

MGDS 5101 A (Fall & Winter Terms) **Practicum in Migration and Diaspora Studies**

<https://brightspace.carleton.ca/d2l/home/451330>

Seminar Dates

Fall Term:

Information session: September 16, 17:30-18:30

One-on-one meetings with Practicum Advisor: September 21, 22, or 23

Winter Term:

Online seminars (meeting links on Brightspace):

- January 13, 2027, 18:30-19:30
- February 3, 2027, 18:30-20:00
- February 24, 2027, 18:30-20:00
- March 17, 2027, 18:30-20:00

Instructor

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Office hours by appointment

Course Description

Practicum placement in an organization that works in an area relevant to migration and diaspora studies. Requires written academic assignments.

This course takes place over two semesters. In Fall 2026, students will work with the practicum advisor to identify and secure a practicum opportunity that aligns with their goals and interests. In Winter 2027, students participate in experiential learning activities within their practicum setting, participate in seminars, and produce assignments to share knowledge and reflect upon their work.

Learning Outcomes

The Migration and Diaspora Studies practicum course is intended to provide students with hands-on experience and mentorship in an area relevant to their academic and professional interests.

The learning outcomes for the course are as follows:

- Gain or deepen an understanding of the mission, function, impact and network of organizations working in the field of migration and diaspora
- Gain or deepen recognition for one's own strengths, challenges, interests, and identities in relation to future career aspirations
- Gain or deepen an understanding of how issues and theories in migration and diaspora studies are experienced and/or expressed in real life contexts

- Gain or deepen an understanding of the opportunities and challenges of working to promote migration and diaspora-related causes, knowledge and intervention

Texts & Course Materials

Students are expected to read and understand the contents of this course outline. Reading and review of other learning materials will also likely be required as determined by the practicum setting. Students are not required to purchase textbooks or other learning materials for the purposes of learning in this course.

Course Calendar

Practicum information session and Advisor Meeting

Students in this course are required to attend a practicum information session to be held on September 16, 17:30-18:30. They must also meet one on one with Practicum Advisor on September 21, 22 or 23.

Practicum hours

The course requires students to complete 75 hours of work assigned by the practicum setting during the winter 2027 semester. Typically, students will dedicate one day per week to practicum activities (7.5 hours per day x 10 weeks). Students are expected to negotiate a schedule of hours with their practicum setting.

Practicum seminars

In addition to hours in practicum, students must attend 4 online seminars of 60 or 90 minutes each. The seminar calendar is as follows:

Date	Time	Topics
January 13, 2027	18:30-19:30	• Introductions • Course requirements • Presentation schedule
February 3, 2027	18:30-20:00	• Student presentations • Identity, experience and self-assessment: What do you bring to migration and diaspora-related work?
February 24, 2027	18:30-20:00	• Student presentations • Theory vs practice: Surprises and insights from experiential learning
March 17, 2027	18:30-20:00	• Student presentations • Practicum learning and career possibilities: How has this experience influenced your future aspirations?

Virtual meeting links for seminars are posted on Brightspace.

Evaluation

This course and all its elements are graded as satisfactory/unsatisfactory. To receive credit in this course (i.e. a satisfactory grade), students must complete all steps required to secure a practicum placement in

the fall semester and satisfactorily complete all elements of the course in the winter semester (i.e. practicum hours, practicum seminars and practicum assignments).

Course components are as follows:

Fall Semester

Requirement	Date	Method
Practicum Information Session	September 16, 17:30-18:30	In person, Loeb D199
Submit practicum application	No later than September 20, 2026	Online form (link available on Brightspace)
Meet with Practicum Advisor	September 21, 22, or 23	Online meeting booked using link on Brightspace
Apply to potential practicum sponsor	No later than deadline provided by Practicum Advisor	E-mail letter of interest + résumé to contact provided by Practicum Advisor
Attend interview with potential practicum sponsor	To be scheduled with practicum sponsor	To be determined by practicum sponsor
Practicum Agreement form	No later than December 11, 2026	To be completed by practicum sponsor (link available on Brightspace)
Practicum Insurance form	No later than December 11, 2026	To be completed and signed by student and practicum sponsor (form available on Brightspace)

