

SYLLABUS

Fall Semester, 2021

Migration, Climate Change, and Environment

Course Code:	ENV – 300
Course Instructor:	Dr. Lira Sagynbekova
Course Duration:	15 Weeks
No. of Credit Units:	6
Class meeting:	Wednesdays & Fridays
Time:	10:50-12:05
Mode:	Lecture & Seminar
Appointments/Hours	By appointment

Important Dates:

- First class will be Wednesday, September 15
- Final Classes: December 13 - 17
- Final Exams: December 18 – 24

Course Description

Both fast-onset and slow-onset environmental disasters have direct and indirect impacts on migration. Lack of adaptive capacity to climate change and environmental challenges and limited livelihood opportunities often lead to internal and international migration.

This course examines the nexus between migration, climate change and environment. The course aims to introduce students to concept of migration and social-ecological resilience approach. The course will also cover an introduction to the types, causes and impacts of migration. It will contribute towards a better understanding of resilience and the impact of migration on socio-economic development of the communities and the environment. Based on case studies in Central Asia this course will help students to understand how people respond to environmental and climate-related shocks and why migration serves as a coping or adaptation strategy. This course will provide a deeper examination of the migration process and look at different positive and negative migration outcomes, for example, the investment of remittances in livestock creates an additional source of income for households, at the same time an increase in livestock contributes to pasture degradation and landslides. Students will delve deeper into the social, economic, and environmental implications of migration, including implications for climate change adaptation.

Objectives:

- Introduce students to the main contemporary migration trends with emphasis on environmental migration.
- Explain students the nexus between migration, climate change and environment by giving case study examples.
- Outline key impacts of migration on migrant-sending and receiving countries.
- Foster critical thinking and analyzing skills.

Learning outcomes:

Upon successfully completing this course, students should be able to:

- Understand the current migration trends
- Understand and think critically about the reasons of migration and the drivers of environmental migration
- Explain the nexus between migration, climate change and environment
- Describe how migration impact on migrant-sending and receiving countries
- Apply research methods
- Improve careful reading and presenting skills

Assessment

The course is designed in the format of lectures and seminars. Students will be evaluated based on class presentations, discussions, case study analysis and assignments. They will develop migration profile and case study presentation on migration patterns, trends and interlinkage between migration, climate change and environment for a specific country or community of their own interest. The final exam will cover all topics from the lectures.

Course Requirements and their weight in the final grade:

Participation	10%
Presentations on readings including provision of discussion question (in class)	15%
Quizzes	10%
Migration profile & regional case study	25%
Final Exam	40%

General Course Schedule
(subject to change at instructor's discretion)

Timing	Topic	Assignments
Week 1	Introduction to the course Migration, Climate Change, and Environment	
Week 2	The Basics: Definition of migration, types of migration. Theories of migration	Student presentation on readings
Week 3	Concept of livelihoods. Rural and urban livelihoods	
Week 4	Methods of empirical field research in migration studies	
Weeks 5	Economic, social, and political reasons for migration. Push and pull factors	
Weeks 6	Migration and climate change. Climate change induced reasons for migration	
Week 7	Migration and the environment. Environmental change, natural and anthropogenic disasters as push factors in migration	Migration profile & regional case study. Mid-term assignment
Week 8	Environmental migration: Case studies	
Week 9	Concepts of Vulnerability & Resilience. Adaptability and vulnerability of population to environmental change.	Student presentation on readings
Week 10	Migration as a coping and adaptation strategy	
Week 11	Remittances	
Week 12	Economic and social impacts of migration	
Week 13	Environmental impacts of migration	
Week 14	Final Assignment Presentations	
		Final Assignment Due
Final Exam	Will cover the entire course	

Readings

Week 1.

1. Sagynbekova, L. 2017. Environment, Rural Livelihoods, and Labour Migration: A Case Study in Central Kyrgyzstan. *Mountain Research and Development* 37 (4), pp. 456-463.
2. Chandonnet, A., Mamadalieva, Z., Orolbaeva, L., Sagynbekova, L., Tursunaliyev U., Umetbaeva, D. 2016. *Environment, Climate Change and Migration in the Kyrgyz Republic*. Bishkek: IOM, (pp. 10-14).

Week 2.

1. Weeks, J. R. 2008. Population: An Introduction to Concepts and Issues. Tenth Edition. San Diego State University. Chapter 7 (pp. 262–305).
2. Massey, D. S., Arango, J., Hugo, G., Kouaouci, A., Pellegrino, A., Taylor, J. E. 1993. Theories of International Migration: A Review and Appraisal. *Population and Development Review*, pp.431-466.
3. De Haas, H. 2010. Migration and Development: A Theoretical Perspective. *International Migration Review*, 44(1), pp. 227-264.
4. Todaro, M. P. 1980. Internal Migration in Developing Countries: A Survey. *Population and Economic Change in Developing Countries*, edited by Richard A. Easterlin, 361–402. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Week 3.

1. Carney, D. 2002. Sustainable Livelihoods Approaches: Progress and Possibilities for Change. Department for International Development (DFID).
2. Chambers, R., Conway, G. R. 1991. Sustainable Rural Livelihoods: Practical Concepts for the 21st Century. IDS Discussion Paper 296.
3. Ellis, F. 2003. A Livelihoods Approach to Migration and Poverty Reduction. Department for International Development (DFID).

