

Dr. Felicitas Nowak-Lehmann D.

**800031: Seminar on the Economic Situation of Latin America in the 21st Century:
'Challenges of Economic Development in Latin America (LA)'
Module: M.WiWi-VWL.0024
January 30-31, 2025**

1. Organizational issues

To be better able to foresee the demand for seminar places, we would like you to sign-up for seminars (not yet topics) between 15 September and 10 October. Students will be informed about the process in an email via the economics newsletter. Incoming exchange and double degree students will also be informed.
Many thanks for your collaboration!

Topic selection: Please register and select your preferred TOPIC via Stud.IP.

In order to state your preferences, in Stud.IP, go to 'Participants' – 'Functions/Groups', and choose a topic by joining a group. Only one topic per person can be chosen. **Registration for topics begins on October 21, 2024 (noon).**

Topics are allocated according to a first come, first serve basis and by certain priority criteria¹. **Please note that the introductory meeting on 24 October (12:00-13:00, OEC 0.168) is mandatory. The final allocation of topics will take place there and some information on the course will be given.** If you cannot personally attend/join, please send a substitute person to join in for you, and to share the pertinent information with you.

Up to two students may work on the same topic. Each student, however, is required to write individual seminar papers and make individual presentations. The seminar paper counts 2/3 towards the final grade.

Presentations should be created in a printer-friendly version (white background!). Presentation and participation in discussions count together 1/3 towards the final grade.

Registration: Please register in **Flex Now** to be formally enrolled in the seminar and be able to earn credits (see dates below). Withdrawal from the course after registration deadline in Flex Now is only possible with a medical certificate.

2. Important Comments & Dates

- Announcements related to the seminar can be found in Stud IP under course 'announcements'
- Reservation of seminar topics will start on 21 October, 12:00, in Stud IP

¹ You have a high priority if you are in the 4th or 5th semester in the MSc program. Therefore, please state which MSc semester you are currently in and whether you are a student of MSc Development Economics or MSc International Economics or any other MA program.

- Introductory meeting in presence (OEC 0.168), 24 October, 12:00-13:00; final allocation of seminar topics
- Registration in FlexNow: 24 October - 31 October, 2024 (latest possible registration by 31 October!)
- 2-day block seminar in presence: January 30-31, 2025; ROOM tba

Office hours (with appointment only, please book appointment via Stud IP):

Felicitas Nowak-Lehmann

Wednesday, 11-12h (in person: OEC 2.205) or via ZOOM

[https://uni-](https://uni-goettingen.zoom.us/j/97020569244?pwd=Z2Uwd3lRa21mbVJSS2JUZXN1BnUT09)

[goettingen.zoom.us/j/97020569244?pwd=Z2Uwd3lRa21mbVJSS2JUZXN1BnUT09](https://uni-goettingen.zoom.us/j/97020569244?pwd=Z2Uwd3lRa21mbVJSS2JUZXN1BnUT09)

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3. List of topics

The introductory literature is listed below, followed by the list of topics.

General recommended literature on the economics of migration, its determinants and its impact:

Bansak, C., N. Simpson, and M. Zavodny (2015). *The Economics of Immigration*. Oxford: Routledge.

Borjas, G.J. (2015a). *Immigration Economics*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

Borjas, G.J (2015b). "[Immigration and Globalization: A Review Essay](#)," [Journal of Economic Literature](#), American Economic Association, vol. 53(4), pages 961-974, December.

Chiswick, B.R. and P.W. Miller (eds.) (2015). *Handbook of the Economics of International Migration*. Amsterdam: North-Holland (Elsevier Science).

Rapoport, H. and F. Docquier (2006). The economics of migrants' remittances. *Handbook of the economics of giving, altruism and reciprocity*, 2: 1135-1198.

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2018). *International Migration Report 2017: Highlights (ST/ESA/SER.A/404)*.

