



Course Outline

Course number	RBE308				
Course title	Migration of people: legal, political, and economic aspects				
Credit points	3 ECTS (2 LV CP)				
Total hours	80				
Contact hours	32				
Independent studies	48				
Course level	Bachelor				
Prerequisites	-				
Category	Mandatory		Restricted elective	X	Free elective

COURSE RESPONSIBLE

<i>Name</i>	<i>Academic degree</i>	<i>Academic position</i>
Mr. Aldis Austers	PhD cand.	Visiting Lecturer

COURSE ABSTRACT

Migration of people is as old as human civilisation itself, however, despite its long history, being a social phenomenon with vast both economic, legal, and political consequences, migration represents one of the most controversial issues debated in Europe and around the world. Judgments of the merits of migration, hence, its moral appraisals substantially diverge across and within countries, resulting in a multitude of policy approaches. The course will begin with the examination of historical and modern trends of migration. The legal part will deal with the conceptual categories of migrants, including refugees and asylum seekers, according to international and EU law. The political part of the course will look at the political causes and consequences of people's migration. The economic perspective of both sending and receiving countries will be analysed in detail, as well as the developments and problems in the EU stemming from the intra-European migration and immigration from third countries. At last, but not least important, the acculturation strategies of immigrants and the approaches to diaspora engagement will also be addressed in this study course. In overall, this course aims to destigmatize the topic and demonstrate how a dialogue between supporters of open- and close-door approaches to migration can be fostered.

GRADING CRITERIA

<i>Criteria</i>	<i>Weighting</i>
Seminar activity	25%
Mid-term test	25%
In-class exam	50%

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students are required: (1) to read thoroughly the relevant parts of course literature before each class, (2) to ask questions and actively engage in debates during the classes, (3) to fulfil seminar tasks on time and in good quality. **A particular requirement – due to the divisive nature of the topic, any personal political views are supposed to be left outside of the classroom.** The materials presented during the course are based on academically peer-reviewed studies. However, as time moves on, students are welcome to bring up any new academic studies that they find relevant in the context of this course. Successful completion of all seminar tasks and midterm test are preconditions for the admission to the course exam.

COURSE PLAN – MAIN SUBJECTS

<i>No.</i>	<i>Main subjects</i>	<i>Planned hours</i>
1.	Historical and conceptual issues	8
2.	Legal aspects	8
3.	Sociological and political aspects	8
4.	Economic aspects	8