

# **EuMIGS Lecture Series**

## **Spring 2021**

The EuMIGS Lecture Series is open to students from all partner institutes.

**February 11, 14.15–16.00**

Malmö University

**Theorizing International Migration:  
Towards a Unified field of Study?**

James F. Hollifield

**March 3, 18.00–19.30**

Universities of Osnabrück and Neuchâtel

**Researching and Theorizing International  
Student Migration**

Yvonne Riaño

**April 20, 14.15–16.00**

Linköping University

**A Modern Migration Theory: An Alternative  
Economic Approach to Failed EU Policy**

Peo Hansen

## EuMIGS Lecture Series – Spring 2021

### February 11: Theorizing International Migration: Towards a Unified field of Study?

**James F. Hollifield** is Ora Nixon Arnold Chair in International Political Economy, Professor in the Department of Political Science, and Director of the Tower Center at Southern Methodist University (SMU) in Dallas, Texas. He also is a member of the New York Council on Foreign Relations and a Global Fellow at the Woodrow Wilson International Center in Washington, DC.

**Abstract:** The emergence of a new research field or area of study in the social sciences always is fraught with controversy, fits and starts, theoretical, methodological, and even epistemological debates. Migration studies is no different, but some things are relatively unique about this 'new' field of study, while others are more conventional.

Building on the 4th edition of *Migration Theory: Talking Across Disciplines*, edited by Caroline Brettell and James Hollifield, in this seminar Hollifield explores what is unique and conventional about the field, how research questions are framed, what are the key concepts and theories, and how scholars of migration can 'talk across disciplines'.

**Zoom-link:** <https://mause.zoom.us/j/69504100713?pwd=ekkzaEh2SnFjbUN5S1BFSm56NmVQdz09>  
Meeting ID: 695 0410 0713  
Passcode: 126277

### March 3: Researching and Theorizing International Student Migration

**Yvonne Riaño** is Associate Professor at the Geography Institute of the University of Neuchâtel (Switzerland), and chairs the Swiss National Committee of the International Geographical Union (IGU). She is also a Research Project Leader at the Swiss National Centre for Competence in Research - The Migration-Mobility Nexus, and leads the 'Transnational Mobilities' Module.

**Abstract:** This lecture is part of the first joint seminar organized by the EuMIGS network, which deals with international student migration and mobilities (ISM) and joins students and lecturers from 6 of the 12 EuMIGS partner institutes. This introductory lecture gives an overview of prevailing research themes and theorising efforts into ISM. Six main questions are addressed: (1) What theoretical perspectives have been proposed to explain ISM? (2) What are the main geographical directions of international student flows? (3) What motivates individuals to study abroad? (4) What role do supranational bodies, national governments, and universities play regarding the mobility of international students? (5) What are the outcomes and effects of ISM? (6) What are the students' experiences upon return to their countries of origin? This presentation will give attention to student mobilities within and into countries of the Global North as well as to mobilities within and into countries of the Global South. The lecture also presents a reflection on the possible impact of Covid-19 on ISM.

**Zoom-link:** <https://zoom.us/j/96140743367?pwd=SnFJY3FENWZzeEozZmpTQzkvSFJ0Zz09>  
Meeting-ID: 961 4074 3367  
Code: D9M4rX

To join from a phone: Meeting-ID: 961 4074 3367; Code: 896353; Search for local connection phone number: <https://zoom.us/u/aL7sfJa1W>

## EuMIGS Lecture Series – Spring 2021

### April 20: A Modern Migration Theory: An Alternative Economic Approach to Failed EU Policy

**Peo Hansen** is Professor of Political Science at the Institute for Research on Migration, Ethnicity and Society, Linköping University. His publications include *Eurafrica: The Untold History of European Integration and Colonialism* (co-authored with Stefan Jonsson, Bloomsbury, 2014) and *A Modern Migration Theory: An Alternative Economic Approach to Failed EU Policy* (Agenda, 2021).

**Abstract:** Today both researchers and policy-makers agree that refugees admitted to the European Union constitute a net cost and fiscal burden for the receiving societies.

In this lecture, Peo Hansen shows that this consensual cost-perspective on migration is built on a flawed economic conception of the orthodox “sound finance” doctrine prevalent in migration research and policy. By shifting perspective to examine migration through the macroeconomic lens offered by Modern Monetary Theory, Hansen is able to demonstrate sound finance’s detrimental impact on migration policy and research, including its role in stoking the toxic debate on migration in the EU. Most importantly, this undertaking offers the tools with which both migration research and migration policy could be modernized and put on a realistic footing. Investigating the case of Sweden, Hansen demonstrates how Sweden’s increased refugee spending in 2015–2017 proved to be fiscally risk-free and how the injection of funds to cash-strapped and depopulating municipalities, which received refugees, boosted economic growth and investment in welfare. Hansen’s aim is to reveal its applicability as a model for the EU as a whole.

**Register in advance for this meeting (and receive a zoom link for the event):**  
<https://liu-se.zoom.us/j/844612126>

**The EuMIGS Lecture Series continues!**  
**Further seminars will be announced soon.**

**EuMIGS** (European Master in Migration Studies) is an academic exchange programme that promotes the mobility and cross-country learning of students and teaching staff between twelve high-level institutes of migration research and their master programmes.

Centrepiece of the network is a Double Degree Programme between five participating universities.

[www.eumigs.eu](http://www.eumigs.eu)