



Corso di laurea in Scienze sociali per la globalizzazione
Università degli Studi di Milano
A.A. 2020-21

Gender and Migration. Transnational and Intersectional Prospects

Held by: Prof. Dr. Helma Lutz

Registration period: from February 1st at 09:00 to February 8th at 15:00

Class period: Monday 14th February - Tuesday 22th February 2022

Location: via conservatorio, nr. 7

Hours total: 20 hours

Number of attendees: 30 maximum

Detailed programme:

The seminar deals with theories and empirical examples of social inequality focusing on gender and migration; it analyses the gender aspects of migration processes on national, global, and transnational scales. We will:

- a) Use the social constructivist turn in the field of gender studies as a starting point, and take a closer look at the relationship between gender relations and migration;
- b) Compare various (classical) migration theories working with a sedentary perspective and confront them with transnational approaches;
- c) Acquire the intersectional social constructivist perspective of 'doing migration'/'doing space' and 'doing gender';
- d) Focus on and analyse the intersection of gender, care/welfare state and migration regimes; e) Discuss citizenship in transition from a national to a post-national model.

The debate about these five themes is visualized and exemplified by using feature and documentary films.

Evaluation method:

Expected is a vivid interest in the themes of migration and gender relations, an interest in reading, interpreting and discussing texts in combination with visual materials and a good command of English.

Class schedule:

- 14 February, 16:30-19:30 (room 10)
- 15 February, 16:30-19:30 (room 10)
- 16 February, 08:30-10:30 (room 1)
- 17 February, 08:30-10:30 (room 20) and 10:30-12:30 (room 25)
- 18 February, 16:30-19:30 (room 20)
- 21 February, 16:30-19:30 (room 10)
- 22 February, 16:30-18:30 (room 10)

Objectives:

14 February, 16:30-19:30 (room 10)

Doing Gender

In our first session, we will look at the concepts of gender as a societal norm. The aim is both to clarify terminology and to discuss a social constructivist view ('linguistic turn') of the term. Next to the linguistic turn the interactional approach to 'Doing Gender' is also very important. We will watch part of the documentary "Intersexion" by Grant Lahood (2012) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QQdOp3COFsS>. We will discuss the impact of our societies' quest for *fixed gender identity and heteronormativity* on those who do not fit, or actively reject these norms.

15 February, 16:30-19:30 (room 10)

Doing Migration

In the second session, we will discuss the concept 'migration'. We look at how *migration* is classically defined, e.g. in contrast to *mobility*, and which typifications of migration are commonly used in the scientific debate. We will look at classic paradigms in migration research such as a) the push-pull-model; b) the integration versus assimilation model; c) the transnational migration approach. In many theories of migration we find an approach with considers the 'nation state' as the most important unit of analysis; critics discard this approach and call it 'methodological nationalism'. The latter is present in most of migration studies' research designs. We will then look and analyse parts of a classical movie by Rainer Werner Fassbinder, whose theme is a special relationship between a 'guestworker' from Morocco and a German woman. This movie gives a good inside view into the status of workers and gender relations at that time: "Ali: Fear eats soul" by Rainer Werner Fassbinder, 1974:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YXKK8-R7JVQ&list=PLMZHPfCt0Y-44p8O-Y6J7ao-RsWqaSdYc>

16 February, 08:30-10:30 (room 1)

The third session will focus on Intersectionality. We will look at the entanglements between gender, class, migration and other markers of societal differentiation (sexuality, nationality, space etc.). Here, the concept of intersectionality is introduced as a methodological heuristic tool for the analysis of the crosscutting impact of multiple forms of discrimination and social allocation.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O1islM0ytKE>

We will discuss several phases of gender and migration research and their impact on the emergence of particular discourses in society; finally, we will turn to current debates on 'migrant' masculinity and femininity in Western and Southern Europe. Here we will use current events in Italy and Germany.

