Subject Matter: This course examines how family needs and within family dynamics inform decisions to migrate and describes how migration alters family and household organization in sending and receiving communities. With this aim in mind, the course considers concepts, theories, and data about migration and families to examine decisions to migrate and the impact of individual and community level migration on family formation, family dynamics, family exchanges, fertility, and union dissolution. Common themes in each session are how economic conditions and cultural context shape migration patterns and how migration patterns alter economic opportunities and constraints and normative values to affect family behavior.

During the discussions, students should be mindful of the fact that the interdependencies between family organization processes and the decision to migrate are multifaceted. When making efforts to decipher the relationship between migration and families, students should be mindful of the following:

- Migration influences family and household organizations, but families also influence decisions, patterns, and trends of migration
- Migration influences the family and household organizations of non-migrants in addition to migrants
- Families in sending and receiving communities change independent of migration.
- Migration is often governed by the effects of selection.

Note: To the extent possible, the instructor will make efforts to provide readings about a diverse array of immigrant groups in distinct settings. It should, however, be noted that research about international migration has been conducted primarily for the United States (especially for the context of Mexican Migration to the United States). Our reading will, therefore, be largely about the US context, reflecting the body of work on migration and families. You can still draw insights about the interdependencies between migration and family for various groups from the information provided from this body of work.

Learning Outcomes: At the end of this course students will be able to:
- Assess how social norms and institutions influence decision to migrate and the assimilation outcomes of immigrant families
- Identify the risk and protective factors influencing the outcomes of immigrant families
- Recognize that migration is a multifaceted phenomenon shaping the lives of immigrant families, non-migrants in the country of origin, and the native born population in the destination country
Course Requirements: There are four requirements to this course: (1) active (generic) participation in the weekly sessions; (2) 10 page term paper (12 font Times New Roman; 1 inch margins; double spaced) that deals with a topic covered in the course; and (3) a final exam. The specific requirements are described below in greater detail.

(1) Students are responsible for the all the readings in the syllabus. Students are expected to actively read, which means that they need to know the content of the readings and identify the common themes across readings for each week.

(2) Students are expected to actively participate in class. They must answer the questions posed by the instructor; provide comments about the papers they read; ask clarification questions; and offer thought-provoking questions/comments about the subject in discussion. They must all contribute interesting insights to the current events portion of the course.

(3) Students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner during class. They must be on time, focus on class activities, and be respectful to all members of the class. Failure to do so will result in deductions in the participation grade.

(4) In groups of two or three, students will be asked to provide a 15-minute presentation on current events affecting immigrant families. In these presentations, students are asked to clearly state the event; tie it in with topics being explored in the course; and pose questions that will lead to active in-class discussion. In order to complete this assignment, you will have to keep a watchful eye on the news. The current event can be international, national, or local in nature. I will pass around a sign-up sheet during the first class and each student must sign-up to the course.

(5) Students will be asked to write 1000-1250 word paper in response to questions or prompts posed by the instructor about a topic discussed in class. It will be due in Monday, October 7, 2013 at the beginning of class. A penalty of 10% will be applied for every late business day. If late, please submit in the drop box in front of SSC 5307. I will only read papers that are stamped by the staff of the sociology department. Please do not turn your papers in elsewhere.

(6) An in-class examination will be held on Monday, November 4, 2013. The exams will include short-answer questions and/or essay questions. Please write legibly. Answers that the instructor cannot read will be considered wrong.

(7) The final term paper will be due at the beginning of the final exam slot (to be designated by the registrar’s office). All essays have to be typed (about 2500 words in length, double spaced, not justified, 12 point Times New Roman Font). Submit in the drop box in SSC 5307. I will only read papers that are stamped by the staff of the sociology department. Please do not turn your papers in elsewhere. I will not accept late final term papers.
Grades: The course grade will be computed using the following weights:

- Active participation during in-class activities 15%
- Group presentation on current events 15%
- Writing assignment 20%
- Exam 25%
- Final term paper 25%

Course Materials: Course pack is available in the bookstore. The instructor reserves the right to change some of the readings during the course in response to student interests.

Prerequisites: Although they are not official prerequisites, it should be noted that this course offers both a natural extension and a setting to apply to the body of knowledge acquired in SOC 2235 “The Family” course and SOC 2281A/B “International Migration in the Globalized Word”.

Anti-requisites: Family Studies 2225: Immigration and Family

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE**

**WEEK 1 (9/9): Introduction**
- Syllabus

In class: Watch the documentary: Life and Death Across the Border: Vanguard

**I. FAMILIES IN THE CONTEXT OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION**

**WEEK 2 (9/16): Theories of migration**


In class: Watch movies Island of Hopes – Island of Tears : Ellis Island  or

**WEEK 3 (9/23): Who Migrates?: Immigration politics and migration**


In class activity: Watch the documentary “The Other Side of Immigration”

II. MIGRATION AND FAMILY FORMATION
WEEK 5 (10/7): Migration and Union Formation


Due: Reaction paper.
WEEK 6 (10/14): No Class. Happy Thanksgiving.

WEEK 7 (10/21): Migration and fertility


WEEK 8 (10/28): Migration and family structure


In class: Watch documentary “Children Left Behind in Rural China”

WEEK 9 (11/4): EXAM

III. CONSEQUENCES OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION FOR IMMIGRANT FAMILIES

WEEK 10 (11/11). Migration and Family Dynamics


In class: Listen to NPR “Chinese Immigrants' Kids Play Balancing Role”
WEEK 11 (11/18). Migration and Educational Attainment of the next generation


WEEK 12 (11/25). Migration and Health of the next generation


In class: Watch movie “Those who remain behind”.

WEEK 13 (12/6): Migration and Family Exchanges


In-class: Concluding remarks and announcement of final term paper.
UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS

Academic Offenses
Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following web site: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholoff.pdf

Plagiarism
Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (http://www.turnitin.com).

Late or Missed exams and assignments

Make-up exams will be granted with approved documentation only. If you have a conflict with one of the exam dates, it is your responsibility to discuss it with the Academic Counseling office at least one week before the regularly scheduled exam and provide documentation of the conflict. If approved, you will be allowed to schedule a make-up exam.

If you miss an exam date or the due date for an assignment due to illness or for any other unforeseen reason, you must provide notification of and documentation for the reasons for your circumstances to your Academic Counselor within 48 hours. If your problem is medical in nature, you should have a doctor’s note for the date of the exam or the due date of the assignment. If your Academic Counselor agrees that your reasons are legitimate and are supported by your medical doctor’s documentation, you will be allowed to write a makeup exam or hand in your assignment at a later date.

Compassionate Grounds

Serious Illness of a Family Member: Inform your instructor as soon as possible and submit a medical certificate from the family member's physician to your home faculty’s Academic Counseling office.

In Case of a Death of a Family Member: Inform your instructor as soon as possible and submit a copy of the newspaper notice, death certificate or documentation provided by the funeral director to your home faculty’s Academic Counseling office.
Outline disclaimer: The instructor reserves the right to adjust the content and the schedule depending on the progression of the class and student needs.
Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.