

## SOCA3790: Migration, Society and the Media

Online

Semester 2 - 2023



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
NEWCASTLE  
AUSTRALIA

## OVERVIEW

### Course Description

Migration, the process through which people travel to other places in order to live and work, is a structural feature of world societies and a powerful force within their historical and contemporary transformations. However, it is often understood and represented as a problem in the media and in political representations, while migrants tend to be stigmatised and marginalised. This course will provide students with the theoretical tools and information to understand and investigate in depth the social transformations framing internal and international migration and its consequences in Australia and across the world.

### Assumed Knowledge Contact Hours

10 units of SOCA 1000 level course or equivalent.

#### Online Lecture

Online

1 hour(s) per Week for 12 Weeks starting Week 1

#### Tutorial

Online

1 hour(s) per Week for 12 Weeks

### Unit Weighting Workload

10

Students are required to spend on average 120-140 hours of effort (contact and non-contact) including assessments per 10 unit course.

# COURSE OUTLINE

[www.newcastle.edu.au](http://www.newcastle.edu.au)

CRICOS Provider 00109J

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# CONTACTS

<b>Course Coordinator</b>	<b>Online</b> Eliza Crosbie Eliza.Crosbie@newcastle.edu.au Consultation: Please email me for an appointment, thank you
<b>Teaching Staff</b>	Other teaching staff will be advised on the course Canvas site.
<b>School Office</b>	<b>School of Humanities Creative Industries and Social Sciences</b> Social Sciences Building Callaghan HCISS@newcastle.edu.au +61 4985 4500

# SYLLABUS

<b>Course Content</b>	Topics will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Colonisation, migration and Indigenous societies</li><li>• Theories of migration</li><li>• Media representations of migration</li><li>• Migration and development</li><li>• Migration and borders</li><li>• Impact of migration on receiving and sending societies</li><li>• Immigration and social cohesion</li><li>• Race, gender and sexuality in migration and asylum</li><li>• Migration policies</li><li>• Migration, forced labour and trafficking</li><li>• Migration and climate change</li><li>• Humanitarian migration governance</li></ul>
<b>Course Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Critique the main policymaking, theoretical and political frameworks addressing migration in Australia and internationally.</li><li>2. Appraise media representations and debates addressing migration at an advanced level.</li><li>3. Produce visual, audio and written media representations of migration-related issues.</li><li>4. Analyse complex historical and contemporary social transformations framing migration.</li><li>5. Evaluate the implications of migration for both sending and receiving societies at an advanced level.</li></ol>
<b>Course Materials</b>	Please engage with the set course readings available on the course Canvas site.

# ASSESSMENTS

This course has 3 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Involvement	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1	Case Study / Problem Based Learning (30%)	Sunday 27 August 2023 at 23.59pm	Individual	Formative	1, 2
2	Presentation (30%)	Sunday 17 September 2023 at 23.59pm	Individual	Formative	3, 4
3	Report (40%)	Sunday 22 October 2023 at 23.59pm	Individual	Formative	4, 5

## Late Submissions

The mark for an assessment item submitted after the designated time on the due date, without an approved extension of time, will be reduced by 10% of the possible maximum mark for that assessment item for each day or part day that the assessment item is late. Note: this applies equally to week and weekend days.

If you have any concerns about submitting assessments on time, please email me to discuss your options.

## Assessment 1 - Case Study / Problem Based Learning (30%)

### Assessment Type Purpose

Case Study / Problem Based Learning  
This assessment gives students the possibility to fully engage with relevant migration studies literature through the discussion and presentation of a case study (1500 words).

### Description

It should be broadly structured according to the following sections, whose titles are indicative and can be creatively different from those listed below, while covering the relevant content:

Introduction: what the case study is about and why it is important to understand migration processes. 10%

Presentation of the case study: detailed presentation of the case study and its main dimensions. 30%

Discussion of the case study in relation to migration studies literature and presentation of an argument regarding the case study by engaging with relevant literature and debates. 50%

Conclusion: consolidation of the argument including initial suggestions for further research. 10%

### Length Weighting Due Date Submission Method Assessment Criteria

1500 words excluding reference list (+/-10%)

30%

Sunday 27 August 2023 at 23.59pm

Online

You will be marked on the following criteria:

- Your understanding of the course materials (lectures and set course readings).
  - How you respond to the key issues raised by the case study – are they addressed fully?
  - The structure and organisation of the case study – is it presented clearly and logically?
- Further details on Canvas site

### Return Method Feedback Provided

Online

Online. If you have any questions following feedback, please email me and I am happy to discuss any comments.