17 February, 08:30-10:30 (room 20) and 10:30-12:30 (room 25)

In the fourth session, we will concentrate on an intersectional perspective of "Doing Migration and Doing Gender". Here we will highlight how migration research can work with a social constructivist perspective by analysing the interplay of migration and gender. In particular, we will focus on the intra EU migration and ask how it is conceptualized differently from international and flight migration. In order to do so we will analyse two films: The film 'Home' and the documentary "Remittances".

18 February, 16:30-19:30 (room 20)

In the fifth session, we will deal with an important subject of intersectional migration research: Care migration. Care-migration is discussed as a paradigmatic example of interdependence between gender relations and migration processes. Over the last 25 years, the labour market for mostly migrant women taking care of seniors /elderly in private households has increased enormously. Reasons for this are the rapid increase in the aging population and the lack of investment by the state in non-family forms of care. Instead, many EU countries have implemented a family-based welfare system in which families - mostly women - are responsible for the care of senior citizens. In the EU, an unregulated market has developed that mainly attracts women from Eastern Europe to Western and Southern Europe, as income disparities remain huge. This labour market is hardly protected, the working conditions are difficult and the transnational aspects are ignored in this care chain.

21 February, 16:30-19:30 (room 10)

The sixth's session is dedicated to the theme *citizenship*. Many citizens are not aware of the privileges connected to the status of full citizenship. We will, therefore, start with an exercise on the theme of privilege: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hD5f8GuNuGQ>

The session will discuss how gender-sensitive migration research critically engages with issues of citizenship. Here, it is important to look at alternatives for 'methodological nationalism'. We will discuss the key dimension of citizenship and the erosion of the conventional national model in relation to global migration processes and the further blurring of territorial boundaries. The aim of theories of post-national and/or multiple belonging is to describe how the legitimations the of national citizenship are drifting apart, resulting in the erosion – but not at all the disappearance - of traditional national citizenship models.

22 February, 16:30-18:30 (room 10)

Final session: the participants' projects.

In our last session we will talk about individual or collective student projects on *Gender and Migration - transnational and intersectional perspectives*. The idea is to present ideas that can be written up later or presented directly in this session. By this time, each participant must have a plan that he/she/other will present. If a group or individuals already have a developed project that they can present, all the better.

Participation method:

To register to this seminar use the link sent in the presentation email indicating your name, surname, matriculation number, year of study (I, II, III), and telephone number. The only email addresses allowed are the institutional ones (email@studenti.unimi.it).

An email confirming the registration will be sent to the enrolled students a few days before the course begins. The number of attendees is up to 30 students maximum. Students admitted to the seminar will be selected according to the registrations requests' order of arrival, starting from the first day available for registration and up to the depletion of the number of places available. 10 places will be reserved for third year students. Registration requests sent outside the allotted dates and times will not be taken into consideration.

Students who successfully registered to attend the seminar and decide to withdraw must inform the BA tutor at orbis@unimi.it in due time.

According to the resolution adopted on 13 June 2018 by the Academic Board, students enrolled in a seminar who did not attend and did not notify their withdrawal in advance will not be able to submit their registration requests to any other workshop available for a trimester.

Credits will be uploaded *ex officio*, without the need for students to bring the filled form to the person managing stage/other training activities.

Please remember that the procedures for uploading credits in students' careers take approximately 4 months since the teacher of the workshop sends the evaluations to the stage/other activities manager.

Due to the time required to upload credits in students' careers, the last available workshop for those interested in graduating during the summer session (deadline to take exams: July), extraordinary autumn session (deadline to take exams: September) and ordinary autumn session (deadline to take exams: November) are those delivered in the third trimester. The last workshops available for students interested in graduating during the winter session (deadline to take exams: January) are those organized in the first trimester.

Students interested in registering for a workshop and then graduating in the first available session must notify it to the teacher of the workshop, but also to the stage and other training activities manager, Prof.ssa Eralba Cela, at the following email address stage.glo@unimi.it and Cc to Orbis@unimi.it