



COLLEGE OF SOCIAL AND APPLIED HUMAN SCIENCES  
Department of Sociology and Anthropology  
**WINTER 2019**

**Instructor:** Prof. Saara Liinamaa  
**Email:** sliinama@uoguelph.ca  
**Time:** Thursday 7:00pm-9:50pm

**Office:** 607 MacKinnon  
**Office Hours:** Thursday, 2-4pm  
**Classroom:** TBC

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**SOAN 4260: Migration, Inequality and Social Change**

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**Calendar Description**

This seminar critically examines the complex relationships between migration, inequality and social change. Students will develop their understanding of key debates in contemporary migration, exploring relevant theory, research and public policy. Topics include the migration-development nexus, the role of migration policies in structuring inequalities, migrant rights and resistance, and transnational families.

**Course Description**

Data from the 2016 Census tells us that 'immigrants' make up 21.9% of Canada's population, but experiences of migration vary dramatically by origin and immigration status, and this census number is only one small part of a wider context. This seminar critically examines the multifaceted intersections of migration, inequality, and social change both in Canada and globally. We will delve into key theoretical and methodological debates on migration to develop a rich understanding of the economic, cultural, social, and legal dimensions of contemporary migration. Students will be introduced to current research and case studies that address a range of perspectives, from policy and regulation to lived experiences. This course will devote particular attention to the relationship of precarious transnational migration to social inequality and social change.

**Course Objectives**

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

- Critically examine national and global structural processes that constrain and enable migration
- Make connections between transformations in immigration and labour policies and deepening global inequalities
- Understand and respond to key debates within migration studies
- Strengthen your understanding of theoretical and methodological issues in the social sciences
- Discern how your everyday experience of and associations with migration intersect with national and global forces
- Analyze the practices and achievements of migrant rights movements in creating social change

- Refine your skills of communication and collaboration through multi-stage assignments and group work

**Evaluation**

**3 x In-Class Quizzes (30%)**

**Participation/Reading Memos (15%)**

**Peer Review (5%)**

**Making Media Project + Essay (50%)**