Week 4

1. Bryman, A. 2012. *Social Research Methods*. Oxford: Oxford University Press (Section: ‘The Nature of Social Research’).
2. Marcus, G. E. 1995. Ethnography in/of the World System: The Emergence of Multi-Sited Ethnography. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 24, pp. 95-117.

Week 5

1. Sagynbekova, L. 2016. *The Impact of International Migration: Process and Contemporary Trends in Kyrgyzstan*. Cham. Springer (pp. 97-109).
2. Jaime A. M., Elske van de Fliert. 2013. Push and Pull Factors in Rural Filipino Youth’s Out-migration from Agricultural Communities. *Asian Journal of Agriculture and Development* 10 (2).

Week 6.

1. Piguet, E. 2013. From “Primitive Migration” to “Climate Refugees”: The Curious Fate of the Natural Environment in Migration Studies. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 103(1), pp. 148–162.
2. Laczko F, Aghazarm C. (eds.). 2009. *Migration, Environment and Climate Change: Assessing the Evidence*. Geneva: International Organization for Migration. Chapter 1 (pp. 7–40).

3. Radel, C., Schmook, B., Lindsey, C., Mardero, S. 2018. Toward a Political Ecology of Migration: Land, Labor Migration, and Climate Change in Northwestern Nicaragua. *World Development* 108 (August), pp. 263–73.

Week 7.

1. Black, R. et al. 2011. The Effect of Environmental Change on Human Migration. *Global Environmental Change* 21S: S3–S11.
2. Bremner J., Hunter L.M. 2014. Migration and the Environment. *Population Bulletin* 69(1), pp. 1–12.
3. Massey D. S., Axinn, W. G., Ghimire, D. J. 2010. Environmental Change and Out-migration: Evidence from Nepal. *Population and Environment* 32(2), pp.109–136.

Week 8.

1. Nasritdinov, E., Ablezova, M., Abdoubaetova, A., Abakirova, J. 2010. *Environmental Migration: Case of Kyrgyzstan*. Regional Center for Migration and Refugees/Social Research Center. American University of Central Asia.
2. Chandonnet, A., Mamadalieva, Z., Orolbaeva, L., Sagynbekova, L., Tursunaliyev U., Umetbaeva, D. 2016. *Environment, Climate Change and Migration in the Kyrgyz Republic*. Bishkek: IOM.

Week 9.

1. Laczko, F., Aghazarm, C. (eds.). 2009. *Migration, Environment and Climate Change: Assessing the Evidence*. Geneva: International Organization for Migration. Chapter II.2 (pp. 51-69).
2. Manandhar, S., Xenarios, S., Schmidt-Vogt, D., Hergarten, C., Foggin, M. 2018. *Climate Vulnerability & Adaptive Capacity of Mountain Societies in Central Asia*. Bishkek: University of Central Asia.
3. Fay, M., Rachel, I. B., Ebinger, J. 2010. *Adapting to Climate Change in Eastern Europe and Central Asia*. Washington, DC: World Bank.

Week 10.

1. Engle, N., de Bremond, A., Malone, E., Moss, R. 2014. Towards a Resilience Indicator Framework for Making Climate-Change Adaptation Decisions. *Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies for Global Change* 19(8), pp. 1295-1312.
2. Lioubimtseva, E., Henebry, G.M. 2009. Climate and Environmental Change in Arid Central Asia: Impacts, Vulnerability, and Adaptations. *Journal of Arid Environments* 73, pp. 963-977.

Week 11.

1. World Bank. 2019. Migration and Remittances Factbook. <https://www.knomad.org/sites/default/files/2019-04/Migrationanddevelopmentbrief31.pdf>
2. Richard H., Adams, J. R. 2011. Evaluating the Economic Impact of International Remittances On Developing Countries Using Household Surveys: A Literature Review. *Journal of Development Studies* 47(6), pp. 809-828, DOI: 10.1080/00220388.2011.563299
3. Wang, D., Hagedorn, A., Chi, G. 2019. Remittances and Household Spending Strategies: Evidence from the Life in Kyrgyzstan Study, 2011–2013. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, November, pp. 1–22.

Week 12.

1. Chi, G., Hagedorn, A., Scott, C., Glick, J., Scott, Y. 2018. Left-Behind Children: The Impacts of Labor Migration, Remittances, Poverty, and Family Processes in Rural Kyrgyz Highlands.
2. Malyuchenko, I. 2015. Labour Migration from Central Asia to Russia: Economic and Social Impact on the Societies of Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. *Central Asia Security Policy Briefs* 21.
3. Sagynbekova, L. 2016. *The Impact of International Migration: Process and Contemporary Trends in Kyrgyzstan*. Cham. Springer (pp. 145-189).
4. Zhunusova, E., Herrmann, R. 2018. Development Impacts of International Migration on “Sending” Communities: The Case of Rural Kyrgyzstan. *The European Journal of Development Research* (2018) 30, pp. 871–891. <https://doi.org/10.1057/s41287-018-0136-5>; published online 13 March 2018

Week 13.

1. Deshingkar, P. 2012. Environmental Risk, Resilience and Migration: Implications for Natural Resource Management and Agriculture. *Environmental Research Letters* 7.
2. Chandonnet, A., Mamadalieva, Z., Orolbaeva, L., Sagynbekova, L., Tursunaliyev U., Umetbaeva, D. 2016. *Environment, Climate Change and Migration in the Kyrgyz Republic*. Bishkek: IOM.