

Syllabus
Migration, Immigrant Adaptation, and Development
Economics 4292-001

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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 3:30-4:55; and by appointment

Prerequisite: ECON 3070

Course Description

Examines historical and current patterns of migration with an emphasis in international movement. Looks at leading migration theories related to both origin- and destination-based explanations while critically looking at the role of development as a cause and consequence of population movement. Finally, covers some aspects of immigrants' social and economic adaptation to their host society.

Required Books

Michael J. Greenwood and John M. McDowell, *Legal U.S. Immigration: Influences on Gender, Age, and Skill Composition*. Kalamazoo, MI: W.E. UPJOHN INSTITUTE for Employment Research, 1999.

Course Website

The course website contains all of the articles that are listed in the course outline that is reported below. Students are free to download and print any or all of these articles. The website is: <http://www.colorado.edu/Economics/courses/fall12-4292-001.html>. All Power Point slides also may be found on this site.

About the Course

ECON4292 is concerned with the economics of migration, and especially with the economics of U.S. migration, including both migration from abroad and internal migration. Presently, U.S. immigration is a highly visible public policy issue. It promises to be a major issue for years to come. Rarely does a day pass without one of the area newspapers carrying an article about migration. These articles range broadly from immigrant sweat shops in Los Angeles to refugees in various regions of the world to more general issues such as the labor market consequences of U.S. immigration. Illegal immigration, especially from Mexico but from elsewhere as well, is a topic that gets much attention. Recently, the issue of amnesty for

illegal aliens has drawn considerable interest in the press. In 2006, the Colorado legislature, in a special session called by the Governor specifically to deal with the issue of illegal U.S. immigrants, passed legislation to limit the use of various public services by such immigrants in Colorado. More recently, Arizona and Alabama passed legislation to deal with illegal immigration and with illegal migrants. We will consider numerous issues regarding U.S. immigration, including both historical and contemporary migration. These issues will include topics such as U.S. immigration policy, where the migrants come from, why they come, who they are, where they settle in the U.S., how they assimilate, and what consequences they have for others in the United States.

What about the countries from which the international migrants come? What are the economic and social consequences of the migration for them? Again we will consider a range of topics, such as why they leave, who leaves and who stays, the consequences for the stayers in the countries of origin, and the channels of economic influence in the origin countries.

With respect to internal migration, we will consider both the United States and less-developed countries. We will study numerous issues, including who the internal migrants are, where they come from and where they settle, how these patterns of internal migration have changed over time and why, and the consequences of internal migration for the migrants themselves and others in their places of settlement. After a long history of westward movement, including the settlement of the western frontier, westward migration in the U.S. essentially has ceased. What factor or factors have caused this dramatic change? Will the types of regional economic opportunities that have shaped the nation's past be available to future generations? Why have U.S. internal migration rates fallen so dramatically in recent years? These are the sorts of issues with which we will deal in ECON4292.

For an undergraduate course, this course is very research oriented. I strongly feel that the greatest untapped intellectual resource of a university is its undergraduates. As the course unfolds, I will show you examples not only of my own research, but also that of some of our recent undergraduates. I greatly admire originality, and I hope to encourage you to develop your own original research topic and form it into a paper in which you will take great pride.

Required Paper

A basic requirement of this course is a research paper dealing with **migration**. Migration could be considered a cause of some other phenomenon (independent variable) or a consequence of various forces (dependent variable). Almost any aspect of migration would be appropriate, but as indicated below, I must approve the topic. I want to be sure that your topic is one that you can deal with in depth in the required time. This paper will account for one-third of your grade, so I am expecting a substantial contribution. To the extent that you need assistance from me in the form of advice on data or references, or on the general direction you choose to take in your work, I will be available for you. Just knock on my door.

