Course Description
Immigration shook recent European politics at the local, national and EU levels. As a champion of anti-immigration messages, the National Front swept to victory in 12 French cities in March 2014. Two months later, the National Front secured another electoral victory in the European Parliament Election. In Germany, Chancellor Angela Merkel’s handling of the refugee issue contributed to her Christian Democrat Party’s serious setback in the March 2016 regional elections. In Britain, many voters seemed to have expressed their unease about immigration through casting ballots in the June 2016 Brexit referendum. The increasing polarization on immigration shocked many, because not long ago, politicians in many liberal democracies were able to weave immigration into the narratives of national self-understanding like a consensus. Former President Woodrow Wilson once said, “We came to America, either ourselves or in the persons of our ancestors, to better the ideals of men, to make them see finer things than they had seen before, to get rid of the things that divide and to make sure of the things that unite.” On the contrary, many politicians in the post-WWII Federal Republic of Germany had for a long time insisted, “Germany is not a country of immigration” (Wir sind kein Einwanderungsland). How does such national self-understanding influence today’s immigration politics? To what extent do various discourses in the debates reflect immigration history and the trajectories of immigration policies? Amidst the climate of immigration debates during recent primary and general elections, how many Americans still pride themselves of being a “country of immigration” that harbors “the tired and the poor?” Inspired by these questions, this course discusses immigration politics from the perspective of citizenship ideas and national self-understanding. We focus on past and present immigration policies in selected liberal democracies, including France, Germany, Israel and the US. We pay special attention to labor migration, family reunification and the refugee issue. Prerequisite: R POS102 strongly recommended.

Learning Objectives
By the end of this course, you will be able to:

• Summarize key concepts and issues about immigration politics.
• Distinguish different challenges and policy responses regarding immigration in major migration destinations, especially those that are covered in the course.
• Critically evaluate the quality of arguments regarding key immigration issues.
Required Readings
• All the other readings will be available on Blackboard.

Grades
1. Class Participation 10%
2. Individual Presentation 10%
3. Pop Quizzes 25%
4. Midterm 25%
5. Final Project – Policy Brief 30%

Assignment Policy
All assignments should be submitted according to the required format. Emailed or faxed assignments will not be accepted, with the exception of the completed Final Project. Late submissions will not be accepted, except for religious observance (which needs to be cleared with me in the first two weeks of the semester) or documented medical or family emergency (with a doctor note or one from the dean).

Online Learning Sources
IMPALA: [http://www.impaladatabase.org](http://www.impaladatabase.org)
IOM World Migration Interactive Map: [https://www.iom.int/world-migration](https://www.iom.int/world-migration)
MIPEX 2015: [http://www.mipex.eu](http://www.mipex.eu)
Migration Policy Institute: [http://www.migrationpolicy.org/](http://www.migrationpolicy.org/)
OECD: [http://www.oecd.org/els/mig/oecdmigrationdatabases.htm](http://www.oecd.org/els/mig/oecdmigrationdatabases.htm)
USICE: [https://www.ice.gov](https://www.ice.gov)

Special Needs
Students with special needs due to physical, learning, or other disabilities and wish to be accommodated accordingly must submit the supporting documentation from the Disability Resource Center ([http://www.albany.edu/disability/](http://www.albany.edu/disability/ Campus Center 137) to me (in person) during the first two weeks of the semester. Please also remind me before each relevant event (e.g. midterm and assignment due dates).

Class Etiquette
• This class welcomes all perspectives and political views ONLY when they are presented in a civic fashion with grounded evidence. Please be respectful of every participant in this class, including yourself, by behaving and speaking in a decent and responsible way.
• You are expected to utilize electronic devices in a responsible manner, which means you should only use them in ways that facilitate your learning and are able to limit unnecessary distractions for yourself and others. I strongly encourage you to read the study that finds how using electronic devices negatively influences learning: [http://www.yorku.ca/ncepeda/laptopFAQ.html](http://www.yorku.ca/ncepeda/laptopFAQ.html). You can also find a summary of this study at: [http://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/laptop-use-lowers-student-grades-experiment-shows-1.1401860](http://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/laptop-use-lowers-student-grades-experiment-shows-1.1401860).
Weekly Readings
August 30: Syllabus and Course Overview

September 1: Basic Concepts

September 6: Historical Overview of Immigration Control

September 8: The Liberal Paradox

September 13: Post-WWII Labor Migration to Europe
• Castles et al., pp.93-99, ch.5.

September 15: French and German Experiences

September 20: Post-WWII Immigration to North America
• Castles et al., pp.89-93, ch.6.

September 22: The American Experience

September 27: Immigration and Citizenship Ideas I

September 29: Immigration and Citizenship Ideas II
• Castles et al., ch.3, pp.230-233.
**October 4: Family Reunification**
- Castles et al., pp.156-158.

**October 6: Labor Migration**
- Castles et al., ch.11.

**October 11**  No Class (Class Suspended for Yom Kippur)

**October 13: Migration and Human Security**
- Castles et al., ch.9.

**October 18: Midterm Review**

**October 20: In-Class Midterm**

**October 25: Refugees – UNHCR**
- Castles et al., pp.163-165, 221-230.
- RSD Self Help Kit

**October 27: Asylum Seekers – Non-Refoulement**

**November 1: Refugees and Asylum – US**
- TBA

**November 3: Refugees and Asylum – Germany**
- TBA

**November 8: Refugees and Asylum – EU**
- Castles et al., pp. 181-193.

**November 10: Refugees and Asylum – Turkey**
• Elizabeth Collett, “The Paradox of the EU-Turkey Refugee Deal,” MPI Commentary (March 2016).

**November 15: Refugees and Asylum – Israel**
• Watch Documentary Hotline (2015)

**November 17: The “Migration Industry”**
• Castles et al., pp. 235-238.

**November 22: Rethinking Refugees and Illegal Immigration**

**November 24**  No Class (Class Suspended for Thanksgiving Break)

**November 29: Immigration Reform – The German Experience**
• Castles et al., p.107 & ch.12 (pay special attention to Germany).
• Kay Hailbronner, “Country Report: Germany, “EUDO Citizenship Observatory (October 2012). (*read sections 1&2, pp.1-10)

**December 1: Immigration Debates – US**

**December 6: Final Project Presentations**

**December 8: Ethics of Immigration?**

**December 13**  No Class (Reading Day)
Final Project Due on December 14 (Wednesday) at 10am (by email)