## Assessment 2 - Presentation (30%)

<b>Assessment Type</b>	Presentation
<b>Purpose</b>	A professional presentation on a migration topic of your choice, but different from the one you will have dealt with in Assessment 1 and that you will engage with in Assessment 3.
<b>Description</b>	<p>The presentation should be prepared for a professional public, such as an academic conference or a formal work meeting. Its main aim is to provide your attendees with a clear picture of a situation deserving further study and policy intervention on behalf of the academic community and/or humanitarian, non-governmental and governmental organizations and institutions, by providing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Information about the situation and why it is important;</li><li>- a clear overview of the main dimensions of the situation and how it's been addressed by academic debates and by policies;</li><li>- suggestions about how the situation could be improved by undertaking further studies and/or delivering strategic policies and interventions.</li></ul> <p>You should prepare and upload an engaging and dynamic recorded PowerPoint (screen sharing) presentation including pictures as well as audio and/or video content, if applicable. Instructions for how to record through Panopto, and other platforms, is available on Canvas.</p>
<b>Length</b>	6-8 minutes; 900-1200 words excluding reference list (+/-10%)
<b>Weighting</b>	30%
<b>Due Date</b>	Sunday 17 September 2023 at 23.59pm
<b>Submission Method</b>	Online
<b>Assessment Criteria</b>	<p>You will be marked on the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Your ability to present an argument – are your thoughts and considerations nuanced, coherent, and well-documented?</li><li>- Your understanding of the scholarly and policy debates framing the issue you will present. The structure and organisation of the presentation – is it clear and engaging?</li><li>- The style of the presentation – are you addressing your audience in a convincing and engaging manner?</li></ul> <p>Further details on Canvas site</p>
<b>Return Method</b>	Online
<b>Feedback Provided</b>	Online. If you have any questions following feedback, please email me and I am happy to discuss any comments.

## Assessment 3 - Report (40%)

<b>Assessment Type</b>	Report
<b>Purpose</b>	This assessment will provide students with the opportunity to write a formal report (3000 words) about a migration studies issue different from the ones they will have engaged with in Assessments 1 and 2.
<b>Description</b>	<p>A report is a professional document providing readers with all the relevant information needed to understand and issue and the main academic and policy debates framing it. It should be informative and analytical, while also engaging with policies and making suggestions for their improvement. It should also identify needs for further research.</p> <p>The report should be broadly structured according to the following sections, whose titles are indicative and can be creatively different from those listed below, while covering the relevant content:</p> <p>Introduction: what the report is about and why the topic you chose is important to understand migration processes (10%).</p> <p>Presentation of the chosen issue: detailed presentation of the issue and its main dimensions (20%).</p> <p>Please briefly define the key dimensions of the issue by referring to a broad range of academic and other literature (for example, other reports and media items).</p> <p>Discussion of the chosen issue in relation to migration studies literature: presentation of an argument regarding the case study by engaging with relevant literature and debates within</p>

migration studies (40%).

Please read widely to critically review the field of migration studies and other relevant anthropological and sociological literature on your chosen issue, analyse a topic, develop a logical argument and use supporting evidence from your reading. It is important not to just give descriptive information, but also discuss various explanations/theories in the literature.

Discussion of policy implications (20%):

Please engage critically with the policy implications of the chosen issue and provide suggestions for improvement.

Conclusion (10%):

In the conclusion, briefly summarise the evidence and argument you have presented to present and discuss the chosen issue and your policy-relevant analyses and recommendations, as well as identifying needs for further research.

You should use a minimum of twenty academic sources, at least ten of which should be from refereed journal articles (all referenced in your report). The twenty academic sources exclude newspapers, current affairs magazines, and generic websites (online refereed journal articles and online reports by governments and non-government agencies are accepted). You are welcome to use pictures, diagrams and maps to present the situation, corroborate your argument and make the report engaging.

