Theory and Reality: Population Migration in China Sample
(Subject to Changes)

Instructor   Zehan Pan
Credits   3
Total credit hours   42
Language of Instruction   English

1.Course Description

As the most populous country in the world, China has experienced a rapid increase in its rural migrant population since the early 1980s, when the reform of the household registration (hukou) system was on the agenda. Due to the large number of rural laborers leaving the countryside to work in urban areas, China has undergone the largest and fastest urbanization in the world. This course starts from introducing the evolution of spatial patterns of internal migration and reasons for migration; and tries to illustrate the characteristics and wellbeing of the migrants; finally evaluates the impacts of the migration on urbanization and regional development.

2.Course Objectives

This course aims to introduce the patterns, motivations, and impacts of population migration, and illustrate the interaction between migration and urbanization. Investigations into these questions may provide students with a deeper understanding on China's contemporary society.

3.Course Schedule

Week 1   **Introduction**
Week 2, 3   **The Patterns of Internal Migration and Reasons for Migrating**
        -The spatial distribution of internal migrants
        -The migration reasons at different stages of life
Week 4, 5   **Permanent and Temporary Migration Differentials**
        -Permanent migration and its statistical method
        -Temporary migration and its statistical method
        -The difference in living arrangement
Week 6   **Inter-Regional Migration to Cities and Towns**
        -Urban system in China
        -Migration and interactions between cities and towns
Week 7   **Demographic Characteristics of the Migrants**
        -Age, gender and education
Week 8   **Family Characteristics of the Migrants**
        -Family structure

-Migration choices based on family
Week 9   The Economic Adjustment of Migrants in Urban Areas
-Labor market
-Industrial structure
Week 10   Migration and Fertility
- Demographic transition
- Reproductive choice of migrants
Week 11   Changes in the Pattern of Migration in Urban China
- Spatial pattern
- Motivation
- Living pattern
Week 12   Urbanization, Migration and Development: China and Southeast Asia Compared
Week 13, 14, 15   Student Presentations
Week 16   Hand in the Final Essay (For all students)

4.Grading & Evaluation
The course grading is comprised of: Class attendance and discussion (20%), presentation (40%), Term paper (40%).

5.Teaching Reference
Day, Lincoln H., and Ma Xia. Migration and urbanization in China. Routledge, 2019.
Newbold, K. Bruce. Population geography: Tools and issues. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2021.

Course Director's Academic Background:
Dr. Zehan Pan has an economic Ph.D. degree from Fudan University. He was employed by Institute for Global Population and Economy in University of Lethbridge as a post-doctoral fellow. His primary research interests are in population migration, urbanization and regional development.