



**Carleton University Department of Economics**  
**Summer 2025**

**Cross-listed Courses:**

- **ECON 4880S / ECON 5065S** – *Economics of Immigration and Immigration Policy*
- **ECON 4905A** – *Honours Capstone Seminar*

**Instructor:** Haozhen Zhang

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**Office Location:** Loeb, B-840

**Office Hours:** After class or by appointment

**Course Location/Delivery:** On-line.

**Course Day and Time:** 6:05 pm – 8:55 pm, Tuesdays and Thursdays

**Brightspace Course Page:** <https://brightspace.carleton.ca/d2l/home/339910>

**Note:** This course outline includes separate sections for **ECON 4880S / ECON 5065S** and **ECON 4905A**.

**Part 1. ECON4880S/ECON5065S**

**Course Description**

This course explores economic policy issues through the lens of international migration, providing students with economic frameworks and analytical tools to assess migration policy decisions and outcomes. The course integrates essential economic theories and empirical evidence related to migration policy, examining the impacts of immigration, temporary foreign workers, and international students on economic growth, labor markets, innovation, trade, and public finance. Students will gain insights into how migration influences economic performance and develop a deeper understanding of contemporary migration policy debates, equipping them with analytical skills valuable for careers in policy analysis, government agencies, and international organizations.

**Prerequisites and Preclusions**

Students should normally have completed ECON 1001 and ECON 1002 (or equivalent) and have a background in university level mathematics. The course is offered in support of the GDip in Economic Policy; however, other graduate students at Carleton University with adequate background may be admitted with permission of the Department of Economics.

**List of Topics**

A list of core topics of the course is provided below.

1. Economic frameworks for analyzing immigration and non-permanent residents (NPRs), including international students, temporary foreign workers, and refugee claimants

2. Introduction to migration policy in Canada
3. Economic outcomes and impacts of migration
4. The optimal level and composition of immigration
5. Settlement programs and policies

### Required Readings

A selection of journal articles will be assigned as required readings. The full reading list will be made available in the first lecture.

### Evaluation Breakdown

Component	Subcomponent	Weight
<b>Term Project</b>	Proposal	12.5%
	Preliminary Analysis Presentation	12.5%
	Final Presentation	25%
<b>Final Exam</b>	–	50%
<b>Total</b>	–	<b>100%</b>

### Term Project (50%)

A major component of the course is a term project that provides a policy-oriented economic analysis on one or two areas related to immigration. Students will choose from a list of suggested topics provided by the instructor. The analysis should:

- Review relevant recent literature
- Present economic rationales and theoretical implications
- Provide supporting empirical evidence through descriptive analysis (e.g., graphs, charts, and data tables using Excel or other software)
- Offer conclusions and policy implications

The focus is on synthesizing literature and conducting basic, evidence-based policy analysis. Advanced econometric techniques are not required.

The term project will be broken down into several components, submitted step by step throughout the semester. This staged approach is designed to make the project more manageable and feasible within the compressed timeline of the summer term. At each stage, students will receive feedback and guidance from the instructor to help refine their analysis and prepare for the final deliverables.

Students will submit the following components throughout the term:

- **Proposal (12.5%):** Around 1000 words. The proposal should identify the objective and research questions, review key literature, outline relevant economic theory, and describe the planned descriptive evidence. A short presentation (under 5 minutes with around 5 slides) will accompany the proposal.
- **Preliminary Analysis Presentation (12.5%):** A short presentation (under 5 minutes, around 5 slides) will be submitted and presented focusing on the descriptive analysis and

empirical evidence, such as graphs, data tables, and observed trends relevant to the policy issue.

- **Final Presentation (25%):** Students will submit a PowerPoint presentation (approximately 15 slides) and deliver a 5-minute oral presentation summarizing their complete analysis.

The slide deck should cover the following components:

- Introduction, including research questions and objectives
- Key literature and theoretical framework
- Descriptive analysis with supporting data
- Conclusions
- Policy discussion and implications

In the oral final presentation, students should briefly restate the research question and framework, but place greater emphasis on conclusions, policy relevance, and overall insights from their work.

In your submitted PowerPoint presentation, you are encouraged to reuse material from your earlier proposal and preliminary findings presentations—such as background, literature review, and descriptive evidence—but minimize repetition in the oral presentation. Focus your speaking time on explaining what your findings mean and why they matter for policy.

### **Final Exam (50%)**

The final exam will be held in person and scheduled by the university.

Please note that the instructor reserves the right to make modifications to the list of topics or readings as the term progresses.

## **Part 2. ECON4905A**

### **Course Description**

This course provides students the opportunity to develop research projects on migration-related economic topics, such as issues concerning immigration, temporary foreign workers, and international students, with individualized assistance from the instructor. Students will actively participate in class discussions and receive tailored guidance as they enhance their research through written submissions and oral presentations at various stages of their projects. The course aims to strengthen students' research skills, deepen their understanding of migration-related economic issues, and enhance analytical and communication abilities essential for careers in policy analysis, government, academia, and international organizations. The course concludes with the completion of a major research paper by each participant.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

Throughout the course, students will enhance their presentation skills and their ability to identify research questions, find relevant data, and conduct migration policy research and analysis. This

collaborative and progressive approach ensures that students refine their research skills and deepen their understanding of economic analysis.