Often I am asked about the general content of the research paper. Here are some of my thoughts about the structure of this paper. I have no length requirement, but I cannot imagine a solid paper of less than 8 to 10 pages (not counting the title page, references, tables, and maps/figures). The paper should contain an abstract of approximately 100 words, an introduction of perhaps, 2 or 3 paragraphs. The introduction should carry 3 thoughts. First, what is the major issue you are writing about? Second, why is this issue important? In other words, you want to attract your reader's attention and "sell" him/her on the importance of your topic. Third, how is your paper structured? In this brief paragraph you should provide the reader with a guide to the structure of your paper (e.g., section 2 deals with ...; section 3 contains a discussion of ...). This paragraph allows your reader to anticipate what is to come. Your

second section could provide a more detailed background on your research, with a brief discussion of related papers and/or findings. Additional sections would depend upon the nature of your paper. For example, if you were doing a regression analysis (which you are not required to do, but which some students may do), you would have sections on your theory, your data, your econometric approach, and your empirical findings. The final section should be a summary and conclusions that briefly informs your reader of what you have accomplished. This section definitely should tieback to your introduction, which may be the last section you write. (Sometimes in research we do not know precisely where we are going until we get there.)

The paper should be **double spaced and one sided**. Your title page, in addition to your title and name, should contain an abstract that should not exceed 100 words. The text of your paper should be followed with a section that contains your references. (If you use end notes, your end notes should follow the text and go in front of the references.) All tables, numbered consecutively beginning with Table 1, should follow the references. **Your paper must contain at least two tables.** Points will be deducted for failure to include these tables. Figures and/or maps follow the tables. (Figures and graphs are not tables.) Your paper must contain at least three references that are not internet based (i.e., books and/or papers), and these references must be used prominently in your work. Points will be deducted for failure to follow the general guidelines outlined above.

Final drafts of papers are due December 6. The paper is worth 100 points.

I am anticipating that the papers will be done by teams of two students. I will put the teams together early, but after I have some sense of individual student interests and talents. Although I am open to almost any topic, here are some very general areas of interest for you to think about: history, contemporary issues (what issue or issues?), immigration policy, U.S. context (such as internal U.S. migration, historical U.S. immigrant settlement patterns), other areas (regions, countries--which ones?) of the world, regression analysis, theory, refugees, determinants of migration, consequences of migration, less-developed countries, economically advanced countries, emigration, immigration, illegal migration. You may think of other potential areas of interest, and I encourage you to express them. On the first day of class, I will pass out cards on which you are to express broad interests. Choose areas of interest from the above list or add another area. These cards will be returned to me on the second day of class (August 30). On the sixth day (September 13), the teams will be put together and announced. The teams have one week to get together and come up with a topic. Then the teams must see me and indicate the responsibilities of each team member in writing.

Some Potential Research Topics

1. Age-specific interstate migration patterns in the U.S., and perhaps their changes over time. This topic would be good for a regression analysis.
2. Retirement migration in the U.S., and perhaps changes over time in retirement migration patterns. This topic would be good for a regression analysis.
3. The Great Migration, which refers to South-to-North migration of African-Americans especially during the early years of the 20th century. This topic would be good for a regression analysis.

4. The Irish Potato Famine and Irish migration to the U.S., Canada, and Australia.
5. Location patterns of contemporary U.S. immigrants from _____. This topic would be good for a regression analysis.
6. Location patterns of historical U.S. immigrants from _____. This topic would be good for a regression analysis.
7. The second great wave of U.S. immigrants (from southern and eastern Europe).
8. The effects of lost remittances on the U.S. economy.
9. Historical development of U.S. immigration policy.
10. Internal migration in another country. This topic may be good for a regression analysis, depending upon the data that are available.
11. Apprehensions of illegal aliens. This topic would be good for a regression analysis.
12. Comparison of the immigrant admittance programs of the U.S., Canada, and Australia.
13. International migration in Europe.
14. The determinants of immigration to a European country. This topic would be good for a regression analysis.
15. Emigration from Africa.
16. Migration to and from specific U.S. states and perhaps changes over time. This topic would be good for a regression analysis.
17. Legal migration from Mexico to the U.S. This topic would be good for a regression analysis.
18. Sex-specific internal migration in the U.S. This topic would be good for a regression analysis.
19. The determinants of sex-specific U.S. immigration at specific times in U.S. history. This topic would be good for a regression analysis.
20. The determinants of immigration to Canada or Australia. This topic would be good for a regression analysis.

Attendance Requirement

In this course **I have an “attendance clause.”** Beginning with the third absence, 5 points will be deducted from the student's total point score for each missed class. Early in the semester, I will call the roll, but when the class roster has settled down, I will pass around a sheet. It is the student's responsibility to be sure that he/she signs in.

Examinations and Grading

Two examinations will be given, a midterm and a final exam. These will be essay exams and will require blue books.

