CCIS | Center for Comparative Immigration Studies

Migrations and Emotions: A Three-Dimensional Analytical Approach

Thursday, December 1, 2022 | 11:00AM - 12:30PM Pacific Time

In-person Event Only | ERC Conference Room 115

Eva Sotomayor

Eva Sotomayor is a sociologist, Tenured Professor at the University of Jaén (Department of Psychology- Area of Social Work), and CCIS Visiting Scholar. From 2018 to 2022 she has been Data Bank Director of the Sociological Research Center (Spanish Government), a member of the Interministerial Statistics Commission (National Institute of Statistical), and a member of the Indicators Working Committee of the 2030 Agenda (National Institute of Statistics). She researches and writes about emotions, social exclusión, and migrations and teaches on social sciences methodology.

In this talk, Eva will explain the relevance of the last analytical advances on emotions in the migration field, especially in terms of the avenues and techniques we have to explore and interpret them. From sociology in general, the deep approach to emotions goes back a few decades to Russell Hochschild, Thomas J. Scheff, or Theodore D. Kemper. Today it can still be considered an unknown discipline in many sociological fields, although not precisely in that of migration, whose marked interdisciplinary character has allowed it to show a growing interest in the emotional component of this complex social phenomenon. In this multidisciplinary field, Lisa Feldman Barret, on a neuroscientific basis, has developed a theory of socially constructed emotions that encourages sociology to accept the challenge of including them in its theoretical and empirical analyses in order to better understand how they are produced, how they are interpreted and how they affect the most varied social phenomena.   So, from the perspective of the sociology of emotions, in this talk I intend to broaden the focus from the individual migrant to the receiving societies in their urban, normative, and socio-cultural structures. Thus, assuming the analytical complexity of emotions - which are affective states with physiological and cognitive dimensions - I will end up proposing a three-dimensional analytical approach (FEI model), which I classify as felt, expressed, and identified. This will help us to better understand how to approach emotions in such complex phenomena as human migration from a sociological perspective.

For more information please email w2tam@ucsd.edu