

## **Integration of refugees and social stratification**

Instructor: Prof. Dr. Yuliya Kosyakova, Professorship for Migration Research

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### **Information on the class**

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**Format:** Block Seminar, 4 SWS, twice per month

**Recommended for:** Students of M.A. Soziologie/European Economic Studies (EES)

**Schedule:** Twice per month on Fridays, Room F21/XXX

**Office Hours:** By appointment via email

**Max Participants:** 20

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### **Course description:**

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Refugee migration has surged in the 21st century, driven by conflicts, persecution, and instability in regions like the Middle East, Afghanistan, the Horn of Africa, and parts of South-Eastern Asia and Latin America and, recently, the Russian invasion into Ukraine. By 2022, the number of forcibly displaced individuals globally reached 108 million, with 40 million crossing international borders, indicating an unparalleled scale of displacement. Germany has become a primary destination, hosting a refugee population that grew from 0.5 to 3.1 million between 2010 and 2022 (DESTATIS, 2023). This significant influx, which increased the refugee share of the population from 0.6% to 3.7% (DESTATIS, 2023), has profound implications for the country's social and economic fabric. The issue of refugees' successful integration is often framed as a cause of anxiety; culturally, politically, and economically in Germany and else in Europe and there is no consensus about the best way to promote their integration. This course will explore these debates through literature on several aspects of refugees' integration in Western Europe.

In particular, this course will first describe the recent refugee flows with a particular focus on Germany. Next, it will outline the factors shaping decisions to migrate and outline the differences between migration process of refugees and other migrants. Finally, we will engage in debates around models of immigrant incorporation and consider whether and how they are applicable to refugees. Here, we will focus on issues related to asylum procedure, labor market access, family reunification, access to education and language acquisition, access to healthcare, family roles, and networks; and address complex issues of integration of vulnerable groups such as women, children, and low-educated.

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### **Course Workflow, Assignment & Grading:**

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**Meetings.** The course will run as a series of meetings, in which we will discuss readings covering relevant thematic areas (see Syllabus below) and related questions. Before each session (except Meeting 1), students are required to read ALL readings assigned (except for the ones explicitly marked as optional).

By default, all meetings are presence meetings. However, depending on the circumstances, some of these meetings might be organized in an online format (Zoom-sessions). You will be notified in advance in case a meeting is to be held online.

Presence (either physical or online) itself will not be graded but it may be helpful to obtain a better final grade (see below). In any case, if you do not plan / cannot attend please give me advance notice (it is just polite as well as helpful to plan sessions).

**Discussion questions.** These includes *your discussion questions* based on the Meeting's reading. The discussion questions may include own critique, comprehension questions, discussion topics, further research and society questions.

All Meeting's reading will be uploaded to VC at least one week in advance (I might revise the syllabus and readings slightly as the course goes). The discussion questions will be due by 16 p.m. Wednesday preceding the session. Each will count towards individual portfolios (see Grading below). I will not accept discussion questions past the deadline!

**Own research: Presentation.** A presentation relates to your own research project, which should help you to write an essay. This research project can be either (1) a meta-analysis testing a specific hypothesis originating from or otherwise relevant to our discussions, (2) a (qualitative or quantitative) data-analysis testing a specific hypothesis originating from or otherwise relevant to our discussions, or (3) an elaboration of a topic/research question(s) for a master's thesis. In any case, individual essay proposals will have to be negotiated with me before the work on the presentation begins.

You need to use VC to upload your presentations (please do not send them to me by email!). The slides for the Presentation will be due by 16 p.m. Wednesday preceding the session. Each Presentation will count towards individual portfolios (see Grading below).

**Own research: Essay.** After the presentation, you will also have to write a corresponding essay. You should use presentation as a ground for the essay and consider all feedback! The essay should be no more than 5,000 words long (incl. text, notes and excl. references). More specific requirements will be posted on VC. All essays will be due by 8 a.m. on August 16th. That is, you will have 5 weeks to write them up after the last session. I will not accept essays past the deadline also! Use VC for uploading all coursework. Email submissions will not be accepted.

**Grading.** I will calculate the final grade according to the following formula: Final grade = 15% \* Average grade for the discussion questions + 35% \* Grade for the Presentation+ 50% \* Grade for the essay.