Winter Semester

Requirement	Due date	Method
75 hours in practicum	To be completed by no later than April 9, 2027	Completion of practicum learning activities as negotiated with practicum sponsor.
Seminar attendance and participation	See seminar schedule above	Online seminars with option for in-person if agreed to by group
Seminar presentation	February 3, February 24, or March 17, 2027	Oral presentation with slides/notes submitted on Brightspace
Practicum Essay	April 9, 2027	Submitted on Brightspace
Supervisor assessment	April 9, 2027	To be completed by practicum sponsor (link available on Brightspace)

Seminar presentation

The goal of the seminar presentation is for students to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the work of their practicum sponsor, and to share this knowledge with others. In a 5-to-8-minute online presentation students will discuss the following:

- The mission and activities of their sponsor organization
- The role of the organization in promoting migration and/or diaspora-related causes, knowledge and/or intervention

- Their role in the organization and how this supports the mission and/or activities of the organization
- Any new skills, knowledge, insights or perspectives gained through experiential learning in this organization
- Any other aspect of the practicum that may be of interest

Students are encouraged to create a slideshow presentation to accompany their presentation. These slides should be uploaded to Brightspace within 24 hours of the student's presentation.

When more than one student is completing a practicum with the same organization, the students may choose to present together or separately. If presenting together, the presentation should be 10 to 15 minutes in length with students presenting their own individual role and learning.

The presentation will be delivered by students on the date assigned to them during the first seminar. A satisfactory grade on this assignment will be awarded to students whose presentations demonstrate knowledge and understanding of their practicum organization and who discuss each of the components as outlined above.

Practicum Essay

The goal of the practicum essay is for students to reflect on learning acquired through the practicum experience. In a 2500-word essay, students will discuss the following:

- Their role, activities and achievements in practicum
- What they learned about migration and/or diaspora-related issues through participation in the practicum
- What they learned about the opportunities and challenges facing organizations that work to promote migration and diaspora-related causes, knowledge, and intervention
- What theoretical approaches helped them to better understand observations and learning acquired in practicum
- What they learned about their own role, responsibilities and/or future aspirations to contribute to the fields of migration and diaspora studies and intervention
- What they learned about their strengths, challenges and identity in relation to working the fields of migration and diaspora studies and intervention

Students are encouraged to maintain a weekly journal of activities, observations, and learning to serve as a record from which to compose their practicum essay.

The Practicum Essay is due on April 9, 2027, and must be submitted through Brightspace.

Supervisor Evaluation

Each student will have their learning and performance evaluated by their practicum supervisor using an online form (link provided on Brightspace).

It is the student's responsibility to ensure that their supervisor is aware of and completes the form by April 9, 2027.

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.

Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Generative Artificial Intelligence (such as Chat GPT or Microsoft Copilot) may be use in only a limited capacity [basic word processing functions, including grammar and spell checking (e.g. Grammarly, Microsoft Word Editor, Copilot)] for the essay component of this course. Any use of AI beyond these limitations will be considered a violation of academic integrity.

Generative AI may be used to partially support other components of the course, with acknowledgement of how and where it was used. Students will be held responsible for any submission of errors, inaccuracies, AI hallucinations, or misrepresentations.

As understanding of the uses of AI and its relationship to student work and academic integrity continue to evolve, students are required to discuss their use of AI in any circumstance not described here with the course instructor to ensure it supports the learning goals for the course.

Statement on Academic Integrity

Carleton's [Academic Integrity Policy](#) defines plagiarism as "presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one's own." This includes reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else's published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one's own without proper citation or reference to the original source. Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include but are not limited to: books, articles, papers, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, artworks, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, material on the internet and/or conversations.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else, including the unauthorized use of generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT);
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, paraphrased material, algorithms, formulae, scientific or mathematical concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another's data or research findings without appropriate acknowledgement;
- submitting a computer program developed in whole or in part by someone else, with or without modifications, as one's own; and
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another's work and/or failing to use quotations marks.

