Course Description
Immigration shook recent European politics at the local, national and EU levels. In March 2014, the National Front swept to victory in 12 French cities as a champion of anti-immigration messages. Two months later, the National Front secured another electoral victory in the European Parliament Election. 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 retrospect, many British voters seemed to have expressed their unease about immigration through casting ballots in the 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 the ethos of America 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 politics in selected liberal democracies, including France, Germany, Israel and the US. We pay special attention to labor migration, family reunification, border control and international displacement. Prerequisite: RPOS102 strongly recommended.

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

• Summarize key concepts and issues regarding immigration politics.
• Distinguish different challenges and policy responses regarding immigration in major migration destinations, especially the cases 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.

Learning Activities and Grading System
1. Class Participation 15%
2. Group Wiki 15% (Due May 4 Friday 9:20am)
3. Quizzes 20%
4. Midterm Exam 25% (March 9 Friday 9:20-10:15am)
5. Final Exam 25% (May 17 Thursday 10:30am-12:30pm)
The course follows UAlbany sample grading scale, which can be found at the bottom of the webpage: https://www.albany.edu/uhs/grading.php

Assignment Policy
All assignments should be submitted according to the required format. Failure to do so will result in a failing grade. 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 dean).

Academic Integrity
Plagiarism and cheating in any form will not be tolerated. For more information about plagiarism, please review the webpage: http://www.albany.edu/eas/104/penalty.htm.

Accommodation
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/ Campus Center 137) to me (in person) during the first week of class. Please also remind me before each relevant event (e.g. midterm, final and assignment due dates).

Class Etiquette
• Every action in this course is expected to be mature and professional. Please behave and speak in a way that shows respect to your peers, instructor and yourself.
• Please use electronic devices in a responsible and professional manner. Failure to do so consistently will influence your class participation grade. Please read a study that finds how using electronic devices influences learning negatively: http://www.yorku.ca/ncepeda/laptopFAQ.html. You can also find two summaries of this study in the folder of Class Etiquette on Blackboard.

Weekly Readings
January 24: Syllabus and Course Overview

January 26: Basic Concepts
January 29: Theories

January 31: Liberal Paradox

February 2: Historical Overview of Immigration Control

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

February 7: French and German Experiences

February 9: Group Wiki (Part I)
• Wiki in Plain English https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dnL00TdmLY
• What is a Wiki https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Q7O3Rx7-t0

February 12: The American Experience

February 14: Post-WWII Immigration to North America
• Castles et al., pp.89-93, ch.6.

February 16: Group Wiki (Part II)
• Plagiarism Tutorial https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J1Hl0i-Br4Y

February 19: Immigration and Citizenship Ideas I

February 21: Immigration and Citizenship Ideas II
• Castles et al., ch.3, pp.230-233.
February 23: Group Wiki (Part III)

February 26: Labor Migration
• Castles et al., ch.11.

February 28: Labor Migration & Urban Diversity

March 2: Family Reunification – East Asia

March 5: Family Reunification – US
• Castles et al., pp.156-158.
• USCIS on Family of US Citizens https://www.uscis.gov/family/family-us-citizens

March 7: Midterm Review

March 9: In-Class Midterm

March 12, March 14, March 16: No Class (Spring Break)

March 19: Migration and Human Security
• Castles et al., ch.9.
• Hildegard Bedarff, “Climate Change, Migration, and Displacement: The Underestimated Disaster,” (Greenpeace 2017), read pp.19-33.

March 21: UNHCR
• Castles et al., pp.163-165, 221-230.
• The Refugee Project http://www.therefugeeproject.org/#/1986

March 23: Non-Refoulement
• Joseph H. Carens, “Refugees,” in: The Ethics of Immigration (Oxford University Press 2003), ch.10 (pp.192-224).

March 26: UNHCR & RSD
• UNHCR Who We Help http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49c3646c11c.html
• UNHCR Persons of Concern http://www.unhcr.org/ph/persons-concern-unhcr
• RSD Self Help Kit
March 28: Refugees and Asylum in US

March 30: Refugees and Asylum in Germany

April 2: No Class (Easter)

April 4: Refugees and Asylum Policy in EU
- Castles et al., pp. 181-193.

April 6: Refugees and Asylum Policy – EU & Turkey

April 9: UNRWA

April 11: Watch Documentary “Hotline” (2015)

April 13: Rethinking Refugees and Asylum

April 16: The Migration Industry
- Castles et al., pp. 235-238.

April 18: Immigration Debate – US

April 23: Immigration Debate – France

April 25: Immigration Debate – Germany
• Castles et al., p.107 & ch.12 (pay special attention to Germany).

• https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n87ZHRFXXdA

April 30: Brexit and Immigration

May 2: Ethics of Immigration?

May 4: Presentations
Group Wiki due 9:20am

May 7: Presentations

May 9: Presentations

May 11: No Class (Reading Day)

May 17 (Thursday): Final Exam
Time: 10:30am-12:30pm
Location: TBA