

Syllabus

Migration, Immigrant Adaptation, and Development

Economics 4292-001

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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 3:30-5:00; 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.

Robert E.B. Lucas, *International Migration and Economic Development: Lessons from Low-Income Countries*. Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar, 2005.

Course Website

The course website contains all of my 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/spring11-4292-001.html>

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 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? These are the sorts of issues with which we will deal in ECON4292.

Required Paper

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 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 tie back 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. 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 April 21. The paper is worth 100 points.

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. I expect each student to give me a blank blue book before each exam (i.e., no name on it), and I will redistribute the books with the exam.

Your final grade will be based on 300 points: midterm exam--100 points; final exam--100 points; paper--100 points. The basic grade structure is as follows:

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

Key Dates

January 27: 2-page research prospectus due; 5 points on research paper

February 10: deadline for students to discuss research project with professor; 5 points on research project

February 24: midterm exam; 100 points

April 21: research paper due; 90 additional points

April 30: final exam; 100 points

Required and Suggested Readings

As noted above, my own book (with John M. McDowell) *Legal U.S. Immigration*, is required reading. So is the book by R.E.B. Lucas. 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 Revisited," forthcoming in the *Handbook of Research Methods in Migration*. Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar. Original version published in *International Regional Science Review*, v. 26, no. 1, Jan. 2003, 3-37.

G. Interpreting regression coefficients. Some very elementary econometrics.

Part II: The Determinants of Migration

A. What factors cause migration?

Reading: Lucas, Chapters 1, 2.

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.

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. How many came.

Reading: Greenwood and McDowell, Chapter 3.

B. Where they came from.

C. Why they came.

D. Who they were: sex, age, skills

E. U.S. immigration policy.

Reading: Greenwood and McDowell, Chapter 2.

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.

Part V: Contemporary U.S. Immigration

A. U.S. immigration policy after World War II.

B. 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.

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

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

D. 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.

E. Illegal 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," unpublished manuscript.

Part VII: Migration within and from LDCs

A. 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.

B. The consequences of emigration for low-income countries

1. The nature of the migration.

a. Permanent migration

b. Temporary migration

i. Circular

ii. Return

Reading: Lucas, Chapter, 7.

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.

Reading: Lucas, Chapter 3

Part VIII: Internal Migration in the United States

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

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