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2017). Trends in International Migrant Stock: Migrants by Destination and Origin (United Nations database, POP/DB/MIG/Stock/Rev.2017).
<https://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/data/estimates2/estimates17.asp>

General literature for an overview of the determinants of migration

a) Push factors

- i) Economic factors: poverty, low wages, inequality, taxes, unemployment, overpopulation

Ambrosini, J.W. and G. Peri (2012). The determinants and the selection of Mexico–US migrants. *World Economy*, 35(2): 111-151.

- ii) Non-economic: criminality, war, political unrest, corruption, natural disasters, poor institutions (health care, education systems)

Cattaneo, Cristina & Peri, Giovanni, 2016. "[The migration response to increasing temperatures](#)," [Journal of Development Economics](#), Elsevier, vol. 122(C), pages 127-146.

b) Pull factors

- i) Economic: demand for labor in specific sectors, demand for temporary labor, higher wages, generous welfare systems, healthcare and education systems, economic growth, technology
- ii) Non-economic: Networks (diaspora, family), rights and freedoms, opportunities, property rights, rule of law, climate, gender discrimination

Kaivan Munshi, 2003. "[Networks in the Modern Economy: Mexican Migrants in the U. S. Labor Market](#)," [The Quarterly Journal of Economics](#), Oxford University Press, vol. 118(2), pages 549-599.

General literature on migration and remittances in Latin America

Fajnzylber, P. and López, J.H. (eds; 2008). Remittances and development: Lessons from Latin America. Latin American Development Forum Series. The World Bank. Washington, D.C.

<https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/6911>

TOPICS

Thematic area I: Determinants of migration: Push versus pull factors (economic and non-economic factors)

Topic 1: What determines the emigration decisions of individuals/households (micro perspective)? Contrast labor migration (e.g., from Mexico to the United States) with asylum migration (e.g., from Syria or Senegal to Germany).

Beber, B., Ebert, C. and Sievert, M. (2024) Is intent to migrate irregularly responsive to recent German asylum policy adjustments? Ruhr Economic Papers No. 1071. RWI-Leibniz-Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung, Essen.

Bertoli, S. & Fernández-Huertas Moraga, J. & Ortega, F. (2013). [Crossing the border: Self-selection, earnings and individual migration decisions.](#) *Journal of Development Economics*, vol. 101(C), pages 75-91.

McKenzie, D. and Rapoport, H. (2010). Self-selection patterns in Mexico-US migration: the role of migration networks. *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 92(4), pages 811-821.

Robinson, V. and Segrott, J. (2002) Understanding the decision-making of asylum seekers. Home Office Research Study 243. Home Office Research, Development and Statistics Directorate. London (UK).

Topic 2: What explanatory factors have been included in macroeconomic models of bilateral migration flows? Explain the theoretical channels of economic and other factors and empirical evidence.

Forte, G. and Portes, J. (2017) Macroeconomic Determinants of International Migration to the UK. Discussion Paper series IZA DP No. 10802: IZA Institute of Labor Economics.

Mayda, A.M. (2010). International migration: a panel data analysis of the determinants of bilateral flows. *Journal of Population Economics*, 23, 1249–1274. DOI 10.1007/s00148-009-0251-x

Winter, S. (2020). It's the Economy, Stupid: On the relative Impact of Political and Economic Determinants on Migration. *Population Research and Policy Review*, 39, 207-252.

Thematic area II: Detailed analysis of specific drivers of out-migration

Topic 3: How does political risk (e.g. political terror, lack of civil liberties, persecution, violence and war) affect asylum migration? Do theoretical insights overlap with empirical findings?

Hatton, T. J. (2016) 60 Million refugees. Refugees, asylum seekers, and policy in OECD countries. *American Economic Review: Papers & Proceedings*, 106 (5), 441-445.

Hatton, T. J. (2020) Asylum migration to the developed world. *The Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 34 (1), 75-93.

Matsui, N. and Raymer, J. (2020) The push and pull factors contributing towards asylum migration from developing countries to developed countries since 2000. *International Migration*, 58 (6), 210-231.

Topic 4: How does conflict in countries of origin affect forced migration? Analyze the channels through which violent and non-violent conflict impacts on forced out-migration.

