

GREEKS IN THE WORLD.
A HISTORY OF GREEK MIGRATION
AP/HIST 3356
2020-21/ FALL term

Dr. Sakis Gekas, Department of History
agekas@yorku.ca

Course Format/Time:

This course will be a **remote and online course**; this means it will be taught with recorded lectures and real-time tutorials.

I will host live office hours/discussion on Wednesdays between 10:30-11:30 via zoom, but attendance at the live sessions is not mandatory.

Course Description:

This course examines the history of migration from Greece to North America, Australia and Europe from the end of the nineteenth to the end of the twentieth century using case studies, concepts and theories of migration. Students will discuss in the online forum and in their essays: the causes and conditions of migration and the migration experience, the shifts in the study of migration history from socio-economic factors to the history of individuals; the economic conditions and state policies in Greece and the various destination countries; the creation of immigrant communities, the role of the Church, politics and relations with other immigrant groups. The course will draw comparisons with immigrant groups whose experience resembles the Greek one. Specific topics include: gendered migration and 'picture brides', repatriation and relations with Greece as homeland, racism and assimilation, anti-Greek riots and their consequences.

Course Organization:

Each week, you'll have some brief introductory material, learning objectives, content, readings and learning activities. Finally, you'll also have additional resources in most modules, which you will explore in the tutorials.

The **introductory materials** will provide you with a brief introduction to the week's content, and may also remind you of links to previous weeks' concepts that you will refer and / or review prior to starting on the new module.

The **learning objectives** are provided as a tool to ensure you have adequately worked through the content of the week and have a good understanding of the concepts and material.

The **online lecture**. Every week you are expected to watch the recorded lecture before you answer the weekly topic discussion. Modules may include activities that are optional and, if

completed, will contribute to your own personal learning. The content will make up the learning material for each week’s module along with the readings.

The **readings** are an important part of your learning each week. Some weeks have more reading than others, so make sure you set aside time each week to go through the readings and try to understand the concepts and discussions that the authors are presenting. Most of the module content will help you to “unpack” the concepts and material you’ll read, so doing the readings alongside going through the module content is always a good idea.

The **assignments** section will describe which assignments you are required to do each week to complete the module (sometimes with clear deadlines). Most weeks, assignments will include **discussion questions to which you are expected to contribute**, either as an individual or in a small group, in the online discussion forum and in the tutorials.

I will also be available for live office hours at a set time.

Course Goals:

This course is designed with two specific goals:

1. to familiarize students with approaches to the history Greek migration (historiography) in relation to other communities and the societies where Greek immigrants settled.
2. to further students’ historical skills, analysis of primary and secondary sources, critical thinking, and clear and concise argumentative writing.

Students will acquire a thematic, chronological and conceptual knowledge of the history of Greek migration in the twentieth century and will be able to relate it to other courses on immigration (to North America for example). Students will also acquire knowledge of Greek migration and diaspora, identify concepts methodologies and debates on the history of migration and diaspora by focusing on the ‘case’ of Greek migration and diaspora in the twentieth century.

Course Assignments and Grade breakdown

Assignment:	Participation and Forum five reading posts	Value (%):	20
Assignment:	Book Review	Value (%):	20
Assignment:	Essay 1	Value (%):	30
Assignment:	Essay 2	Value (%):	30
		Total (%):	100 %

Suggested Weekly Lecture Topics

Week 1. Studying migration and diaspora. A brief history of Greek migration

Week 2. The End of an era. Greek-Orthodox presence in the Balkans and Minor Asia

Week 3. The Greeks of Egypt

Week 4. The Great Migration: Causes and Destinations. The Greek Diaspora in North America: Historical Debates

Week 5. Greeks and other radicals in North America

Week 6. Racism and Anti-Greek Violence: Challenges and Responses

Week 7. The Greek communities Outside of North America to 1940

Week 8. Stories of other communities

Week 9. The Greeks of Canada

Week 10. The “Guestworker” Phenomenon and Post Communist Migration

Week 11. Diaspora in the 21st Century: Greeks in a transnational world.

Week 12. Greek migration as digital history: The Greek Canadian History Project at York University Library Archives and the *Immigrec* Virtual Museum of Greek Migration to Canada