

## **PHIL 01:730:475 ADVANCED TOPICS: MIGRATION ETHICS (FALL 2021)**

Professor Derrick Darby

Seminar: Tu/F @ 9:00AM-10:20AM in MU-204

Office: 106 Somerset Street - 307; office hours: Tu @ 10:30-11:30 & by appointment

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War, famine, poverty, political persecution, discrimination, climate catastrophe, and economic opportunity are among the many factors that explain human migration. This course will examine whether nations have an obligation to open their borders to migrants. Some philosophers defend the right to migrate. Some defend the right to exclude. Others argue for a compromise position defending exclusion rights with limits. Debates about immigration abound in contemporary U.S. political discourse. Attending to philosophical arguments on this topic will prepare students to take sides. We will also consider the history of America's racist immigration policy to test arguments defending exclusion rights.

### **COURSE READINGS:**

Christopher H. Wellman and Phillip Cole, *Debating the Ethics of Immigration: Is There a Right to Exclude?* (2011)

David Miller, *Strangers in Our Midst: The Political Philosophy of Immigration* (2016)

Filiz Garip, *On the Move: Changing Mechanisms of Mexico-U.S. Migration* (2017)

Sarah Song, *Immigration and Democracy* (2019)

Michael Blake, *Justice, Migration, and Mercy* (2020)

Other readings will be available (as needed) on the course Canvas site.

### **SCHEDULE (subject to change)**

#### **September**

3 Course overview

7 Viet Bader, "The Ethics of Immigration," Parts I and II.

10 Bader, "The Ethics of Immigration," Part III.

14 Christopher H. Wellman, ch 1, "In Defense of the Right to Exclude"

17 Wellman

- Ch 2, "The Egalitarian Case for Open Borders"

- Ch 3, "The Libertarian Case for Open Borders"

21 Wellman

- Ch 5, "The Utilitarian Case for Open Borders"

- Ch 6, "Refugees"

24 Sarah Fine, "Immigration and Discrimination"

28 David Scott FitzGerald and David Cook-Martin, *Culling the Masses: The Democratic Origins of Racist Immigration Policy in the Americas*, ch 3.

#### **October**

1 Phillip Cole, ch 12, "The Case Against the Right to Exclude"

5 Cole, ch 13, "Wellman on Freedom of Association"

8 Cole, ch 14, "Consequentialist Concerns"

12 Cole, ch 15, "Toward a Right to Mobility" and Miller, ch 1, "Introduction"

15 David Miller, ch 3, "Open Borders" and ch 4, "Closed Borders"

19 Filiz Garip, *On the Move*, ch 1, "Why Do People Migrate"

22 Miller, ch 5, "Refugees" and ch 7, "The Rights of Immigrants"

26 Garip, ch 3, "We Leave to Help Our Parents Economically" and Miller, ch 6, "Economic Migrants"

29 Bas van der Vossen and Jason Brennan, ch 2, "The Moral and Economic Case for Free Immigration"

## November

2 Sarah Song, ch 4, "Collective Self-Determination and Immigration Control"

5 Song, ch 6, "Is There a Right to Free Movement across Borders?"

9 Garip, ch 4, "Your Place is Where Your Family Is" and Song, ch 8, "The Claims of Family"

12 Michael Blake, ch 2, "Justice and the Excluded, Part 1 Open Borders," and ch 3, Part II Closed Borders

16 Blake, ch 4, "Justice, Jurisdiction and Migration," and ch 5, "Coercion and Refuge"

19 Migrant Justice meets Political Reality: A Real Dilemma

- Marisa Abrajano & Zoltan Hajnal, *White Backlash*, ch 1, "A Theory of Immigration Backlash Politics"

- Blake, ch 6, "Choosing and Refusing: On Migration, Exclusion, and the Bigot's Veto"

23 Library research

26 No class (Thanksgiving break)

30 Seminar thesis presentations

## December

3 Seminar thesis presentations

7 Seminar thesis presentations

10 Seminar thesis presentations

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND POLICIES

- Students must write two papers—a short and a longer one. Due dates and details will be announced in class.
- The first paper will count 30% of the course grade and the second will count 60%.
- Students must lead one class discussion on an assigned reading with a prepared handout (10%).
- You are responsible for material presented in class including all announcements.
- No phone use in class. Computers only for taking notes or viewing readings.

### Academic Integrity

You are expected to be familiar with and adhere to the Rutgers University policies on academic integrity. For what you need to know go to <https://nbprovost.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-students>.

### Attendance and Cancellation of Classes

Attendance is expected at all regularly scheduled meetings of a course and individual course may set policies for maximum absences. For regulations governing attendance, reporting absence, and religious observances go to <https://sasundergrad.rutgers.edu/degree-requirements/policies/attendance-and-cancellation-of-classes>.

### Americans with Disabilities Act

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal antidiscrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact The Office of Disability Services in Suite A145, Lucy Stone Hall, on the Internet at <https://ods.rutgers.edu/> or by telephone at 848.202.3111 or email at [dsoffice@echo.rutgers.edu](mailto:dsoffice@echo.rutgers.edu).

### Title IX

Rutgers is committed to fostering an environment that is safe and secure and free from sexual and gender-based discrimination and harassment, sexual violence, dating and domestic violence, stalking and other related misconduct. The university recognizes its responsibility to increase awareness of such misconduct, prevent its occurrence, support victims, deal fairly and firmly with offenders and diligently investigate reports of misconduct. This policy sets forth how the university defines and addresses sexual and gender-based harassment, sexual violence, stalking and related misconduct involving university students. For what you need to know go to <https://uec.rutgers.edu/policies/title-ix/>.