

International Studies 101
Introduction to the Research Process: Applying it to Migration

Fall 2019
T Th 8:00-9:15
Room: Croft 107

Professor: Dr. Ana Velitchkova

Phone: 915-2504

Email: avelitch@olemiss.edu

Office Hours: Croft 214 (T Th 9:15-10 am)

Office Hours: Lamar 525 (by appointment)

Walking Hours: Grove and Circle or the Turner Center (by appointment)

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes:

This section of the course aims at introducing students to the research process and applying these research skills to the topic of migration. After completing this section, students should know what the steps of the research process are and should be able to produce simple research projects. In particular, they should be able to

- distinguish between scholarly sources and other sources;
- search for and identify scholarly sources relevant to a topic of interest;
- develop annotated bibliographies (i.e. identify key elements of scholarly work and use proper citation styles);
- collect and analyze data (e.g. newspaper data);
- summarize their research findings in writing and verbally.

Students should also have a basic understanding of the various aspects of migration.

Assignments:

- ▶ **Attendance/Homework/Participation (25%)**
- ▶ **Annotated bibliography (25%)**
- ▶ **Comparative newspaper study (25%)**
- ▶ **Presentation (25%)**

Class **attendance, homework, and participation** are more important than the 25% they count toward your grade. Students who come to class regularly, who keep up with the readings, complete homework assignments, and who take an active part in their learning by contributing questions, comments, and observations to class discussions tend to know the course material better, and therefore tend to get better grades on assignments.

***Annotated bibliography* (25%)**

You will have the opportunity to conduct individual bibliographic research on an aspect of migration. In a nutshell, you will be asked to search for, identify relevant sources for, compile, read, and summarize scholarly works pertaining to your topic. You will prepare an annotated bibliography consisting of summaries of at least three (3) works. Creating

bibliographies is the first step of conducting research. It gives you an idea of what we already know about a topic and what is missing in existent research.

Comparative newspaper study (25%)

You will also have the opportunity to conduct a mini data collection and data analysis project consisting of comparing newspaper coverage of migration from two media sources. Data collection and analysis constitute the creative aspect of the research process. Through collecting and analyzing new data, we produce new knowledge that aims at filling the gap identified in the previous step of the research process.

Presentation (25%)

You will be asked to present the findings of your research (both the bibliographic research and the newspaper study) during class. The format of the presentation will be the 3-minute elevator pitch. The goal is to be able to tell anyone (presumably a potential employer you meet in an elevator) about the most exciting aspects of your research. For the class presentation, you can also provide a one-slide PowerPoint/figure sent to me the night before (11:59pm), so that I can prepare a coherent program for the entire class. This assignment will be graded by your peers.

Grading	86-83: B	72-70: C-
100%-93: A	82-80: B-	69-67: D+
92-90: A-	79-77: C+	66-63: D
89-87: B+	76-73: C	62-0: F

Course Policies

Academic integrity

The University of Mississippi Creed affirms the values of “personal and professional integrity” as well as “academic honesty.” In the context of a class, this refers most specifically to an injunction against cheating and plagiarism. **Plagiarism** involves taking someone else’s written work (any portions thereof) and turning it in as your own. This includes taking text from course readings without proper citation. If you have questions about what constitutes plagiarism, please talk to me so I can help clarify this for you. If you are caught cheating or plagiarizing there will be consequences, up to and including failing the course and being reported to the Dean for disciplinary action.

Electronic devices (computers, cell phones, etc.)

Leave them in your bag (cell phones on mute) unless we need them for class assignments. Students learn better when they take notes by hand and when they engage in one activity (paying attention) at a time. Human brains are not as efficient at multi-tasking as we may want to think. Furthermore, students using electronic devices are distracting to me and to other students. Therefore, if you use electronic devices in class, I will ask you to leave and you will lose your attendance points for the day. Students in special circumstances needing to use computers must provide official documentation.

Disability Access and Inclusion

The University of Mississippi is committed to the creation of inclusive learning environments for all students. If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that result in barriers to your full inclusion and participation, or to accurate assessment of your achievement, please contact the course instructor as soon as possible. Barriers may include, but are not necessarily limited to, timed exams and in-class assignments, difficulty with the acquisition of lecture content, inaccessible web content, and the use of non-captioned or non-transcribed video and audio files. If you are approved through SDS, you must log in to your Rebel Access portal at <https://sds.olemiss.edu> to request approved accommodations. If you are NOT approved through SDS, you must contact Student Disability Services at 662-915-7128 so the office can: 1. determine your eligibility for accommodations, 2. disseminate to your instructors a Faculty Notification Letter, 3. facilitate the removal of barriers, and 4. ensure you have equal access to the same opportunities for success that are available to all students.

INST 101 Course Schedule

Week 1 Introductions

Tu 9/3 Types of documents and aspects of migration

► **Assignment 1: Introducing migration.**

Th 9/5 The research process and causes of migration

Required reading:

Sassen, Saskia. 1998. "America's Immigration 'Problem.'" Pp. 31-51 in *Globalization and Its Discontents*. New York: The New Press.

► **Reading questions**

Week 2 Bibliographic research

Tu 9/10 Bibliographic research and scholarly work on migration

Required reading:

Morawska, Ewa. 2008. "Research on Immigration/Ethnicity in Europe and the United States: A Comparison." *The Sociological Quarterly* 49(3):465-82.

► **Reading questions**

► **Visit the library website, follow all the links, and come up with a question or two to ask a librarian**

Th 9/12 Citation styles and host community attitudes

Required reading:

Schachter, Ariela. 2016. "From "Different" to "Similar" an Experimental Approach to Understanding Assimilation." *American Sociological Review* 81(5):981-1013.

► **Reading questions**

Week 3 Data collection and analysis

► **Annotated bibliography due by Monday, September 16, at 5pm**

Tu 9/17 Media as sources of data and newspaper coverage of migration

Required readings:

De Swert, Knut, Laura Schacht and Andrea Masini. 2015. "More Than Human Tragedy? A Quantitative Comparison of Newspaper Coverage on Irregular Migration and Lampedusa in Five European Countries." *Italian Studies* 70(4):506-20.

► **Reading questions**

Th 9/19 Research reports and negative media portrayals of migration

Required readings:

Catto, Alastair, Dermot Gorman and Martin Higgins. 2010. "The Impact of Recent Central and Eastern European Migration on the Scottish Health Service: A Study of Newspaper Coverage 2004–2008." *Health & place* 16(5):765-75.

► **Reading questions**

Week 4 Summarizing your research

► **Comparative newspaper study due by Monday, September 23, at 5pm**

Tu 9/24 Mini-Conference Session 1

► **3-minute elevator-pitch style presentations**

Th 9/26 Mini-Conference Session 2

► **3-minute elevator-pitch style presentations**

An additional example of a media-based migration study

Sobel, Meghan R. 2016. "Confronting Sex Trafficking: Gender Depictions in Newspaper Coverage from the Former Soviet Republics and the Baltic States." *European Journal of Communication* 31(2):152-68.