

Migration and Citizenship

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Organized Section on Migration and Citizenship

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interact. The center also has helped to underwrite periodic international migration conferences held in conjunction with the annual meetings of the American Sociological Association (such as one at Berkeley in 2008 and one at the CUNY Graduate Center in 2014). In October 2015, UCI will hold a conference on the 50th anniversary of both the university and the Hart-Celler Act, the 1965 U.S. legislation which changed American immigration policy to eliminate national quotas and establish family reunification criteria as the key bases for obtaining legal permanent residence status.

In addition, immigration students at UCI can take advantage of one of the strongest academic

programs in the country in immigration. Sociology graduates in immigration have been strongly competitive on the job market, accepting initial research or faculty tenure-track Assistant Professor posts at the University of Chicago; Harvard University; the University of Southern California; Brigham Young University; the State University of New York-Albany; Brooklyn College-City University of New York; the University of Denver; the Migration Policy Institute in Washington, DC; Temple University; Pennsylvania State University; the U.S. Bureau of the Census; and the University of Washington, among others.

Teacher's Corner:

Master's Degree in Immigration Studies: A Combined Focus on Research and Policy

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This coming academic year begins the seventh edition of the Master's Degree in Immigration Studies directed by GRITIM (Interdisciplinary research group in immigration) at Pompeu Fabra University in Barcelona. It was the first Master's program officially accredited by the Spanish Ministry at this University, and one of the first public ones in Spain that specializes in immigration studies. This Master's program is recognized as one of the best in southern Europe due to its combined focus on research and policy orientation.



From a research point of view, immigration and human mobility are presented as complex and multidimensional social phenomena that overlap several social scientific disciplines. A key element of the Master's program is a strong multidisciplinary and multi-methods focus,



invoking key-concepts and issues in Law, Sociology, Politics, Administration, Geography, Anthropology, Economics, Communication and even Psychology. The teaching is structured to follow three thematic axes: Theory and Methodology (The Foundation of Immigration Policies, and Sources and Tools for the Analysis of Migration), Law and Economics (The Legal Framework for Migration, and Economics of Migration), and Politics and Society (Comparative Migration Policies, and The Welfare State and Public Policy). Apart from the compulsory courses, students can choose between many electives on specific relevant topics and approaches within immigration studies, allowing the students to follow their specific research interests. For example, electives include Intercultural Policies, Qualitative Analysis, Discourse Analysis, Social Psychology, Externalization of Immigration Policies and the European Union.

The multiplicity of immigration studies is also reflected by the very diverse profile of our students in both training and origin. Their backgrounds are in various disciplines within the social sciences (politics, sociology, anthropology, geography, history, economics, law, etc.). Additionally, a large majority of our students are international, coming from Europe, Asia, and Latin America (80%). Last year, more than ten different nationalities were represented across the Master's students, allowing them to "study diversity within diversity". The fact that courses are taught in English favors the heterogeneity of our students' origins and enables us to invite scholars and recognized researchers from any background and center in Europe. This geographical and academic variety adds a very interesting multiplicity of viewpoints to the Master's program, and makes the bidirectional teaching process very dynamic.

Another key element of the Master's in Immigration Studies is a strong focus on policies and

politics when analyzing immigration phenomena. In fact, one of the criteria driving the teaching program is to combine theoretical and applied research related to political and social agendas and, in particular, to contribute to the definition of a European approach. This is an added value of the program, especially for students coming from Canada, the US and other non-European regions.

This policy orientation is one of the key aspects of the Master's in Immigration Studies. The aim is to foster student contact with stakeholders and institutions in the field of immigration and diversity policies at different levels of government. Understanding their point of view, their possibilities, and the rationale behind their actions will help students to consider the implications of their future research activities for stakeholders and policymakers in the field of immigration. The Master's program supports student internships with social, administrative, and political institutions. It also offers a special optional course allowing students to have direct contact with leading policy makers as well as social and policy officers at different levels of the administration.

The aim of the Master's degree is to complement high-quality university studies with a solid base in theoretical and applied knowledge leading to specialization in conducting academic research, case studies, comparative analysis, and implementing quantitative and qualitative techniques. At the same time, we are aware that not all students will pursue an academic career. Thus, we provide them with the necessary tools to help them develop a satisfactory professional career in other sectors (administration, political parties, civil society organizations, etc.). Although the main orientation of the Master's program is towards social scientific research, various professional prospects are available for them after the end of the program, due to the

methodological, theoretical, and empirical background of our students, as well as their fluency in different languages.

