



SAINT LOUIS  
UNIVERSITY  
— EST. 1818 —

SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY, MADRID CAMPUS  
Department of Business Administration & Economics

**Spring 2018**  
**ECONOMICS OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION**  
**ECON-4450**

**Prerequisites:** **ECON 3140 Intermediate Microeconomics**

**Credits: 3**

**INSTRUCTOR**

**Pablo Swedberg**

*Class Hours:* T & R 11:00-12:15pm

Classroom: PRH 16

*Office Hours:* T & R, 9:30-11:00 & 3:45-5:15pm (by appointment)

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**DESCRIPTION**

Lively debate surrounds immigration policy. Solid economics ought to inform the debate. Unfortunately, we know much less about the economics of international migration than we ought to know. This course provides a comprehensive survey of the economics of immigration. This advanced economics course will be run somewhat like a graduate seminar and we will try to formulate the key questions, to determine what current research can say about those questions, and to sketch an agenda for further research. The course will consist of a series of lectures, followed by a set of discussions based on papers prepared by students on the issue of immigration. The main course requirement will be a paper on the topic of the economics of immigration that students will present in class. The course will also require the participation of students in class discussion. Here are some of the main topics covered:

- Study the determinants of international migration
- Analyze the impact of migration on the source and host country
- Examine the fiscal and labor market burden of immigration
- Discuss immigration policies in the US and the European Union
- Consider the causes and effects of illegal migration

## GOALS

After completing *Economics of International Migration* students should identify:

- ✚ Immigration in the 20<sup>th</sup> century
- ✚ Types of immigrants, patterns and characteristics of contemporary migration
- ✚ The determinants of international Migration
- ✚ The impact of international migration on the destination country
- ✚ The effects of migration on the source country
- ✚ Economic growth and immigration
- ✚ Temporary, involuntary and unauthorized immigration
- ✚ The Syrian refugee crisis in Europe
- ✚ Immigration policy in the United States and Europe
- ✚ The future of immigration policy reforms

## COURSE MATERIAL

Optional textbooks:

1. The Economics of Immigration, Theory and Policy. *Bodvarsson, Ö. & Van den Berg, H.* Editor: Springer. ISBN 978-3-540-77795-3

## GRADING:

The final grade will be based on the following items:

- **Class participation: 10%**
- **Class attendance: 10%**
- **Topic presentations: 20%**
- **Country presentations: 20%**
- **Midterm exam: 15%**
- **Final exam: 25%**

**Scale:** 92 – 100 A; 89 – 92 A-; 85 – 89 B+; 78 – 85 B; 74 – 78 B-; 70 – 74 C+; 60 – 70 C; 55 – 60 C-; 50 – 55 D; Below 50 F

## REQUIREMENTS

### Topic presentations:

Students will work in groups of two students, prepare and orally present two readings related to one of the topics covered throughout the course. These presentations will take no more than 25 minutes. In these guided lectures the speakers will be asked to identify the main issues of the readings and its relevance with respect to the topics discussed in class. The students' presentation must place special emphasis on the

critical analysis of the paper applying the models we study in class to the topic of the paper and identifying the article's weak and strong points. The speakers will be asked to reflect on the impact that the reading has had on their own view of the subject.

### **Country Projects:**

Students will be required to prepare a power point presentation on a specific country, group of countries, or geographical region for which they will have to identify their immigration policies, patterns of migration, and the fiscal and labor market consequences of immigration. Finally students should provide immigration policy recommendations and reforms for the specific country chosen.

Students will work in groups (not exceeding two students per group). Each group will make a short-20 minutes presentation of their project.

### **COURSE CALENDAR**

*January 10:* Classes begin

*January 21:* Last day to DROP a class without a grade of "W"; no classes may be added after this date.

*February 20:* **MIDTERM EXAM @ 11:00 am (PRH 16)**

*March 9:* Last day to DROP a class and receive a grade of "W"

*May 3:* Last day of classes

*May 4:* **FINAL EXAM @ 12pm (PRH 16)**

### **POLICIES AND RULES**

The professor will explain the different units included in the content through both power-point presentations and problem set sessions. The students will need to read the material (articles, problems, news) and come to class prepared to debate.

**Class attendance**, as well as **punctuality and active participation** are essential and will be considered in the final grade.

**Cellular phones are not permitted in class and laptops should be used exclusively to follow the lecture and for class notes. The use of cell phones will lower the class participation grade.**

### **Late policies regarding exams:**

Midterm and final examinations must be written on their respective dates. No alternative examinations will be scheduled except in the case of excused medical absences. Absences due to medical reasons without proof of hospitalization will be considered unexcused absences. Cases of excused medical absences must be petitioned for through the Chair of the department. Make-up midterms are subject to approval by the professor, the Chair and the Department of Business and Economics. An unexcused absence from a midterm examination causes the final examination to weigh 50% of the final course grade.

