COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OUTLINE

Instructor: Jeffrey G. Reitz, R.F. Harney Professor of Ethnic, Immigration and Pluralism Studies, Professor of Sociology

Class Time: Tuesday, 10:10 - 12:00 noon

Class Location: SS1073 - Sidney Smith Hall, 100 St. George Street

Office: Room 358S, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, 1 Devonshire Place

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Website: https://q.utoronto.ca (UTORid and password access)

Teaching Asst. Paul Pritchard; paul.pritchard@mail.utoronto.ca

Overview and Objectives

This course examines the labour market and employment situation of immigrants, from economic and sociological perspectives, emphasizing recent Canadian experience in comparative context. Topics include economic goals and impact of immigration, immigrant human capital, immigrant skill utilization, declining immigrant earnings, impact of racial discrimination, the knowledge economy, and globalization. Specific labour market processes are examined including immigrant access to professions, enclaves and immigrant entrepreneurship, immigrants and labour unions, and experiences of the Canadian-born second generation. It also considers implications for immigration policy and other issues including for human rights, employment equity, credential recognition and skill utilization, and general social welfare policy and employment policy.

Prerequisite

The prerequisite to take this course is completion of 1.0 FCE at the 200 or higher level SOC course (university policy is that students not meeting this requirement are removed from the course when discovered). Students who have taken SOC387H may not take SOC370H for credit.

Course Format

Weekly class sessions consist of lecture presentations and discussion based on required readings. Key issues will be identified, and major recent studies reviewed and evaluated. Session topics are listed below.

Readings

All required readings (listed below pp. 3-5) are posted on Quercus; see “Library Course Reserves” in the course website menu at the left. Readings are also posted at https://cr.library.utoronto.ca/studenthome/id/297643 (if this link does not work, try pasting it in your browser). For journal articles url are as listed following the entry on the reading list.

Requirements and Grading

There will be two in-class multiple choice tests, and two take-home essay-type tests. Each covers lectures and readings up to the date administered. The schedule of tests, and weighting in the final grade, are as follows:

Test 1: October 15, 20% of final grade (covers sessions 1-6)
Take-home Essay 1: Distributed on Oct. 15 and due one week later (Oct. 22), 30% of final grade (covers sessions 1-6).
Take-home Essay 2: Distributed on Nov. 12, and due one week later (Nov. 19), 30% of final grade (covers sessions 7-9).
Test 2: December 3, 20% of final grade (covers sessions 7-12).

Submit take-home essays online, following instructions as distributed. One make-up test will be held for all students missing an in-class test for valid reasons with documentation (see next section). University policy is that cheating and
misrepresentation will not be tolerated. Students who commit an academic offence face serious penalties. Avoid plagiarism by citing properly: practices acceptable in high school may prove unacceptable in university. Know where you stand by reading the “Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters” in the Calendar of the Faculty of Arts and Science.

Lateness and Missed Tests

Late essays or missed tests are not accommodated without valid reasons and proper documentation. The penalty for late submission of take-home essays without valid reasons supported by documentation is 5 grade points per day of lateness. Regarding documentation of valid reasons for late essays or missed tests, this course follows university policy quoted here:

- If you miss a test or a paper deadline, do not contact the instructor or a TA unless you have followed the steps described below. Telling the professor or TA why you missed a deadline or a test will not be considered.
- In case of illness, you must supply a duly completed “Verification of Student Illness or Injury” form (available at www.illnessverification.utoronto.ca). A doctor’s note is acceptable and must indicate start and anticipated end date of the illness. The form must be placed in a sealed envelope, addressed to the instructor, and submitted with your work.
- If a personal or family crisis prevents you from meeting a deadline, you must get a letter from your college registrar requesting a deferred deadline (it is advisable anyway to tell your college registrar if a crisis is interfering with your studies). The letter must be placed in a sealed envelope, addressed to the instructor, and submitted with your work.

Course website and email

The course website contains lecture slides, handouts, and other relevant information. The instructor accepts only signed email messages. Students are responsible for obtaining all information given in class, including lecture material, and any announcements, including changes in the schedule (e.g., test dates). Although attempts are made to post lecture slides and other course materials on the blackboard portal, posting of these materials is not guaranteed. Neither the instructor nor the teaching assistant will provide remedial summaries of material covered in class. Email should NOT be used for any of the following purposes: to request information made available in class or posted on the course website; or to request information in the week prior to tests (questions should be resolved earlier, preferably in class).

Accessibility

The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations for a disability, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom or course materials, please contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible: accessibility.services@utoronto.ca, or http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/as

SESSION TOPICS

Part 1. Introduction
1. Immigration and employment in Canada: theory, context, policy issues
   September 10

Part 2. Immigration, Race, Gender, and Labour Markets
2. Immigrant employment experiences and economic impact
   September 17
3. Immigrant human capital, skill utilization, and access to professions
   September 24
4. Racial discrimination
   October 1
5. Trends in immigrant earnings and institutional context
   October 8

Part 3. Labour Market Processes, Ethnic Communities and Social Capital
6. Ethnic enclaves: businesses, occupations, work settings and social networks
   October 15
7. Immigrants and labour unions
   October 22
8. Temporary foreign workers and precarious work
   October 29
9. Immigrant offspring and the second generation
   November 12
10. Global cities and international contexts of immigrant employment
    November 19

Part 4. Policy Issues
11. Immigrant integration policy: settlement, human rights and employment equity
    November 26
12. Immigrant selection policy: criteria, evaluation and future directions
    December 3
REQUIRED READINGS FOR EACH SESSION

PART 1. INTRODUCTION

1. Immigration and employment in Canada: theory, context, issues

September 10


PART 2. IMMIGRATION, RACE, GENDER, AND LABOUR MARKETS

2. Immigrant employment experiences and economic impact

September 17


3. Immigrant human capital, skill utilization, and access to professions

September 24


4. Racial discrimination

October 1


5. Trends in immigrant earnings

October 8


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Note: A test based on lectures and readings in Parts 1 and 2 will be administered in the second hour of the next class on October 15. Results of this test will be posted by Friday, October 18.

A take-home essay exam based on the same material also will be distributed October 15, and due in the following class October 22.

PART 3. LABOUR MARKET PROCESSES, ETHNIC COMMUNITIES AND SOCIAL CAPITAL

6. Ethnic enclaves: businesses, occupations, work settings and social networks


7. Immigrants and labour unions


8. Temporary foreign workers and precarious work


9. Immigrant offspring and the second generation


Note: A take-home exam based on lectures and readings in Part 3, sessions 6-9, will be distributed at the end of this class, due November 19.

10. Global cities and international contexts of immigrant integration  

PART 4. POLICY ISSUES

11. Immigrant integration policy: settlement, human rights and employment equity  
http://search.proquest.com/docview/231919498/fulltextPDF/E71E71BCE3F24E2EPQ/7?accountid=14771

12. Immigrant selection policy: criteria, evaluation and future directions  

Note: a test based on lectures and readings in Parts 3 and 4 will be administered in the second hour of this class.