

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR FINAL PAPER

## Theories of International Migration and the Incorporation of Immigrants

The goal of our final assignment in this class is to review and synthesize the material we have covered and to think through how you could incorporate some of it into your own research. This should take the form of the initial selection of a research question, a short presentation on this to the class, and a final written research proposal.

*Question selection and presentation:* The topic should be a migration-related question that interests you. This may be the subject of your master's thesis, or it may be something different. You will need to submit this question during the final week of class (by 8:00 am on 11 March) and then present it briefly to the full class during our final session (15 March) for feedback.

*Research Proposal Content:* The final proposal should begin with your question. It should then synthesize the material we have covered in class that is most relevant to this question, and propose a research agenda for further exploring it. The synthesis of class material need not be exhaustive, and should focus only on the parts you find most relevant for your own research. The research agenda may include quantitative or qualitative methods or both, drawing on approaches used in the class material or going beyond these.

*Research Proposal Length:* 5-10 pages, double-spaced. I am giving you this range so that you have room to write what you want, but there is no need to use all 10 pages. What I want is a thoughtful and focused proposal.

*Style:* I am concerned much more with content and ideas than style. Do please write as clearly as possible and spell-check, but the point here is not to test your writing ability. Refer to articles on our reading list by authors' names and year of publication, but you need not include a bibliography. (If you cite articles that are not on our reading list, please also include enough information for me to identify the article but you can do this however you like as long as it is clear.)

### *Deadlines:*

- Submission of research questions: 11 March, 8:00 am. Submitted through course website.
- In-class presentation of research questions: 15 March.
- Final research proposal: 25 March, 11:55 pm. Submitted through course website.

*Evaluation:* The evaluation will be of the final written proposal only. The submission and in-class presentation of the research question are to gain feedback for your own benefit but will not be graded. The final research proposal should show you have thought deeply about the class material and its connection to your research interests. Length and exhaustiveness of the material you cover will not matter – so please do not feel pressure to discuss lots of topics just for the purpose of showing you have understood them. You can receive a perfect grade on this even by discussing even just one or two topics from class; the key is to really think them through and think through their connection to your own research.