

CSOn4006 MIGRATION, TRANSNATIONALISM AND THE CITY
Autumn 2025

Final group research paper guidelines

Sixty (60 %) of your grade will be based on a research essay (35 %), including the draft (10 %), presentation of the draft (10 %) and the peer review (5 %). Please follow the guidelines below, and don't hesitate to contact one of us if you have any questions. We will answer most e-mails within 24 hours. You may come and see one of us for help during our office hours or e-mail to make arrangements for another time that is convenient for you. In other words, there is no excuse for problems with this assignment! We really enjoy meeting with students – please take advantage of this fact ☺!

We have also posted some **optional readings** under the Study Materials page, linked to the **Interactive Syllabus**, under **“WRITING RESOURCES”** which may help you to think about how to pick a topic and develop a research question, find, and engage sources of literature, and plan for and actually write your paper. There is also a citation guide from the American Sociological Association that you should follow for structuring your in-text citations and your reference list. And perhaps most importantly, there is a guide to acknowledging, paraphrasing, and quoting sources, to help avoid any unintentional plagiarism.

STRUCTURE:

The purpose of this essay is to think sociologically about migration. The assignment is very broad – you may choose any topic related to migration research. You may write a conventional research essay or a research proposal for a study. We will approve the topic and make sure that your research question is narrow enough to answer successfully in an essay of this length.

The final essay should be approximately 12-14 pages (2.5 cm margins, double-spaced, 12 pt. Font), **for a minimum of 3,500 words, and a maximum of 4,000 words.**

While we allow, and even encourage, the use of AI tools such as Chat GPT, we want you to critically reflect upon their usage. In addition to your essay, you will submit a reflection on your use of AI tools: How did AI assist or hinder your work? How did you critically assess the AI-generated content? What did you learn from the experience? If you chose not to use AI, please explain why. **This reflection should be about 400-500 words.**

TIMELINE:

October 31, 2025 – 23:59 One-paragraph statement explaining your choice of topic is due via e-mail. We will approve your topic within 48 hours so you can begin work. You may send this at ANY time; you do not have to wait until the due date.

December 2, 2025 – 11:00 Draft of the paper to be uploaded to the HOMEWORK VAULT.

December 4, 2025 – 11:00 PEER REVIEW of the Paper Draft to be uploaded to the HOMEWORK VAULT.

January 19, 2026 – 23:59 FINAL ESSAY is due in the HOMEWORK VAULT.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS will be marked down by 2 points per day.