While the sociology of immigration has been traditionally concerned with the issue of immigrant assimilation, a recent shift in migration research has been increasingly relating it to social inequality and stratification scholarship, yet in fragmented ways. In this talk, I will outline a unified conceptual framework analyzing migration as a case study for inequality theory. I distinguish three channels through which migration potentially reshapes inequality: the economic channel stemming from the international division of labor, the political channel linked to legal and administrative categorization, and the symbolic channel associated with group boundary-making. The talk will draw on theoretical and empirical research that has been produced in American and European contexts, with specific highlights on the French case.

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