course paper. Two teachers will be present at each session for commenting and leading the discussions</p> <p><u>Wednesday, September 8:</u> 9: 00 – 10:30 Brigitte Suter: The migration-welfare nexus from a transnational perspective 11:00 – 12:30 Yan Zhao: Researcher positionalities, so what? – Methodological implications of researcher positionality in developing reflexive analysis in empirical studies (12:30 – 13:30 Lunch break) 13:30 – 16:30: Seminar session(s): students presenting projects and course paper. Two teachers will be present at each session for commenting and leading the discussions</p> <p><u>Thursday, September 9</u></p>

	<p>9:00 – 10: 30 Emma Seyram Hamenoo: Human trafficking in migration discourses – a critical perspective</p> <p>11: 00 – 12:00 Seminar session(s): students presenting projects and course paper. Two teachers will be present at each session for commenting and leading the discussions</p> <p>(12:00 – 13:00: Lunch break)</p> <p>13:00 – 15:00 Seminar session(s) continue</p> <p>15: 00 – 15:30 Course evaluation</p> <p>Notes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The literature list will be sent out to the students one month before the course start 2. Delivery of course paper: November 1 3. Depending on the number of students, either all the students will present and discuss in one group, with the presentations spread over the three afternoons, or we will divide students into 2-3 parallel sessions based on their topics.
Speakers	<p><u>Internal speakers:</u></p> <p>Anne-Jorunn Berg: Racialising Whiteness – Postcolonial Issues</p> <p>In this lecture we will discuss postcolonial issues with a focus on recent debates on race, racialization and whiteness. Emphasis is on processual understandings of what sometimes is framed as static phenomena and we will practice ‘active learning’ through memory-work.</p> <p>Issues covered: Postcolonial theories, racial and ethnic relations, whiteness, memory work</p> <p>Ann-Torill Tørrisplass: A dialogue between two theoretical perspectives – Using intersectionality and institutional ethnography to understand unaccompanied refugee girls meeting with the Norwegian welfare state</p> <p>This lecture will provide an introduction on the concept of ‘intersectionality’, and discuss how a combination of an intersectional perspective with institutional ethnography can offer us new insights when investigating standpoint experiences and institutional welfare categorization.</p> <p>Issues covered: Intersectioned power relations and inequalities; Migration-related diversities, integration and welfare</p> <p>Anna Przybyszewska: Studying migration and human mobility – an overview of theories and an example of active theory use</p>

This lecture provides an overview of theoretical perspectives in studying migration and human mobility. Further it demonstrates how theories on human mobility can be applied in combination with sociological theories, such as Bourdieu's theories on *habitus* and *field*.

Issues covered: Migration, labour market and mobility; whiteness/ethnic relations

Emma Seyram Hamenoo:

Human trafficking in migration discourses – a critical perspective

This lecture focuses on the place of trafficking in persons in migration discourse. It will look at the inconsistencies surrounding the distinction of human trafficking by the United Nations in relation to migration for labour purposes and the occurrence of trafficking in some nations. The theories of social constructionism and the economies of human trafficking will be explored in relation to the critical analysis of human trafficking as a concept.

Among the questions discussed:

What is the place of trafficked victims in migration discourse?

How is human trafficking constructed and what are the economic forces involved?

What is the implication for having two different definitions for issues that intertwine?

Issues covered: Trafficking and forced migration; labour and human mobility

Yan Zhao:

Researcher positionalities, so what? – Methodological implications of researcher positionality in developing reflexive analysis in empirical studies

This lecture addresses the question of researcher positionality from the perspectives of feminist theories and migration studies. Particularly, it will focus on different perspectives that go beyond the outsider-insider binary oppositions in highlighting the relational, dynamic and situated aspects of positionalities, and discuss how the exploration of the researcher's positionality can be fruitful to develop reflexive analysis in empirical studies.

Issues covered: Research positionality and research reflexivity; transnationalism, identity and belonging; construction of nation and race

Invited guest lecturers:

Dr. Brigitte Suter, Associate Professor in IMER (International Migration and Ethnic Relations), Department of Global Political Studies, Malmö University

The migration-welfare nexus from a transnational perspective

This lecture examines the nexus between mobility and welfare from a transnational family perspective. It does so by focusing on the interplay between the different welfare-provision actors – the family, the state, the market and the third sector – in various socio-economic and geographic settings, for different domains of social welfare and in the context of a number of types of mobility. By engaging with a

number of welfare concepts (e.g. welfare repertoire, care transnational social protection or social reproduction), we will explore its impact on spatial, temporal and social aspects of mobility from an intersectional perspective. This lecture builds on empirical evidence from across the globe which illustrates the multitude of mechanisms in which welfare concerns shape individual and family decisions about mobility (and, sometimes, immobility).

Issues covered: Migration, transnational perspectives on welfare/care; families, mobility and immobility

Dr. Alison Mountz: Professor and Canada Research Chair in Global Migration, WILFRID Laurier University, Canada

Border regimes, externalization, and research on 'irregular migration', detention, and asylum in borderland sites hidden from view

This lecture explores the development of border regimes in response to increases in irregular migration and asylum seeking in hot spots around the globe. The lecture will trace geographical and legal patterns across history and geography in order to map the centrality of the borderlands to understanding contemporary trends in global migration.

Issues covered: Border regimes, forced 'irregular migration'