

UNIC Thematic Line 1: Superdiversity | Postgraduate Course

Intensive Methods Training in Migration and Superdiversity

Oct 2026 - Apr 2027 | online + optional in-person event (Koç University Istanbul)

Description of the course:

This online Masters and PhD-level lecture series introduces advanced methodological approaches in contemporary migration studies, highlighting how researchers can work creatively and rigorously across diverse empirical contexts. Drawing on qualitative, comparative, experimental, narrative, and mixed-methods traditions, the course showcases how methodological innovation can illuminate the complexities of mobility, belonging, public attitudes, and everyday migrant experiences.

Across the series, students engage with approaches ranging from qualitative comparative analysis for understanding urban migration patterns, to walking methods that trace routes and rhythms of mobility, to food-based ethnography that captures sensory and material dimensions of migrant life. The course also introduces experimental designs for studying complex social dynamics, sequential mixed-methods approaches for analysing public attitudes, and narrative methodologies suited to superdiverse contexts. Together, these seven lectures equip postgraduate researchers with a toolkit for designing robust, context-sensitive studies that capture the multi-layered realities of migration. The series emphasises methodological reflexivity, interdisciplinarity, and the importance of aligning research design with the lived experiences of migrants.

Workshop format and optional follow up in-person event

Each lecture is scheduled for two hours including time for questions and answers. At the end of week 7, students interested in attending the in-person workshop in Turkey will be invited to submit their application to the coordinator (Mastoureh Fathi) and will be selected by the committee to the week-long workshop in Istanbul, funded through UNIC.

The project will culminate in a publication of papers co-authored by students and their mentors in the workshop (as a special issue or an edited volume).

Please note the in-person portion of this opportunity will be limited to a small number of students from specific UNIC universities due to funding commitments.

- **Who can register?** This course **open to all UNIC students and staff**
- **How do I register?** [Fill out the form: UNIC Superdiversity PG Course](#)
- **Online lecture times:** 3-5PM (Irish time) on Thursdays, see programme below
- **Questions?** Please contact Mastoureh Fathi at mastoureh.fathi@ucc.ie

Full programme:

Please note that although there is no assessment for this course, study of **at least one item of the reading list** in preparation of each lecture **is recommended**.

Week 1 – 15th October 2026

Applying Qualitative Comparative Analysis in Urban Migration Studies — Asya Pisarevskaya, Erasmus University Rotterdam

Reading list:

Pisarevskaya, A., Van Breugel, I. and Scholten, P. (2024) 'Understanding the diversity of local diversities: an analysis of the (mis)match between policies and diversity configurations in Dutch municipalities', *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 50(12), pp. 2987–3009.

Pettrachin, A., Pisarevskaya, A., Caponio, T., & Schiller, M. (2026). Why do small Western European localities promote local integration policies? A qualitative comparative analysis. *Comparative Migration Studies*.

Week 2 – 29th October 2026

Narrative Research in Superdiversity and Migration Contexts — Mastoureh Fathi, University College Cork

Reading list:

Andrews, M., Tamboukou, M., & Squire, C. (2013). *Doing narrative research*. Sage Publications.

De Fina, A., & Tseng, A. (2017). Narrative in the study of migrants. In *The Routledge handbook of migration and language* (pp. 381-396). Routledge.

Esin, C., Fathi, M., & Squire, C. (2014). Narrative analysis: The constructionist approach. *The SAGE handbook of qualitative data analysis*, 203-216.

Week 3 – 12th November 2026

Sequential Mixed Methods Design for Studying Public Attitudes Toward Migrants — Bilge Yabanci, University of Deusto

Reading list:

Druckman, James N. 2021. *Experimental Thinking: A Primer on Social Science Experiments*. Cambridge, United Kingdom; New York, NY.

Yabanci, Bilge. 2025. "Overcoming Prejudices and Stigmatisation towards Refugees: A Novel Approach through Deliberative Citizen Dialogues in Turkey." *Migration Studies* 13 (1): 1–24. <https://doi.org/10.1093/migration/mnae051>.

Yabanci, Bilge, and Ezgi Elçi. 2026. "Narratives of Solidarity: Experimental Evidence on Shifting Attitudes towards Refugees." *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* online first (January): 1–26. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1369183X.2025.2596271>.

Week 4 - 26th November 2026

Studying Migration Through Food: Methodological and Analytical Perspectives — Elsa Mescoli, University of Liège

Reading list:

Clarebout, A., & Mescoli, E. (2023). Food hospitality and the negotiation of subjectivities through meals in the context of migration: Case studies from Belgium. *Food, Culture & Society*, 1-17.

Codesal, D. M. (2010). Eating abroad, remembering (at) home. Three foodscapes of Ecuadorian migration in New York, London and Santander. *Anthropology of food*, (7).

Week 5 – 10th December 2026

Nightnography – JC Macarie, University College Cork

Reading list: TBC

Week 6 – 14th January 2027

Learning About Migration Through Experiments: Disentangling Complex Dynamics — Sedef Turper, Koç University Istanbul

Reading list:

Baláž, V., & Williams, A. M. (2017). Experimental Research Methods in Migration: From Natural to True Experiments. *Population, Space and Place*, 23(1). <https://doi.org/10.1002/psp.1974>

Hainmueller, J., Hangartner, D., & Pietrantuono, G. (2017). Catalyst or crown: Does naturalization promote the long-term social integration of immigrants? *American Political Science Review*, 111(2), 256–276. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0003055416000745>

Week 7 - 28th January 2027

Routes, Rhythms, and Relations: Walking Methods for Migration Research — Roger Norum, University of Oulu

Reading list:

Salazar, N. 2026. Whose Healing? Reflexive Walking and a More-than-Human Perspective on Moving-with-Nature. In: Borg, Camilla Brudin; Åberg, Hanna E., Norum, Roger, Martin, John and Österlund-Pötzsch, Suzanne. (eds) *One by Walking: Transdisciplinary Mobilities and Methodologies*. New York: Lexington, pp. 11-25.

Norum, R., Herva, V-P, Heikkinen, H. I., Seitsonen, O. & Tornensis, J. 2026. Walking with, walking past/s: Contested landscapes in Gilbbesjávri, Sápmi, *Arctic Anthropology* 60(2):150-167.