

<b>Name:</b>	Felix Hoffmann
<b>Email address:</b>	hoffmann@europa-uni.de
<b>Course title:</b>	<b>Europe, Migration, Refugees</b>
<b>Track:</b>	B-Track
<b>Language of instruction:</b>	English
<b>Contact hours:</b>	48 (6 per day)
<b>ECTS-Credits:</b>	4

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### Course description

Regarding transnational migration, the EU promotes a political reasoning between processes of consolidation and necessary conflict, between sovereignty and shared responsibility, between the right to define and delimit and the duty to negotiate. In ongoing economic crisis and facing unprecedented movements of people, the timeless normalcy of migration is often framed as crisis per se. Populist claims for cultural homogeneity and for closed borders undercut efforts for a common migration policy.

As the visibility of migration increases in various ways, migrants are often represented and imagined as a homogenous mass of 'the other'. This leads to a problematic understanding of migration as something to be controlled and governed from a top-down perspective alone. But the respective processes of negotiation on migration policy, within and across the outer borders of the Union, take place not only between the official institutions of nation-states, but on all scales of European populations. They also take place from a bottom-up perspective in the centres and at the margins of societies alike.

Departing from concepts of the anthropology of the state and of migration, we will first gain an overview of EU-level migration policy. Diving deeper into historical as well as recent migration- and border-management policies, we will analyse the conflicts, debates and discourses around the last years of increased immigration. Scaling further down to the legalization-market of Almería/Spain, we will encounter migrants' positions and perspectives, which reach beyond the usual framings of 'the poor migrant' as 'passive victim', as a threat or as the '(anti-)hero' of globalization. How do refugees themselves perceive EU-migration policies and what do they make of their public positioning as a 'problem' or as a 'burden' to European societies? And what policies do they follow themselves on the individual level as well as collectively? We will encounter viewpoints on the EU, which will constructively criticize as well as graciously affirm the spirit of the EU. We will encounter viewpoints of hope.

### Student profile

This course is designed for all students having a professional, political or personal interest in a deeper and thus more differentiated understanding of transnational migration.

**Prerequisites**

No prior knowledge is required – but the willingness to think beyond the usual perspectives on migration.

**Course requirements**

- The basic conditions for the course are regular attendance, participation in discussions and a close reading of the literature provided.
- In one page of continuous text, every course-day's core discussions and conclusions are to be summarized in preparation for the next sessions.
- Each student is required one time, to prepare one topic of the day's contents and to give a respective input-presentation in class (max. 10 min.).
- The final examination (90 min.) will consist of free text-production on 2-3 leading questions regarding the contents of the seminar. The quality of thinking in a comprehensive way is of more importance than any quantity of text.

**Grading**

Participation & Day's Summaries: 40%  
 Presentation: 30%  
 Final Examination: 30%

**Reading**

A course reader will be provided at the first course meeting.

**Course schedule**

Date	Program
Tuesday, July 25, 2017	<p><b>Overview and Core Concepts</b>                      How can we begin to define and connect the diverse topics and concepts we will encounter?</p>
Friday, July 28, 2017	<p><b>Migration Management in the Schengen-Regime</b>                      The process of European integration entailed a rethinking of international border- and security-management. We will take a closer look at diverse public and private institutions, their politics and forms of policing. What is the actual difference between 'migrants' and 'refugees'?</p>
Tuesday, August 1, 2017	<p><b>The Schengen-Regime and Recent Migrations</b>                      How has the Schengen-regime and its member states coped with the significant increase of immigration in the last years? Which politics and policies emerged on the official and on the unofficial level? What has actually changed?</p> <p>Student Presentations and Field Trip to the Berlin LaGeSo (Communal Headquarters of Health and Social Services)</p>

<p>Friday, August 4, 2017</p>	<p><b>Recent Migrations and Conflicts – Crisis and/or Chance?</b>          Which political, economic, juridical and ethical problematizations, debates and conflicts are circulating in the EU, regarding the refugee-“crisis”? What actually is “in crisis”? What is hospitality all about, and how does it differ from asylum?</p> <p>Student Presentations</p>
<p>Tuesday, August 8, 2017</p>	<p><b>“We don’t work for money – we work for papers!”</b>          How can we understand the concepts of legal and illegal migration not only in juridical, but also in economic and ethical terms? What happens when the legal status of a person is directly linked to its economic value on a legalization-market?</p> <p>Student Presentations and Field Trip to a communal refugee-shelter</p>
<p>Friday, August 11, 2017</p>	<p><b>“They don’t see us as normal persons, you know?”</b>          Which social positions and perspectives are taken by ‘illegal’ migrants? What is meant by migrant agency? What forms of micro-politics do migrants employ? What is the difference between integration and assimilation?</p> <p>Student Presentations</p>
<p>Tuesday, August 15, 2017</p>	<p><b>“Nobody wants a crazy life! Everybody wants a normal life!”</b>          What forms of organizations do migrants join and which do they develop themselves? What is the difference between politics of identity and politics of conviviality?</p> <p>Student Presentations and Field Trip to a self-organized refugee-shelter</p>
<p>Friday, August 18, 2017</p>	<p><b>Final Examination (90 min.)          Wrap Up Session</b></p>