

S6 MIGRATION, INTEGRATION AND ETHNIC RELATIONS

July 6 – July 17, 2026

UTRECHT SUMMER SCHOOL 2026

S6 Migration, Integration and Ethnic Relations

Migration has made European countries ethnically and culturally more diverse. While migrants try to find their way in a new and sometimes hostile environment, host populations also have to adapt to migrants and the new religious and cultural diversity they bring with them. Migrants and host populations face the challenge of acceptance and adaptation in spite of initial resistance, possible social exclusion and explicit political rejection by part of the host population.

This course introduces students to social scientific theories and empirical research on international migration, the integration of immigrants and their children, and reactions of the host society. Throughout, we use an interdisciplinary and analytical approach, drawing on theories and empirical research from sociology, psychology, political science, demography and economics, among others. The two-week course covers a broad range of topics related to migration, development, integration and ethnic relations, such as reasons for international migration, modes of immigrant adaptation, identity, religion, stereotyping, discrimination, inequality, extreme-right wing voting and inter-ethnic contacts.

COURSE DIRECTOR:

Dr. Floris Peters

f.w.c.peters@uu.nl

COURSE TEACHERS:

to be announced (typically around 8 different teachers who are experts in their field)

TARGET GROUP:

The course is designed for students in the social sciences interested in a *research-oriented* approach to the causes and consequences of migration. It is relevant for students across all disciplines in the social sciences and those who are interested in *theory-driven, quantitative and analytical research* on migration, integration and ethnic relations. The course is suitable for bachelor and master students, but open to PhD's or practitioners as well. Note that a basic understanding of quantitative methodology in social sciences is highly recommended, as many of the readings apply such methods.

COURSE AIM:

Based on readings, presentations and class discussions, students will build up (a) an overview of the main research questions, theories, and current empirical findings on international migration, integration, and ethnic relations, (b) knowledge of large-scale datasets and understanding of research methods that are commonly used in this field, (c) the ability to critically evaluate empirical research, and (d) the ability to apply this knowledge to new problems within this field. This ability includes generating new research questions, using specific theories to elaborate research questions, formulating hypotheses, and critical reflecting on current trends and debates on migration, integration and ethnic relations.

CREDITS: 3 ECTS + certificate of attendance

All students will receive a certificate of attendance. The grade for this course is based on presentations and group assignments. Preparation for the individual and group assignments occurs partly during class hours. If students are due to unforeseen circumstances unable to attend a class, they should inform the instructor. Students will not receive a grade if they miss more than one class.

PERIOD: July 6-17, 2026

STUDY LOAD:

- A. 10 days of lectures, group assignments and group discussion (daily from 10.00-14.30)
- B. self-study: reading materials daily from 14.30-16.30
- C. short individual assignments, group presentations, group assignments and class discussion

FORMAT OF THE COURSE

The course is planned to take place in-person on site.

INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION

Dr. Floris Peters, f.w.c.peters@uu.nl

Utrecht University

Department of Interdisciplinary Social Sciences / ERCOMER

Course Schedule

Week 1

Monday, July 7		
Time	Activity	Description
10:00-10:15	Course introduction	Welcome and course introduction <i>Dr. Floris Peters</i>
10:15-12:15	Lecture	t.b.a.
12:15-13:15	Lunch	<i>Lunch will be delivered</i>
13:15-14:30	Interactive session	Group activity, discussion or presentations
14:30-16:30	Preparation of next course day	Students read the literature for the next day and prepare presentations if necessary
Social program: Opening Ceremony Utrecht Summer School (see the summer school website for details)		

Tuesday, July 8		
Time	Activity	Description
10:00-12:15	Lecture	t.b.a.
12:15-13:15	Lunch	<i>Lunch will be delivered</i>
13:15-14:30	Interactive session	Group activity, discussion or presentations
14:30-16:30	Preparation of next course day	Students read the literature for the next day and prepare presentations if necessary
Social program: t.b.a. (see the summer school website for details)		

Wednesday, July 9		
Time	Activity	Description
10:00-12:15	Lecture	t.b.a.
12:15-13:15	Lunch	<i>Lunch will be delivered</i>
13:15-14:30	Interactive session	Group activity, discussion or presentations
14:30-16:30	Preparation of next course day	Students read the literature for the next day and prepare presentations if necessary
Social program: t.b.a. (see the summer school website for details)		

Thursday, July 10		
Time	Activity	Description
10:00-12:15	Lecture	t.b.a.
12:15-13:15	Lunch	<i>Lunch will be delivered</i>
13:15-14:30	Interactive session	Group activity, discussion or presentations
14:30-16:30	Preparation of next course day	Students read the literature for the next day and prepare presentations if necessary
Social program: t.b.a. (see the summer school website for details)		

Friday, July 11		
Time	Activity	Description
10:00-12:15	Lecture	t.b.a.
12:15-13:15	Lunch	<i>Lunch will be delivered</i>
13:15-14:30	Interactive session	Group activity, discussion or presentations
14:30-16:30	Preparation of next course day	Students read the literature for the next day and prepare presentations if necessary
Social program: t.b.a. (see the summer school website for details)		

Week 2

Saturday and Sunday, July 12 and 13		
Time	Activity	Description
Free time	Social Programme	See the summer school website for details

Monday, July 14		
Time	Activity	Description
10:00-12:15	Lecture	t.b.a.
12:15-13:15	Lunch	Lunch will be delivered
13:15-14:30	Interactive session	Group activity, discussion or presentations
14:30-16:30	Preparation of next course day	Students read the literature for the next day and prepare presentations if necessary
Social program: t.b.a. (see the summer school website for details)		

Tuesday, July 15		
Time	Activity	Description
10:00-12:15	Lecture	t.b.a.
12:15-13:15	Lunch	Lunch will be delivered
13:15-14:30	Interactive session	Group activity, discussion or presentations
14:30-16:30	Preparation of next course day	Students read the literature for the next day and prepare presentations if necessary
Social program: t.b.a. (see the summer school website for details)		

Wednesday, July 16		
Time	Activity	Description
10:00-12:15	Lecture	t.b.a.
12:15-13:15	Lunch	Lunch will be delivered
13:15-14:30	Interactive session	Group activity, discussion or presentations
14:30-16:30	Preparation of next course day	Students read the literature for the next day and prepare presentations if necessary
Social program: t.b.a. (see the summer school website for details)		

Thursday, July 17		
Time	Activity	Description
10:00-12:15	Lecture	t.b.a.
12:15-13:15	Lunch	Lunch will be delivered
13:15-14:30	Interactive session	Group activity, discussion or presentations
14:30-16:30	Preparation of next course day	Students read the literature for the next day and prepare presentations if necessary
Social program: t.b.a. (see the summer school website for details)		

Friday, July 18		
Time	Activity	Description
10:00-12:15	Lecture	t.b.a.
12:15-13:15	Lunch	Lunch will be delivered
13:15-14:30	Interactive session	Group activity, discussion or presentations
16:00	Farewell drinks	

For information about the social program, please have a look [here](#).