Abel, G.J., Brottrager, M., Crespo Cuaresma, J., Muttarak, R. (2019). Climate, conflict and forced migration. *Global Environmental Change*, 54, 239–249.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gloenvcha.2018.12.003>

Crippa, A., d’Agostino, G., Dunne, P. and Pieroni, L. (2022). Conflict as a cause of migration. MPRA. Online at <https://mpra.ub.uni-muenchen.de/112327/>
MPRA Paper No. 112327

Weber, H. (2019) Can violent conflicts explain the recent increase in the flow of asylum seekers from Africa Into Europe? *Journal of Immigrant & Refugee Studies*, 17(4), 405-424, DOI: 10.1080/15562948.2018.1517424.

Topic 5: How does climate change affect migration from the developing world? Differentiate between slow onset and fast onset events.

Beine, M., & Parsons, C. (2017). Climatic Factors as Determinants of International Migration: Redux. *CESifo Economic Studies*, 63(4), 386–402. doi:10.1093/cesifo/ifx017.

Cattaneo et al. (2019). Human Migration in the Era of Climate Change. *Review of Environmental Economics and Policy*, 13(2), 189–206. doi:10.1093/reep/rez008

Kaczan, D., & Orgill-Meyer, J. (2020). The impact of climate change on migration: a synthesis of recent empirical insights. *Climatic Change*, (158), 281–300. doi:10.1007/s10584-019-02560-0.

Thematic area III: Impact of migration in sending and receiving countries

Topic 6: Does migration lead to brain drain? Can it also lead to brain gain?

Beine, M., Docquier, F. and Rapoport, H. (2008). Brain Drain and Human Capital Formation in Developing Countries: Winners and Losers. *Economic Journal*, vol. 118(528), 631-652.

Docquier, F. and Rapoport, H. (2012). Globalization, Brain Drain, and Development. *Journal of Economic Literature*, vol. 50(3), 681-730.

Gibson, J. & McKenzie, D. (2012). The Economic Consequences of ‘Brain Drain’ of the Best and Brightest: Microeconomic Evidence from Five Countries. *Economic Journal*, vol. 122(560), 339-375.

Xiang, B. (2016). Emigration Trends and Policies in China. Movement of the Wealthy and Highly Skilled. Transatlantic Council on Migration. A Project of the Migration Policy Institute.

Yu, Y. (2024) Brain drain and brain gain in Hong Kong’s population shuffle. Feature. MPI. Migration Policy Institute (April 3, 2024).

Topic 7: How successful (in terms of educational attainment and earnings) are immigrants (first generation, second generation)?

Abramitzky, R., Boustan, L., Jácome, E., Pérez, S. (2021) Intergenerational Mobility of Immigrants over Two Centuries. *American Economic Review*, 111(2), 580-608.

Agafitei, M. and Ivan, G. (2016/2022) First and second-generation immigrants- statistics on education and skills: EUROSTAT statistics-explained: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=First_and_second-generation_immigrants_-_statistics_on_education_and_skills#Educational_attainment_level.

Pew Research Center (2013) Second-generation Americans. A portrait of the adult children of immigrants. <https://www.pewresearch.org/social-trends/2013/02/07/second-generation-americans/>

Topic 8: What about the life satisfaction of immigrants in the host/destination countries?

Frank K. and Hou F. (2018) Over-education and well-being: how does education-occupation mismatch affect the life satisfaction of university-educated immigrant and non-immigrant workers? *Ethn Health*, 23(8), 884-901. doi: 10.1080/13557858.2017.1316832 . Epub 2017 Apr 17. PMID: 28415851 .

Hendriks, M. (2018) Does migration increase happiness? It depends. Migration Policy Institute (MPI). <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/does-migration-increase-happiness-it-depends>

Yaman, F., Cubi-Molla, P., and Plagnol, A.C. (2022) Why do immigrants become less happy? Explanations for the decrease in life satisfaction of immigrants in Germany over time. *Migration Studies*, 10(4), 670–702, <https://doi.org/10.1093/migration/mnac034>