Violations of academic integrity in MGDS 5101, also include:

- The use of generative AI (i.e. Chat GPT) to prepare any of the course assignments, and/or written work in the practicum setting, except with express written permission by the course instructors and/or practicum supervisor.
- Submitting substantially the same piece of work as previously submitted for academic credit.
- Completing an assignment in collaboration with another student, except for the seminar presentation, in cases where more than one student is sponsored by the same practicum organization (see assignment description for details)

Plagiarism is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly by the course's instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of "F" for the course.

Plagiarism is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly by the course's instructor.

The Associate Dean of the Faculty follows a rigorous [process for academic integrity allegations](#), including reviewing documents and interviewing the student, when an instructor suspects a violation has been committed. Penalties for violations may include a final grade of "F" for the course.

Respect in the classroom and in practicum

All students are expected to treat all members of the course and in the practicum setting with respect and understanding at all times. Students are reminded that all members of the Carleton University community have a right to a learning, teaching, working and living environment that is free of discrimination and harassment as prohibited under the Ontario Human Rights Code.

Carleton University aims to create a climate of mutual respect and understanding of the dignity and worth of each University Community member. All students are advised to read and understand the University policies that provide details on this responsibility and the consequences of not upholding these standards:

Carleton University, Human Rights Policy:

<https://carleton.ca/secretariat/wp-content/uploads/Human-Rights-Policy-and-Procedures-2025.pdf>

Carleton University, Student Rights and Responsibilities Policy:

<https://carleton.ca/secretariat/wp-content/uploads/Students-Rights-and-Responsibilities-Policy.pdf>

Statement on Student Mental Health

Students may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact their academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus. For more information, please consult <https://wellness.carleton.ca/>.

Supports available include:

Emergency Resources ([on and off campus](#))

- Crisis/Urgent Counselling Support: 613-520-6674 (Mon-Fri, 8:30-4:30)
- Suicide Crisis Helpline: call or text 9-8-8, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- For immediate danger or urgent medical support: call 9-1-1

Carleton Resources

- Mental Health and Wellbeing: <https://carleton.ca/wellness/>
- Health & Counselling Services: <https://carleton.ca/health/>
- Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities: <https://carleton.ca/pmc/>
- Academic Advising Centre (AAC): <https://carleton.ca/academicadvising/>
- Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS): <https://carleton.ca/csas/>
- Equity & Inclusivity Communities: <https://carleton.ca/equity/>
- Ojigkwanong Indigenous Student Centre:
<https://carleton.ca/indigenous/cisce/students/ojigkwanong-indigenous-student-centre/>
- International Student Services Office: <https://carleton.ca/go-isso/>

Off Campus Resources

- Distress Centre of Ottawa and Region: call 613-238-3311, text 343-306-5550, or connect online at <https://www.dcottawa.on.ca/>
- Mental Health Crisis Service: call 613-722-6914 or toll-free 1-866-996-0991, or connect online at <http://www.crisisline.ca/>
- Empower Me Counselling Service: call 1-844-741-6389 or connect online at <https://students.carleton.ca/services/empower-me-counselling-services/>
- Good2Talk: call 1-866-925-5454 or connect online at <https://good2talk.ca/>
- The Walk-In Counselling Clinic: for online or on-site service <https://walkincounselling.com>

Students Requiring Academic Accommodations

Carleton is committed to providing academic accessibility for all individuals. You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. The accommodation request processes, including information about the *Academic Consideration Policy for Students in Medical and Other Extenuating Circumstances*, are outlined on the Academic Accommodations website (students.carleton.ca/course-outline).

Accommodation in practicum

Students with circumstances that may impact attendance or effective participation in practicum or in seminar, are encouraged to initiate a discussion with their instructor and practicum setting at the earliest possible opportunity to review possible accommodations.

Students who identify as having a disability are also encouraged to register with Carleton University's [Accessible Career Transitions](#) to learn more about options for accessibility, inclusion, and accommodation within a workplace/practicum setting.

Accommodation for reasonable extenuating circumstances

Any student who, owing to reasonable extenuating circumstances, is unable to attend seminar and/or satisfactorily complete any requirement of this course by the indicated deadline must submit the [Academic Consideration for Coursework Form](#) before alternative work and/or an extension will be considered and/or granted.