

Field Research on Emigration in Developing Countries

Hauptseminar "FREDC"

Fall Semester 2022, Uni MA

Tue. 08:30-10:00

Room B143 in A5

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Office hour: after appointment

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Course Description

Topics of emigration are a crucial issue in migration research – especially regarding the often under researched perspective of developing countries/countries from the global south. This seminar shall provide students with an introduction to emigration research with a continent focus on Africa, Asia, and Latin America. First, the macro-perspective provides an overview. Second, various determinants of the emigration decision are investigated in detail. Besides the contextual introduction of this seminar, different methodological designs from field research are introduced and discussed (i.a. about ethics). The readings, the presentations, and discussion of research articles will allow students to get an overview on the topic at hand and on field research methods, which will be strengthened in a final seminar paper.

Study Performance & Examination Achievement

Videos & Tasks Aim of the videos and tasks is to engage with the assigned literature, critically reflect on it, and enhance ones advanced scientific practices. Each student must read the required readings for each session, watch the assigned video, and hand-in the tasks to the Ilias tool TraQ. A task consists of a short explanation / description of around 100-150 words per Task. Deadline is every week: Monday by 1pm. Watching the videos and fulfilling the tasks are graded as part of the study performance. Each student gets one joker, i.e., might skip the preparation for one study session. A second unfulfilled preparation leads to a fail.

Text presentation Aim of the weekly presentations is not only to give a summary of the required readings, but to highlight the essentials of the field method used and the topic knowledge gained from the articles. We will have one presentation per session about both required readings of the week in the sessions 2-8. A presentation should be between 25-30 minutes (10-15min per paper + one text comparison slide) and must be sent to the lecturer afterwards to be uploaded on Ilias. The presentations are live in-person. The slides of the presentation must not be submitted in advance. The text presentation is graded as part of the study performance.

Exposé & Presentation of the Exposé You must upload your exposé – maximum 1 page – to Ilias to the respective exposé-folder until 21st of November, 1pm. Each student will get brief written feedback from the lecturer at least 3 days before his/her exposé presentation. In the exposé presentations each student has 5-7 minutes to present and 10 minutes to get feedback from the audience. Presentation slides must be uploaded on Ilias by 28th of November 1pm. The exposé should be a short outline of the actual seminar paper. Exposé, presentation, and feedback giving is graded as part of the examination achievement.

Seminar paper The seminar paper should be in the form of a 'research design', often known as a 'Pre-Analysis-Plan (PAP)'. This means no actual analytical evaluations are necessary. The paper should have around 4500 words and comprise the following sections: 1. Introduction (including motivation, relevance, and research question), 2. Theory and expectations, 3. Research design (including setting and sample description, study design, ethical considerations), 4. Analysis, i.e. description of how you would analyse the data and justification of analytical method. Please use Times New Roman 12pt (or similar), with a 1.5-line space. Bibliography, tables, and figures are not included in the word count, yet the bibliography should not exceed 1 page. Deadline for uploading the seminar paper into the respective Ilias paper-folder is the 18th of January 2023 2pm. The seminar paper is graded as part of the examination achievement.

Syllabus

Session 1, 6th September 2022: Introduction

- Video: Time efficient and effective reading
- Tasks: -

Session 2, 13th September 2022: Macro level [online]

Docquier, F., Peri, G., & Ruysen, I. (2014). The cross-country determinants of potential and actual migration. *International Migration Review*, 48.

Neumayer, E. (2004). Asylum destination choice: what makes some West European countries more attractive than others?. *European Union Politics*, 5(2), 155-180.

- Video: Reflect critically
- Tasks: 2 critical reflections, one per paper

Session 3, 20th September 2022: Economic factors

Carling, J. R. (2002). Migration in the age of involuntary immobility: Theoretical reflections and Cape Verdean experiences. *Journal of ethnic and migration studies*, 28(1), 5-42.

Batista, C., & McKenzie, D. (2018, April). Testing classic theories of migration in the lab. In *Annual Migration Meeting* (No. 16th).