Direct quotes should NOT exceed 10% of your total word count.

Short quotations (less than 30 words) must be placed inside single 'quotation marks'; long quotations (30 words or more) are single spaced and indented but should be kept to minimum.

Ensure your material is referenced correctly using the Harvard in-text citation system and avoid plagiarism.

**Length  
Weighting**

3000 words excluding reference list (+/-10%)

**Due Date**

Sunday 22 October 2023 at 23.59pm

**Submission Method**

Online

**Assessment Criteria**

You will be marked on the following criteria:

Your interpretation of the chosen topic and understanding of the course materials (lectures and readings from the set course references and your own further reading and research in relation to the chosen topic).

Your argument – does your report take a specific stance on the chosen topic in relation to academic literature and policymaking? Is your argument developed and presented in an engaging, nuanced and evidence-based manner in relation to your research data, other available data, and relevant academic and policy debates? Is it clear and identifiable throughout the report?

The structure of your report, including introduction, content, and conclusion. For instance:

- does your conclusion coherently summarize the main point(s) of your report?
- is each section sufficiently developed?
- do all sections have a short introduction and a final summary anticipating briefly the next one?

Writing style; comprehensibility, spelling, grammar.

Correct referencing in text and a reference list at the end of your essay following the School guidelines.

**Return Method**

Online

**Feedback Provided**

Online. If you have any questions following feedback, please email me and I am happy to discuss any comments.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

**Grading Scheme**

This course is graded as follows:

Range of Marks	Grade	Description
85-100	High Distinction (HD)	Outstanding standard indicating comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an outstanding level of academic achievement; mastery of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
75-84	Distinction (D)	Excellent standard indicating a very high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a very high level of academic ability; sound development of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
65-74	Credit (C)	Good standard indicating a high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a high level of academic achievement; reasonable development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
50-64	Pass (P)	Satisfactory standard indicating an adequate knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an adequate level of academic achievement; satisfactory development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
0-49	Fail (FF)	Failure to satisfactorily achieve learning outcomes. If all compulsory course components are not completed the mark will be zero. A fail grade may also be awarded following disciplinary action.

\*Skills are those identified for the purposes of assessment task(s).

#### Communication Methods

Communication methods used in this course include:

#### Course Evaluation

Each year feedback is sought from students and other stakeholders about the courses offered in the University for the purposes of identifying areas of excellence and potential improvement.

#### Oral Interviews (Vivas)

As part of the evaluation process of any assessment item in this course an oral examination (viva) may be conducted. The purpose of the oral examination is to verify the authorship of the material submitted in response to the assessment task. The oral examination will be conducted in accordance with the principles set out in the [Oral Examination \(viva\) Procedure](#). In cases where the oral examination reveals the assessment item may not be the student's own work the case will be dealt with under the [Student Conduct Rule](#).

#### Academic Misconduct

All students are required to meet the academic integrity standards of the University. These standards reinforce the importance of integrity and honesty in an academic environment. Academic Integrity policies apply to all students of the University in all modes of study and in all locations. For the Student Academic Integrity Policy, refer to <https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=35>.

#### Adverse Circumstances

The University acknowledges the right of students to seek consideration for the impact of allowable adverse circumstances that may affect their performance in assessment item(s). Applications for special consideration due to adverse circumstances will be made using the online Adverse Circumstances system where:

- the assessment item is a major assessment item; or
- the assessment item is a minor assessment item and the Course Co-ordinator has specified in the Course Outline that students may apply the online Adverse Circumstances system;
- you are requesting a change of placement; or
- the course has a compulsory attendance requirement.

Before applying you must refer to the Adverse Circumstance Affecting Assessment Items Procedure available at:  
<https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=236>

#### Important Policy Information

The Help button in the Canvas Navigation menu contains helpful information for using the Learning Management System. Students should familiarise themselves with the policies and procedures at <https://www.newcastle.edu.au/current-students/no-room-for/policies-and->

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procedures that support a safe and respectful environment at the University.

*This course outline was approved by the Head of School. No alteration of this course outline is permitted without Head of School approval. If a change is approved, students will be notified and an amended course outline will be provided in the same manner as the original.*

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