Several of our previous students are employed as specialists in immigration management at various governmental levels (local, regional, national and supranational levels). Some students work in immigration programs as officers and/or managers for NGOs and consultancy bodies. Another professional avenue is to provide expertise for political, economic and cultural institutions, or to consultant for private foundations, consultancy companies, and other research-oriented entities. To take advantage of this new and diverse landscape, the program will help students build bridges with institutes and university centres, public administrations, immigrants associations, NGOs and other stakeholders.

Another added value of this Master's program is its multi-methods approach that promotes reflection on various methodological questions. This methodological component is present not only in many compulsory and optional courses, but in the research seminar series which occurs throughout the three trimesters. Ten international scholars are invited to come and share their methodological reflections on their current research and their broader research career. This year, for instance, students have had the opportunity to listen and talk with recognized different scholars such as: R. King (Sussex, UK), M. Vink (Maastricht, Netherlands), E. Recchi (Sciences Po, Paris, France) P. Simon (Ined, Paris, France), Th. Kostakopoulou (Warwick, UK), A. İçduygu (Koç, Turkey), I. Rohlving (Bremen, Germany). We ask them not to lecture on a particular topic, but to focus on how they do research and what methodological advice they can offer to students, given their academic excellence and career.

Most of the professors are international researchers at GRITIM-UPF, as well as visiting researchers at Marie Curie or other international fellows. Each year, some high-level guest professors join us to teach a course. During the academic year 2014- 2015, the program has hosted Pieter Bevelander, Professor of International Migration and Ethnic Relations (IMER) at MIM, Malmö Institute of Migration, Diversity and Welfare of the Malmö University (Sweden).

One of the new program policies is to place the Master's students in a European network of other similar Master's programs in Europe. We consider that an additional asset to the program is the possibility to obtain a double degree, through the existing two-year program with another European university. At the moment, we have begun a double-degree with the University of Liège and the research group CEDEM (directed by Professor Marco Martiniello). Students will then have a Master's in Immigration studies combining policy and social orientations in just two years. We are now discussing with other recognized Master's and research groups in Europe to study the possibility of enlarging these agreements and offering more double degrees to our students.

Catalan institutions provide support for the program, such as the Municipality of Barcelona and its immigration department, and the important key social institutions of La Caixa Foundation. Some other think tanks collaborate and even host some research seminars, such as IEMed (European Institute of the Mediterranean) and CIDOB foundation in Barcelona.

Because the Master's program is affiliated with GRITIM-UPF, students will automatically benefit from all the activities organized by the recognized research group, such as seminars, workshops with stakeholders, and research meetings where students will have the oppor-

tunity to interact with any visiting international researchers. For these reasons, the philosophy of the Master's program illustrates the three pillars that make up GRITIM-UPF's activities: Research, Training and Knowledge Transfer.

Lastly, but for many students, not least, students will also benefit from the intercultural city of Barcelona from a human and social point of view, due to its many welcoming facilities.

More Information on Master's Degree:

- <http://www.upf.edu/immigrationmanagement/en/>
- http://www.upf.edu/immigrationmanagement/_pdf/Flyer_M_Immigration_Management.pdf

More Information on GRITIM-UPF:

- <http://www.upf.edu/gritim>

Section News:

January – June 2015 in Brief – Books, Journal Articles, Member News

Books

Adam, Heribert and Kogila Moodley (2015). *Imagined Liberation. Xenophobia, Citizenship, and Identity in South Africa, Germany, and Canada*. Temple University Press.

Akakpo, Crispino E.G. and Patti Tamara Lenard (Eds.) (2015). *New Challenges in Immigration Theory*. Routledge.

Alba, Richard and Nancy Foner (2015). *Strangers No More: Immigration and the Challenges of Integration in North America and Western Europe*. Princeton University Press.

Ali, Syed and Doug Hartmann (2015). *Migration, Incorporation, and Change in an Interconnected World*. Routledge.

Baer, James A. (2015). *Anarchist Immigrants in Spain and Argentina. The transatlantic bonds*

between two entwined anarchist movements. University of Illinois Press.

Balaton-Chrimes, Samantha (2015). *Ethnicity, Democracy and Citizenship in Africa. Political Marginalisation of Kenya's Nubians*. Ashgate.

Bansak, Cynthia, Nicole B. Simpson and Madeline Zavodny (2015). *The Economics of Immigration*. Routledge.

Barr, Elinor (2015). *Swedes in Canada: Invisible Immigrants*. University of Toronto Press.

Baser, Bahar (2015). *Diasporas and Homeland Conflicts. A Comparative Perspective*. Ashgate.

Basta, Karlo, John McGarry, and Richard Simeon (2015). *Territorial Pluralism. Managing Difference in Multinational States*. UBC Press.