The University of Western Ontario  
Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies (GSWS)  
Winter 2021 (4th January – 30th April, 2021)

**WS 2165B: GENDER, MIGRATION AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

*This course outline is subject to change*

**Mode of Delivery:** Online Synchronous  
**Location:** Zoom Link for Class/Lectures on OWL  
**Lecture Time:** Mondays, 4:30 – 7:30 pm

**Tutorial Time/Mode/Venue:** TBD  
**No prerequisites**

**Instructor:** Jemima N. Baada (She/Her)  
**Email:** jbaada@uwo.ca

**Office Hours:** Tuesdays 1:00pm – 3:00pm (Or by appointment)  
**Office Hours Location:** Zoom link on OWL

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<th>Winter</th>
<th>2165B</th>
<th>Jemima N. Baada</th>
<th>Synchronous online course Mon 4:30-7:30pm</th>
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**Land Acknowledgement**

The Department of GSWS acknowledges that The University of Western Ontario is situated on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapēewak and Attawandaron peoples. We respect the longstanding relationships that Indigenous Nations have to this land, as they are the original caretakers. We acknowledge historical and ongoing injustices that Indigenous Peoples endure in Canada, and we accept responsibility as a public institution to contribute toward revealing and correcting miseducation as well as renewing respectful relationships with Indigenous communities through our teaching, research and community service.

**Course Description**

Climate change is a major challenge for the planet’s future; population migration will increase, causing social, political and environmental effects while leaving some people with few options.

This second-year course engages with feminist and interdisciplinary approaches in order to understand the connections between gender, migration and climate change. Despite the extensive attention being paid to issues of gender, migration and climate change, these three phenomena are often examined individually or in pairs, but never all three together. It is critical to engage with all three, as they intersect in complex ways to shape the experiences of populations globally. This course will therefore engage with interdisciplinary theories and literature drawn from gender, migration, climate change and feminist studies to help students develop broader ways of thinking about the intersections of these phenomena.

This course is split into five sections. First, students will be introduced to the importance of examining the migration and climate change nexus through a gendered and intersectional lens. Next, the course will provide students with the historical and theoretical backgrounds that underpin gender, migration and climate change studies. Parts two, three and four will explore the actors, institutions, states and discourses involved in gender, migration and climate change processes, and how these influence diverse experiences. Finally, part five will reflect on the tensions that arise during these processes and provide some suggestions for reconciling these tensions. It will also offer students new ways of thinking about gender, migration and climate change.
The gendered/intersectional lens adopted throughout this course would better enable students to pay attention to and understand the diverse actors and complex processes involved in migration and climate change processes, and how these influence premigration decisions, mobility/migration journeys, (re)settlement and postmigration experiences in sending and receiving regions. This course will examine both present and future in a world where climate change is increasingly inevitable and its results are felt intersectionally.

Learning Objectives for Course

This course is designed to help students:
1. To read and critically engage with scholarly and practitioner literature on gender, migration and climate change.
2. To understand the histories, theories and conceptual frameworks that underpin studies of gender, migration and climate change.
3. To better understand the interconnectedness of gender, migration and climate change, and how the intersections of different identity categories shape these processes.
4. To understand the complex micro and macro processes that undergird migration decisions, processes, and experiences.
5. To develop the skill of examining migration and climate change discourses, laws and policies through both a gendered and feminist lens.

By the end of this course, students will be able to:
1. Identify the theoretical/practical intersections of gender, migration and climate change.
2. Develop new ways of thinking about the relationships between climate change, migration, and sending and host societies.
3. Situate individual actions/experiences within larger structural and global economic and political frameworks.
4. Contribute to the work of local organizations geared toward addressing climate change and serving migrants.

In addition to the objectives outlined above, the assignments for this course are also designed to help students:
1. Develop good written and oral communication skills
2. Cultivate analytical and critical thinking skills
3. Identify and critically assess the credibility of scholarly material, and effectively integrate this literature into their own work

Resources for this course will be drawn from many mediums including books, peer-reviewed journal articles, research reports, policy briefs and working papers, as well as other online sources such as videos, websites and blogs.

Methods of Assessment

1. Tutorial Attendance/Participation: 10%
2. Forum Reflections/Posts (3 Parts): 10%
3. Critical Response/Short Paper: 20%
4. Annotated Bibliography: 25%
5. Final Exam (Take Home Essay): 35%
Readings and Resources

PART ONE: OVERVIEW

Week 1 – 4th January 2020

Introduction: Why Gender in Migration-Climate Change Nexus?

Course expectations and structure

Woodford-Berger, P. Gender Mainstreaming: What is it (About) and Should we Continue Doing Climate change and migration

https://sdgs.un.org/goals

No tutorials

Week 2 – 11th January 2020

Histories and Theories


Week 3 – 18th January 2020

Histories and Theories


PART TWO: THE INDIVIDUAL

Week 4 – 25th January 2020

Decisions regarding climate change and migration (movement and Settlement)


**Week 5 – 1st February 2020 (Critical Reading Response Due)**

**Climate change, migration and economy/livelihoods**


**Week 6 – 8th February 2020**

**Climate change, migration and health**


**Week 7 – 15th February 2021**

**Reading Week**

**No Readings/Tutorials**

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**PART THREE: THE COMMUNITY/SOCIETY**

**Week 8 – 22nd February 2021**

**Gender, Climate change and Migration: The Family**


**Week 9 – 1st March 2020**

**Gender, climate change and migration: The Community**


PART FOUR: INSTITUTIONS, NATION STATES AND GLOBAL RELATIONS

Week 10 – 8th March 2020 (Annotated Bibliography Assignment Due)

Narratives, Discourses and Rhetorics

https://www.netflix.com/watch/80991188?trackId=200257859

Week 11 – 15th March 2020

Migration, Climate Change and Nation States


Week 12 – 22nd March 2020

International Institutions and Mandates


https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/mrs-31_en.pdf (Read Executive Summary)

PART FIVE: CONCLUSION

Week 13 – 29th March 2020

Tensions that Arise


Week 14 – 5th April 2021

Wrap up: Where do we go from here?


Last day of class

No tutorials