Discussion questions will be graded according to point system: 1 point per submission, with a maximum of 27 points. Discussion questions will be graded on the following scale: 1 – excellent; 2 – very good; 3 – good; 4 – satisfactory; 5 – non-satisfactory.

The presentations will be graded on a similar, albeit more refined, scale as discussion questions (i.e., allowing 1.3, 1.7, etc.). Everyone will get my feedback on the presentations, motivating my evaluation and grades.

The essay will be graded on a similar scale as presentations (i.e., allowing 1.3, 1.7, etc.). Everyone will get my feedback on the essays, motivating my evaluation and grades.

Please keep in mind that in-class discussions may substantially improve your final grade. At the same time, I will not (!) by any means penalize your lack of participation.

Please keep in mind that to get a grade and credits for this course, you need to register for the exam! The exam itself consists in submitting your portfolio, i.e., discussion questions, presentation and the essay.

This course, in conjunction with course “Interethnic Contacts” by Regine Schmidt, constitutes a module. You will be assigned a grade for each of these courses, and these grades will be combined to calculate an overall grade. This cumulative grade will subsequently be applied to the seminar for which you register under the "mit Modulprüfung / module examination" category. For the other seminar, you must register under the "ohne Modulprüfung/ without module examination" designation.

**Important Deadlines.** Discussion questions: 4 PM Wednesday before each session. Presentation slides: 4 PM Wednesday before your presentation. Essays: 8 AM, August 16th.

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### **Plan und literature:**

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The course will consist of the following 7 meetings:

#### **Theoretical part**

##### **1. 19.04.2024 (2 SWS), 12:00-14:00**

Introduction in the topic. Recent history of (refugee) migration in Europe.

Brücker, Herbert, Yuliya Kosyakova, and Ehsan Vallizadeh. 2020. “Has There Been a ‘Refugee Crisis’? New Insights on the Recent Refugee Arrivals in Germany and Their Integration Prospects.” *Soziale Welt* 71(1–2):24–53. doi: 10.5771/0038-6073-2020-1-2-24.

Grote, J. (2018). *The Changing Influx of Asylum Seekers in 2014-2016: Responses in Germany. Focussed Study by the German National Contact Point for the European Migration Network (EMN). Working Paper 79.* Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF).

UNHCR. (2023). *UNHRC Global Trends: Forced Displacement in 2022.* 3.

##### **2. 03.05.2024 (4 SWS), 10:00-14:00**

Why people move – theoretical perspectives on international migration.

Aksoy, Cevat Giray, and Panu Poutvaara. 2021. "Refugees' and Irregular Migrants' Self-Selection into Europe." *Journal of Development Economics* 152:102681. doi: 10.1016/j.jdeveco.2021.102681.

Spörlein, Christoph, Cornelia Kristen, Regine Schmidt, and Jörg Welker. 2020. "Selectivity Profiles of Recently Arrived Refugees and Labour Migrants in Germany." *Soziale Welt* 71(1–2):54–89. doi: 10.5771/0038-6073-2020-1-2-54.

(*optional*) van Tubergen, F., Kogan, I., Kosyakova, Y., & Pötzschke, S. (2023). Self-selection of Ukrainian refugees and displaced persons in Europe. *Journal of Refugee Studies*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jrs/fead089>

### Theoretical models of integration/assimilation. Integration of refugees – a special case?

Cortes, K. E. (2004). Are refugees different from economic immigrants? Some empirical evidence on the heterogeneity of immigrant groups in the United States. *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 86(2), 465–480. <https://doi.org/10.1162/003465304323031058>

FitzGerald, David Scott, and Rawan Arar. 2018. "The Sociology of Refugee Migration." *Annual Review of Sociology* 44(1):387–406. doi: 10.1146/annurev-soc-073117-041204.

(*optional*) Kogan, I., & Kalter, F. (2020). An empirical–analytical approach to the study of recent refugee migrants in Germany. *Soziale Welt*, 71(1–2), 3–23. <https://doi.org/10.5771/0038-6073-2020-1-2-3>

(*optional*) Kosyakova, Y., Kristen, C., & Spörlein, C. (2022). The dynamics of recent refugees' language acquisition: how do their pathways compare to those of other new immigrants? *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 48(5), 989–1012. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1369183X.2021.1988845>

### **3. 24.05.2024 (4 SWS), 10:00-14:00**

Labor market integration of refugees in Germany and Europe: stylized facts about 2015/16 refugees and recent refugees from Ukraine.

