

POLS 4710/POLS 6540: The Comparative Politics and Policies of Immigration**Credit Weighting:** 1.0**Pre-/Co-Requisites:** Undergraduates:
[POLS*2080 or
POLS*2100] and 1.00
credits at the 3000 level
in the Comparative
Politics Stream**Restrictions:** -**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION****Name:** Edward Koning**Email:** ekoning@uoguelph.ca**Office Location:** MCKN 509**GENERAL DETAILS**

Over the last four decades, immigration has become one of the most prominent and volatile issues in Western democratic politics. It is not just that the flow of people across borders is increasing. Immigration has also left an indelible mark on public policy, political discourse, and party politics. This course offers an introduction to the politics and policies of immigration. By analyzing theoretical insights in academic literature as well as crucial events and developments in recent history, it aims to not only expand your knowledge on immigration politics but also equip you with the analytical and theoretical tools to make sense of this issue in the future.

The course is divided into two main sections. In the first half of the course, we will examine how Western democracies have aimed to govern migration with policies related to admission, residence, citizenship, and integration. In the second half of the course, we will turn our attention to the ways in which immigration has become a transformative force in electoral and legislative politics.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of the course, successful students will be able to:

- Understand and apply crucial distinctions between different categories of migration and migration policies
- Appreciate the political sensitivity of immigration and the challenges associated with governing migration
- Engage academic literature on immigration policies and politics
- Apply theoretical literature on immigration to recent political events
- Engage in a thoughtful debate with fellow students on immigration
- Apply comparative typologies and distinctions to specific cases

METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

This class is a seminar, and therefore relies heavily on student participation in class discussion. Most weeks, you are expected to complete the assigned readings beforehand, write a short reflection on those readings, and come to class being ready to discuss your thoughts on the material with your fellow students. Two sessions of the class are exclusively dedicated to mini-conferences, for which one half of the class prepares presentations and the other half takes on the role of discussant of these presentations.

Your final grade will be determined by three components: reflection papers (40%), participation in class discussion (40%), and presentation (20%).

REQUIRED READING

The course material will consist both of academic material and what I will call 'case study' readings: journalistic accounts of recent events that illustrate or engage some of the theoretical discussions. All readings will be accessible online through your University of Guelph account.