



Western
Centre for Research on
Migration and Ethnic Relations

**Winter Colloquium
Series 2023**

Jonathan Amoyaw



Jonathan Amoyaw is an Assistant Professor at Dalhousie University. Prior to joining Dalhousie University, he obtained his PhD from the Department of Sociology at Western University with a specialization in Migration and Ethnic Relations (MER). Jonathan has research interests in immigration, health, and social inequality. A key aspect of his research highlights the demographic profile and economic outcomes of immigrants; their settlement patterns; and their vulnerability and resilience to post-migration challenges that can undermine their health and quality of life.

“The Circuitous Routes to Permanence: Understanding International Students’ Pathways to Permanent Residence and Retention in Canada”

In Canada and many other Western countries, temporary migrants have become an important pool from which permanent residents are admitted, exemplifying the so-called "two-step" migration process. The two-step migration process is typically talked about as a single transition, although it is a complex process that often involves the acquisition of multiple temporary permits over time. The current literature barely discusses the constellation of permits that characterized different transition pathways to permanent residence. Left unasked, much less answered, are these questions: What distinct permit pathways do temporary residents navigate to become permanent residents, and what are the determinants of these pathways? Moreover, how do these distinct permit pathways impact their settlement decisions post-landing? This paper analyzes data from the Longitudinal Immigration Database (IMDB) to answer these questions and provide new insights into the complexities of the two-step migration process for former international students. A set of typical pathways that characterize their transition from international student status to permanent resident status are empirically derived via optimal matching and cluster analysis. The impact of these pathways on international students' retention in their province of study post-landing is also examined. Insights from this paper will shed light on the heterogeneity of temporary migrants' routes to permanent residence and contribute to the ongoing discussions about the regionalization of immigration.

Thursday, February 16, 2023
4:00 pm, Social Science Centre, Room 5220
All Welcome!

<https://westernuniversity.zoom.us/j/93852993196>