- Video: Scientific critique
- Tasks: 2 scientific critique, one per paper

Session 4, 27th September 2022: Development factors

Dustmann, C., & Okatenko, A. (2014). Out-migration, wealth constraints, and the quality of local amenities. *Journal of Development Economics*, 110, 52-63.

Gazeaud, J., Mvukiyeh, E., & Sterck, O. (2019). Cash transfers and migration: Theory and evidence from a randomized controlled trial.

- Video: Causality in the methodological approach
- Tasks: 2 scientific critique about causality, one per paper

Session 5, 4th October 2022: Environment factors

Meghir, C., Mobarak, A. M., Mommaerts, C., & Morten, M. (2019). Migration and Informal Insurance: Evidence from a Randomized Controlled Trial and a Structural Model.

Abu, M., Codjoe, S. N. A., & Sward, J. (2014). Climate change and internal migration intentions in the forest-savannah transition zone of Ghana. *Population and Environment*, 35(4), 341-364.

- Video: Basic understanding of theory in science
- Tasks: 2 scientific critique about theory, one per paper

Session 6, 11th October 2022: Cultural factors & Agency

Ali, S. (2007). 'Go west young man': the culture of migration among Muslims in Hyderabad, India. *Journal of ethnic and migration studies*, 33(1), 37-58.

Robins, D. (2019). Imagining London: The role of the geographical imagination in migrant subjectivity and decision-making. *Area*, 51(4), 728-735.

- Video: Causal Graphs for theory reflection
- Tasks: build 2 causal graphs that represent the theoretical argument, one per paper

Session 7, 18th October 2022: Information as factor

Shrestha, M. (2020). Get rich or die tryin': Perceived earnings, perceived mortality rates, and migration decisions of potential work migrants from nepal. *The World Bank Economic Review*, 34(1), 1-27.

Baseler, T. (2020). Hidden Income and the Perceived Returns to Migration: Experimental Evidence from Kenya. Available at SSRN 3534715.

- Video: Ethical Reflection
- Tasks: 2 critical reflections about ethics, one per paper

Session 8, 25th October 2022: Network factors

Garip, F., & Asad, A. L. (2016). Network effects in Mexico-US migration: Disentangling the underlying social mechanisms. *American Behavioral Scientist*, 60(10), 1168-1193.

Schapendonk, J. (2012). Turbulent trajectories: African migrants on their way to the European Union. *Societies*, 2(2), 27-41.

- Video: Theory Argumentation
- Tasks: 2 scientific critique about core argument, one per paper

Session 9, 8th November 2022: Recap determinants & Field Research

voluntary readings:

Wood, E. J. (2007). Field research. In *The Oxford handbook of comparative politics*.

Tessler, M. (2019). Introduction: Reflections on scholarship and fieldwork in the Middle East and North Africa. *PS: Political Science Politics*, 52(3), 481-484.

- Video: RQ Design Thinking
- Tasks: Prepare 3 Research Questions (RQs) - that could be for your seminar paper

Session 10, 15th November 2022: Research Transparency & Ethics

Humphreys, M., De la Sierra, R. S., Van der Windt, P. (2013). Fishing, commitment, and communication: A proposal for comprehensive nonbinding research registration. *Political Analysis*, 1-20.

Humphreys, M. (2015). Reflections on the ethics of social experimentation. *Journal of Globalization and Development*, 6(1), 87-112.

Morton, R. B., Williams, K. C. (2010). *Experimental political science and the study of causality: From nature to the lab*. Cambridge University Press (skim Chapter 12 and 13).

- Video: Basic understanding of Open Science & Recap Video: Ethical Reflection
- Tasks: -

Session 11, 22nd November 2022: Literature working with sources

Guest speaker: Dr. Hendrik Platte-Burghardt
Voluntary reading: Graff, G. and Birkenstein, C. (2014). *They Say, I Say – The Moves That Matter in Academic Writing*. W.W. Norton Company, New York [selected chapter TBA]

- Video: -
- Tasks: Upload Exposé

MINI-CONFERENCE

Session 12-13, 29th November: Exposé Presentations 08:30-11:45

- Video: How to critique
- Tasks: Upload presentation slides