Citizenship has long been a hallmark of liberal modernity—it is the modern form of membership linking individuals to a state. Yet increasingly, some scholars argue that citizenship is being weakened, eroded or devalued by today’s patterns of human migration. In turn, scholars question whether the sovereignty of the state is also weakening or even in its twilight. The issue driving this inquiry is simple: it appears that more and more people live, work and receive government benefits in places far from home. Human rights increasingly trump citizen rights. That is, there are more immigrants, and whether documented or undocumented, the state seems powerless to stop the movement or even (some of) the rights claims made. Others argue that the nation state is alive and well, and if mass deportations are a thing of the past, the state can still exert its powerful force on outsiders when it so wishes. The mass migration of the contemporary period may reflect not the freedom of immigrants to pursue opportunity but the demands of capitalist production and services for cheap labor and the government’s role in aiding economic growth.

In this seminar, we use a comparative perspective to examine this debate. We provide background for the major concepts, touching on core areas of political sociology, historical, cultural and comparative sociology, race and ethnic relations, international relations, and law.

Course organization and requirements: Participation: Students will be required to submit a 2 to 3 page analyses of the week’s readings to me by Tuesday at noon before each class. In addition, students will be required to do short, five to ten minute presentations of readings throughout the quarter (the exact number of times will be determined by the number of students in the seminar). It is hoped that these summaries will be useful for later research or comprehensive exams, as well as preparing students for the seminar. The larger point of all of this is to encourage graduate students to be active rather than passive learners, and to form their own (informed) opinions on seminar topics.

Paper: One 20-page paper due during finals week. The paper can be either a research paper, complete with thesis/argument and support for that position, or it can be a research proposal, similar to what you would send as a grant application. Either should be focused on a topic decided between each student and myself. Topics should be chosen at least by week 7 if not earlier.

Required texts:
Assigned texts will be made available in the Department of Sociology mail/copy room for students to copy. Many are also available through the UCSD library. If this is inconvenient, a reader can be made as well.

Week 1: Introduction
Basic orientation: what is migration? how is it studied? what is citizenship? Political implications of immigration. Course organization.

Week 2: What is the nation?
Ernest Gellner, Nations and Nationalism, chapter 1 “Definitions”


**Week 3: What is citizenship?**


Max Weber, “Citizenship in Ancient and Medieval Cities” in *The Citizenship Debates*


Rogers Brubaker, "Immigration, Citizenship, and the Nation-State in France and Germany" in *The Citizenship Debates*

Will Kymlicka, “Multicultural Citizenship” in *The Citizenship Debates*

**Week 4: What is immigration? Why do people move?**

Doug Massey, et al., *Worlds in Motion*, chapters 1 “New Migrations, New Theories”and 2 “Contemporary Theories of International Migration”

Michael Piore, *Birds of Passage*, chapter 2 “The Jobs”


**Week 5: Immigration, human rights and challenges to the nation state**

Yasemin Soysal, "Toward a Postnational Model of Membership," in *The Citizenship Debates*


**Week 6: States, choosing immigrants and return migration**


Christian Joppke, *Selecting By Origin*, chapter 1
John Skrentny, Stephanie Chan, Jon Fox and Denis Kim, “Defining Nations Across Borders: State Preferences for Co-Ethnic/Return Migrants in Europe and East Asia” forthcoming in Diasporic Homecomings

Week 7: Immigration control and undocumented immigration

John Torpey, The Invention of the Passport chapter 1 “Coming and Going: On the State Monopolization of the Legitimate ‘Means of Movement’”


Week 8: Incorporation


Week 9: Dual Citizenship and Transnationalism


Week 10: Review, make-up, summary