**The date of the final examination is May 10th, 2017 at 12:00.** The class instructor is not authorized to change the date of the final exam, so a student wishing to take the final examination on a different date from the one set must receive approval from the Dean and/or the Vice Dean of the University. **Please do this in advance!!**

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

*Academic integrity is honest, truthful and responsible conduct in all academic endeavors.* The mission of Saint Louis University is "the pursuit of truth for the greater glory of God and for the service of humanity." Accordingly, all acts of falsehood demean and compromise the corporate endeavors of teaching, research, health care and community service via which SLU embodies its mission. The University strives to prepare students for lives of personal and professional integrity, and therefore regards all breaches of academic integrity as matters of serious concern.

The governing University-level Academic Integrity Policy can be accessed on the Provost's Office web at:  
[http://www.slu.edu/Documents/provost/academic\\_affairs/University-wide%20Academic%20Integrity%20Policy%20FINAL%20%2006-26-15.pdf](http://www.slu.edu/Documents/provost/academic_affairs/University-wide%20Academic%20Integrity%20Policy%20FINAL%20%2006-26-15.pdf).

As a member of the University community, you are expected to know and abide by these policies, which detail definitions of violations, processes for reporting violations, sanctions and appeals.

## **ACCOMODATION STATEMENT**

In recognition that people learn in a variety of ways and that learning is influenced by multiple factors (e.g., prior experience, study skills, learning disability), resources to support student success are available on campus. Students who think they might benefit from these resources can find out more about:

1. Course-level support (e.g., faculty member, departmental resources, etc.) by asking your course instructor.
2. University-level support (e.g., tutoring/writing services, Disability Services) by visiting the Academic Dean's Office (San Ignacio Hall) or by going to [http://spain.slu.edu/academics/learning\\_resources.html](http://spain.slu.edu/academics/learning_resources.html).
3. Students who believe that, due to a disability, they could benefit from academic accommodations are encouraged to contact Disability Services at +34 915 54 58 58, ext. 204, send an e-mail to [counselingcenter-madrid@slu.edu](mailto:counselingcenter-madrid@slu.edu), or to visit the Counseling Office (San Ignacio Hall). Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries. Course instructors support student accommodation requests when an approved letter from Disability Services has been received and when students discuss these accommodations with the instructor after receipt of the approved letter.

## TITLE IX STATEMENT

Saint Louis University and its faculty are committed to supporting our students and seeking an environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment. If you have encountered any form of sexual misconduct (e.g. sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, domestic or dating violence), we encourage you to report this to the University. If you speak with a faculty member about an incident of misconduct, that faculty member must notify SLU's Title IX deputy coordinator, Marta Maruri, whose office is located on the ground floor of Padre Rubio Hall, Avenida del Valle, 28 ([mmaruri@slu.edu](mailto:mmaruri@slu.edu); 915-54-5858 ext. 213) and share the basic fact of your experience with her. The Title IX deputy coordinator will then be available to assist you in understanding all of your options and in connecting you with all possible resources on and off campus.

If you wish to speak with a confidential source, you may contact the counselors at the SLU-Madrid's Counseling Services on the third floor of San Ignacio Hall ([counselingcenter-madrid@slu.edu](mailto:counselingcenter-madrid@slu.edu); 915-54-5858 ext. 230) or Sinews Multiple therapy Institute, the off-campus provider of counseling services for SLU-Madrid ([www.sinews.es](http://www.sinews.es); 91-700-1979) To view SLU-Madrid's sexual misconduct policy and for resources, please visit the following web address:

[http://spain.slu.edu/student\\_life/docs/SLUMadridSexualMisconductPolicy.pdf](http://spain.slu.edu/student_life/docs/SLUMadridSexualMisconductPolicy.pdf).

## STUDENT OUTCOME ASSESMENT

Saint Louis University-Madrid Campus is committed to excellent and innovative educational practices. In order to maintain quality academic offerings and to conform to relevant accreditation requirements, we regularly assess our teaching, services, and programs for evidence of student learning outcomes achievement. For this purpose we keep on file anonymized representative examples of student work from all courses and programs such as: assignments, papers, exams, portfolios, and results from student surveys, focus groups, and reflective exercises. *Thus, copies of your work for this course, including any exams, assignments and/or submitted papers may be kept on file for institutional research, assessment and accreditation purposes.* If you prefer that Saint Louis University-Madrid Campus does not keep your work on file, you will need to communicate your decision in writing to your professor.

## COURSE OUTLINE:

### SECTION I: INTRODUCTION

**Chapter 1:** Immigration in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, types of immigrants, patterns and characteristics of migration

**Chapter 2:** The determinants of international migration: WHY MIGRATE?

**Chapter 3:** The determinants of international migration II: WHO MIGRATES?

**SECTION II: THEORY AND EVIDENCE**

**Chapter 4:** The impact of international migration on the destination country

**Chapter 5:** The effects of migration on the source country

**Chapter 6:** Immigration and economic growth

**Chapter 7:** Temporary, involuntary and other types of immigration

**Chapter 8:** Unauthorized migration

**SECTION III: IMMIGRATION POLICY**

**Chapter 9:** Immigrants and immigration policy in the United States

**Chapter 10:** Immigrants and immigration policy in the European Union