**Preclusions and Prerequisites:** ECON 3900 with a grade of C+ or higher, ECON 3920 with a grade of C+ or higher, and registration in an Honours Economics program. Students who believe they have taken a similar background course or courses from another university must provide appropriate documentation to the Department of Economics Undergraduate Administrator. Precludes additional credit for ECON 4890, ECON 4900 (no longer offered), ECON 4901 (no longer offered), and ECON 4902 (no longer offered).

### **Evaluation**

The term project will be broken down into several components, submitted progressively throughout the semester. This phased structure is designed to make the project more manageable and feasible within the compressed timeline of the summer term. Throughout the course, students will prepare and present their research proposals, preliminary findings, and final results at different stages of the project. Depending on the final number of students enrolled, more or less class time may be allocated to student presentations.

At each stage, students will receive guidance and feedback from the instructor to help them refine their analysis and strengthen their final submission. This structured process is intended to support students in successfully completing a research essay by the end of the term.

### **Grading Breakdown**

Item	Percentage of Grade
Initial Proposal Presentation	10%
Final Proposal	10%
Preliminary Findings Presentation	10%
Preliminary Findings Report	10%
Final Presentation	10%
Final Paper	50%
Total: 100%	

### **Presentations**

Students will deliver three short presentations (each under 5 minutes) throughout the semester:

- Proposal Presentation – Focuses on the research question, key literature, proposed data sources, and planned methodology.
- Preliminary Findings Presentation – Highlights the research approach, as well as early descriptive and econometric results.
- Final Presentation – Emphasizes final conclusions, policy relevance, and broader implications of the research.

To ensure all presentations fit within class time:

- Slides must be submitted in PDF format a few days before the scheduled presentation.
- Detailed instructions and deadlines will be provided in advance.
- Presentation times will be strictly enforced.

- All students presenting the same component (e.g., proposal or final presentation) will be held to a uniform deadline to ensure fairness.

### **Honours Essay (Final Paper)**

The final paper is an original research project of up to 5,000 words, submitted as your Honours Essay.

- The topic must be related to the economics of immigration or immigration policy and grounded in empirical evidence.
- The paper should be empirical in nature, using real-world data to analyze a well-defined economic research question.
- Theoretical papers are not recommended, due to the short semester, and essays that simply summarize the literature without original analysis will not be accepted.
- Most students are expected to complete an evidence-based empirical study, supported by descriptive statistics, econometric analysis, and a thoughtful policy discussion.

Students will also be required to present their main findings as part of the final presentation outlined above.

**Statistical Software:** All econometric work will be done using Stata. Carleton students can download Stata [here](#) (no cost).

### **Part 3. Other Information for All Cross-Listed Courses**

**Late Submissions:** Any graded material submitted late will incur a penalty of 50% per day. For example, an assignment worth 10% of the final grade that would have earned 90% (or 9 grade points) if submitted on time will earn 45% (or 4.5 grade points) if submitted one day late. If submitted two days late or more, it will receive a grade of 0.

**Brightspace and the Carleton email system** will be used extensively as a means of communication with students. Therefore, students are strongly advised to access Brightspace and check their Carleton email at regular intervals in order to check for new information. To access Brightspace and the Carleton email system, students require a MyCarletonOne account. For questions about MyCarletonOne accounts, students should access <http://carleton.ca/ccs/get-started/> (and then click on either New Students or New Grad Students, as appropriate) or contact the ITS Service Desk (4th Floor, MacOdrum Library, telephone: 613-520-3700).

### **Academic Standing**

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

## **NOTE:**

For verification and security purposes, I will not reply to emails originating from non-Carleton e-mail accounts, and which are not signed with a student's name and student number. Please ensure that you have a Carleton email account.

## **Plagiarism:**

Please be aware that plagiarism is serious offense at Carleton and should be recognized and avoided. For further information on how to do so, please see "Academic Integrity and Offenses of Conduct": <https://carleton.ca/economics/courses/writing-preliminaries/academic-integrity-and-offenses-of-conduct/>

## **Requests for Academic Accommodation:**

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

### **Pregnancy obligation**

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: [carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf](https://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf)

### **Religious obligation**

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: [carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf](https://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf)

## **Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or [pmc@carleton.ca](mailto:pmc@carleton.ca) for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC no later than two weeks before the first scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. [carleton.ca/pmc](https://carleton.ca/pmc)

## **Survivors of Sexual Violence**

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and is survivors are supported through academic

accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: [carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support](https://carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support)

### **Accommodation for Student Activities**

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: [students.carleton.ca/course-outline](https://students.carleton.ca/course-outline)