Your final grade will be based on 300 points: midterm exam--100 points; final exam--100 points; paper--100 points. As noted above, the exams will be essay exams. The basic grade structure is as follows:

270+.....	A
240-269.....	B
180-239.....	C
150-179.....	D
149-.....	F

Key Dates

September 20: 2-page (double-spaced) research prospectus due; prospectus must contain specific information about the data you plan to use; 5 points on research paper

October 4: deadline for students to discuss research project with professor; 5 points on research paper

October 16: Midterm exam: 100 points

December 6: papers due by 4:45pm: 90 additional points

December 18: Final exam (1:30pm to 4:00pm):100 points

Required and Suggested Readings

As noted above, my own book (with John M. McDowell) *Legal U.S. Immigration*, is required reading. The papers that are embedded in the course outline reported below also are required. Several additional suggested readings are listed on the "Suggested Readings" sheet. You may wish to access "Migration News," which is a lengthy monthly publication out of the University of California, Davis, that contains great detail concerning recent developments regarding migration and especially international migration. You should be able to get numerous ideas from this source. It also will help keep you current about policy developments concerning U.S. immigration. The last two months (issues) are available on the web, and you should examine these back issues. The web site is: <http://migration.ucdavis.edu/>. A second web site that may prove helpful is www.migrationinformation.org. This site provides migration data for many countries around the world.

Additional Suggested Readings

Internal Migration

Greenwood, M.J., "Research on Internal Migration in the United States: A Survey," *Journal of Economic Literature*, June 1975, 397-433.

_____, "Human Migration: Theory, Models, and Empirical Studies," *Journal of Regional Science*, November 1985, 521-544.

_____, "Changing Patterns of Migration and Regional Economic Growth in the U.S.: A Demographic Perspective," *Growth and Change*, Fall 1988, 68-87.

_____, "Some Potential New Directions in Empirical Migration Research," *Italian Journal of Regional Science*, 9(1), 2010, 5-18..

International Migration

Taylor, J. Edward, Joaquin Arango, Graeme Hugo, Ali Kouaouci, Douglas S. Massey, and Adela Pellegrino, "International Migration and National Development," *Population Index* 62(2), Summer 1996, 181-212.

_____, "International Migration and Community Development," *Population Index* 62(3), Fall 1996, 397-418.

Douglas S. Massey, "Economic Development and International Migration in Comparative Perspective," *Population and Development Review* 14(3), September 1988, 383-413.

Douglas S. Massey, Joaquin Arango, Graeme Hugo, Ali Kouaouci, Adela Pellegrino, and J. Edward Taylor, "Theories of International Migration: A Review and Appraisal," *Population and Development Review* 19(3), September 1993, 431-466.

Rothman, Eric S. and Thomas J. Espenshade, "Fiscal Impacts of Immigration to the United States," *Population Index* 58(3), Fall 1992, 381-415.

Course Outline

Part I: Introduction

A. Migration defined. What constitutes a migratory move?

B. Various measures of migration.

C. Questions addressed in the study of migration.

D. The importance of migration: migration and urbanization.

Reading: Michael J. Greenwood, "Contemporary Internal Migration and Urbanization in Historical Perspective," *Quaderni Universitari*, July, 2009, 21-38. Prepared for the Pontifical Council for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant People.

E. Some possible advantages of living in cities.

F. A brief history of migration research (with emphasis on internal migration).

Reading: Michael J. Greenwood and Gary L. Hunt, "The Early History of Migration Research," *International Regional Science Review*, Jan. 2003, 3-37.

G. Interpreting regression coefficients. Some very elementary econometrics.

Part II: The Determinants of Migration

A. What factors cause migration?

Reading: Michael J. Greenwood, "Research on Internal Migration in the United States: A Survey," *Journal of Economic Literature*, June 1975, 397-433.

B. Selected approaches to modeling migration.

1. Gravity models.

2. Human capital models.

3. Job search models.

Reading: Michael J. Greenwood, "Modeling Migration," *Encyclopedia of Social Measurement*, v.2. Amsterdam: Elsevier Inc., 2005, 725-734.

Michael J. Greenwood, "Migration and Labor Market Opportunities," in *Handbook of Regional Science*, edited by Alessandra Faggian and Mark D. Partridge, Springer (forthcoming).