Brell, Courtney, Christian Dustmann, and Ian Preston. 2020. "The Labor Market Integration of Refugee Migrants in High-Income Countries." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 34(1):94–121. doi: 10.1257/jep.34.1.94.

Brücker, H., Ette, A., Grabka, M. M., Kosyakova, Y., Niehues, W., Rother, N., Spieß, C. K., Zinn, S., Bujard, M., Silva, A. R. C., Décieux, J. P., Maddox, A., Milewski, N., Sauer, L., Schmitz, S., Schwanhäuser, S., Siegert, M., Steinhauer, H., & Tanis, K. (2023). Ukrainian Refugees in Germany: Evidence From a Large Representative Survey. *Comparative Population Studies*, 48, 395–424. <https://doi.org/10.12765/CPoS-2023-16>

(*optional*) Brücker, H., Jaschke, P., & Kosyakova, Y. (2019). Integrating Refugees into the German Economy and Society: Empirical Evidence and Policy Objectives. Migration Policy Institute.

## Challenges of immigrant integration, specifics of refugees' integration

- Human and social capital resources, gender, health
- Institutional contexts of reception and refugee labor market incorporation
- Social distances and discrimination

Kosyakova, Yuliya, and Irena Kogan. 2022. "Labor Market Situation of Refugees in Europe: The Role of Individual and Contextual Factors." *Frontiers in Political Science* 4:1–14. doi: 10.3389/fpos.2022.977764.

Kosyakova, Y., Salikutluk, Z., & Hartmann, J. (2023). Gender employment gap at arrival and its dynamics: The case of refugees in Germany. *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility*, 87(August), 100842. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rssm.2023.100842>

(optional) Barreto, C., Berbée, P., Gallegos Torres, K., Lange, M., & Sommerfeld, K. (2022). The Civic Engagement and Social Integration of Refugees in Germany. *Nonprofit Policy Forum*. <https://doi.org/10.1515/npf-2022-0015>

(optional) Gundacker, L., Kosyakova, Y., & Schneider, G. (2024). How regional attitudes towards immigration shape the chance to obtain asylum: Evidence from Germany. *Migration Studies*.

### 4. 07.06.2024 (4 SWS), 10:00-14:00

#### Consequences of refugee immigration – theory and empirical evidence

Ceritoglu, Evren, H. Burcu Gurcihan Yunculer, Huzeyfe Torun, and Semih Tumen. 2017. "The Impact of Syrian Refugees on Natives' Labor Market Outcomes in Turkey: Evidence from a Quasi-Experimental Design." *IZA Journal of Labor Policy* 6(1):5. doi: 10.1186/s40173-017-0082-4

Hangartner, D., Dinas, E., Marbach, M., Matakos, K., & Xefteris, D. (2019). Does exposure to the refugee crisis make natives more hostile? *American Political Science Review*, 113(2), 442–455. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0003055418000813>

(optional) Bahar, D., Hauptmann, A., Özgüzel, C., & Rapoport, H. (2022). Migration and Knowledge Diffusion: The Effect of Returning Refugees on Export Performance in the Former Yugoslavia. *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, 1–50. [https://doi.org/10.1162/rest\\_a\\_01165](https://doi.org/10.1162/rest_a_01165)

Entorf, H., & Lange, M. (2023). Refugees welcome? Understanding the regional heterogeneity of anti-refugee hate crime. *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, 101, 103913. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.regsciurbeco.2023.103913>

#### Q & A Session / Submission of the Exposé

### Practical part

In the practical meeting, we follow presentation the research results by students, discuss challenges students face while carrying out their own research and seek together for best solutions.

**5. 21.06.2024 (4 SWS)**

Presentations by Groups 1–4

**6. 05.07.2024 (4 SWS)**

Presentations by Groups 5–8

**7. 19.07.2024 (2 SWS)**

Feedback and reflection