C. Family migration.

Part III: The Consequences of Migration

A. For the migrants.

B. For destination regions/countries.

C. For origin regions/countries.

Part IV: Historical United States Immigration

A. U.S. immigration policy: historical and contemporary.

Reading: Greenwood and McDowell, Chapter 2.

B. How many came.

Reading: Greenwood and McDowell, Chapter 3.

C. Where they came from.

D. Why they came.

E. Who they were: sex, age, skills.

Reading: Michael J. Greenwood, "Family and sex-specific U.S. immigration from Europe, 1870-1910: A panel data study of rates and composition," *Explorations in Economic History*, v. 45, 2008, 356-382.

Michael J. Greenwood, "Modeling the age and age composition of late 19th century U.S. immigrants from Europe," *Explorations in Economic History*, v. 44, 2007, 255-269.

F. Consequences for Source Countries.

Part V: Contemporary U.S. Immigration

A. Why people come: the determinants of contemporary U.S. immigration.

1. Differential economic opportunities
2. Costs of migration
3. Political factors
4. Social programs

Reading: Greenwood and McDowell, Chapter 5.

B. Changing source-country patterns of U.S. immigration.

1. Europe-U.S. migration
2. Mexico-U.S. migration
3. Asia-U.S. migration.

C. Who is coming to the U.S. as a permanent legal resident alien (immigrant?)

1. Sex composition

Reading: Greenwood and McDowell, Chapter 6.

2. Age composition

Reading: Greenwood and McDowell, Chapter 7.

3. Skill composition

Reading: Greenwood and McDowell, Chapter 8.

D. Illegal U.S. immigration.

Reading: Michael J. Greenwood, "Population: Migration," in Bjorn Lomborg (ed.), *Solutions to the World's Biggest Problems: Costs and Benefits*. Cambridge University Press, 2007, 425-439.

Part VI: The Consequences of Contemporary U.S. Immigration

A. Consequences for the United States.

1. Potential channels of influences.

Reading: Michael J. Greenwood, "Potential Channels of Immigrant Influence on the Economy of the Receiving Country," *Papers in Regional Science*, 73(3), July 1994, 211-240.

Greenwood and McDowell, Chapter 1.

B. Immigrant assimilation in the United States.

C. Immigrants and the spread of disease in the United States.

Reading: Michael J. Greenwood and Watson R. Warriner, "Immigrants and the Spread of Tuberculosis in the United States: A Hidden Cost of Immigration," *Population Research and Policy Review* (forthcoming).

D. Consequences for Source Countries.

Part VII: Migration within and from LDCs

A. International migration data.

B. Rural-to-urban migration in less developed countries.

1. The Todaro model.

2. More on the determinants of internal migration in LDCs.

3. The "new economics of migration."

4. Emigration from LDCs.

C. The consequences of emigration for low-income countries

1. The nature of the migration.

a. Permanent migration

b. Temporary migration

i. Circular

ii. Return

2. Potential channels of influence.

a. Decreased labor supply and changes in income distribution.

- b. The brain-drain and those left behind.
- c. Monetary remittances.
- d. Remitted skills.

Part VIII: Internal Migration in the United States

- A. Historical rural-to-urban migration.
- B. Who moves.
- C. The baby boom generation.
- D. The determinants of internal migration: jobs, amenities, other factors.

Reading: Michael J. Greenwood and Jesse Sexton, "On the Temporal Stability of Gravity Models of Migration," unpublished manuscript.

- E. The interaction between migration and employment change.
- F. Internal migration and regional change in the U.S.

- 1. South-to-North migration
- 2. North-to-South migration
- 3. East-to-West migration

Reading: Michael J. Greenwood and Gary L. Hunt, "Migration and Interregional Employment Redistribution in the United States," *American Economic Review*, v. 74, no. 5, December 1984, 957-969. (To be found in JSTOR.)

Michael J. Greenwood and Jesse Sexton, "The Closing of the American West," unpublished manuscript.

- G. The Changing Pattern of U.S. Internal Migration.

Reading: Raven Molloy, Christopher L. Smith, and Abigail Wozniak, "Internal Migration in the United States," *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, v.25, no. 2, Spring 2011, 1-42.

- H. Seasonality of internal U.S. migration.
- I. Immigrant settlement patterns and internal migration in the United States.
- J. International comparisons internal migration propensities.