

CPO 4722/LAS 4935
LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN MIGRATION TO THE UNITED STATES
Fall 2011
Philip J. Williams
Email: pjw@latam.ufl.edu Tel: 273-4702
Office Hours: Mondays 9:30-11:30, 319 Grinter Hall

Course Objectives

The purpose of the course is to give the student a clearer understanding and appreciation of Latin American and Caribbean migration to the United States. After a general introduction to some of the key theoretical concepts and the historical processes underlying immigration to the United States, we will then focus in depth on a number of selected themes. In Part II we will explore the special case of Mexican immigration to the US. Part III will focus on the concept of transnationalism and the specific case of transnationalism among Dominican immigrants. Part IV will focus on immigration in Miami and Part V will concentrate on new destinations of Latino immigration.

Examinations and Course Requirements

Students are expected to complete all assigned readings on time and to attend class. Your grade will consist of weekly quizzes (15%), participation (10%) – including in-class participation and regular postings on course wiki - three take-home essay exams (15% each), a group presentation (15%), and a seven page research paper (15%) growing out of your group presentation. The paper will be due on Monday, December 12 by 12 noon. Students are expected to arrive to class on time and not to leave until class is over. Entering class 10-15 minutes late is disruptive and disrespectful of the instructor and other students. Immigration is a “hot” topic that can generate a lot of passion on all sides. Consequently, I expect students to engage in class discussion in a civil manner, demonstrating courtesy and respect for the opinions expressed by their classmates. If you cannot engage in civil discussion on this topic, you should not take this class. I expect all students to adhere to the university’s standards of academic honesty in their class work. In the event that a student is found cheating or knowingly plagiarizing, he/she will receive a grade penalty - automatic "E" on the assignment/exam - and will be reported to Student Judicial Affairs.

Policies on Make-up Exams and Late Papers

There are no make-ups for missed quizzes. Make-up exams will be arranged *only for university accepted excuses*. In the event of an illness, students should provide proper documentation from their physician. *In all cases, students should notify the professor prior to the exam*. If a student misses an exam and cannot contact me beforehand, it is the student’s responsibility to contact me within 24 hours after the exam. If the student fails to contact the professor within the allotted time, the student will receive a **zero**. (In almost any situation, you should be able to pass along a message to the professor via email, a roommate or a family member.) A make-up exam will not be granted without the necessary documentation justifying the absence. Late papers will lose one full letter grade for each day they are late.

Persons with Disabilities

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

Required Reading

The following required books can be purchased at Orange and Blue Textbooks:

- Peggy Levitt, *The Transnational Villagers* (University of California Press, 2001).
- Douglas Massey and Jorge Durand, *Beyond Smoke and Mirrors* (Russell Sage, 2002).
- Alex Stepick, et. al. *This Land is Our Land* (University of California Press, 2003).
- Marie Marquardt, Tim Steigenga, Philip Williams, and Manuel Vásquez, *Living Illegal: The Human Face of Unauthorized Immigration* (The New Press, 2011).

Additional required books for graduate students:

- Mae M. Ngai, *Impossible Subjects* (Princeton University Press, 2004).
- Robert Smith, *Mexican New York* (University of California Press, 2006).
- Víctor Zúñiga and Rubén Hernández-León, *New Destinations* (Russell Sage, 2005).

Schedule and Reading Assignments

Part I: Introduction to Immigration

Week 1

August 24: Introduction

Week 2

August 31: Explaining International Migration

Massey and Durand, *Smoke and Mirrors* (MD), Ch. 2.

Stephen Castles, "International Migration at the Beginning of the 21st Century: Global Trends and Issues," *International Social Science Journal* 52:165 (December 2002).

<http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi-bin/fulltext/119004112/PDFSTART>

Film: Wetback: The Undocumented Documentary

Week 3

September 7: History and Impact of Immigration to the US

Alejandro Portes and Robert Bach, "Immigration to the United States, 1890-1979," in *Latin Journey*, Alejandro Portes and Robert Bach, eds. (1985).

Charles Hirschman, "Immigration and the American Century," *Demography*, Volume 42-Number 4 (November 2005):

<http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/demography/v042/42.4hirschman.pdf>

Week 4

September 14: Assimilation and Segmented Assimilation

Richard Alba and Victor Nee, "Rethinking Assimilation Theory for a New Era of Immigration," *International Migration Review* 31:4 (Winter 1997):

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/2547416.pdf>

Alejandro Portes and Min Zhou, "The New Second Generation: Segmented Assimilation and its Variants," *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, Vol. 530 (Nov. 1993), <http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/1047678.pdf>

Part II: Mexican Immigration and Policy Considerations

Week 5

September 21: Historical Overview and General Features of Mexican Immigration

Massey and Durand (MD), Ch. 1, and 3-5.

Film: Bracero Stories

Week 6

September 28: **Exam #1 Due**

IRCA and Post-1986 Migration

MD, Ch. 6.

Thinking about Immigration Policy

MD, Ch. 7.

Samuel Huntington, "The Hispanic Challenge," *Foreign Policy* (March/April 2004):

<http://cyber.law.harvard.edu/blogs/gems/culturalagency1/SamuelHuntingtonTheHispanicC.pdf>

Alejandro Portes, A Fence to Nowhere, *The American Prospect* (October 2007): <http://borderbattles.ssrc.org/Fence%20to%20Nowhere.pdf>

Week 7

October 5: The Economic Effects of Immigration

Migration Policy Institute, "The Impact of Immigration on Native Workers: A Fresh Look at the Evidence," http://www.migrationpolicy.org/ITFIAF/TF18_Murray.pdf

Tim Bolin, "The Economic and Fiscal Impacts of Immigration,"

<http://repositories.cdlib.org/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1136&context=iir>

Immigration Enforcement

Warren Institute, "Borders, Jails, and Jobsites: An Overview of Federal Immigration Enforcement Programs in the US," February 2011, pp. 14-17, 23-26.

[http://www.law.berkeley.edu/files/WI_Enforcement_Paper_final_web\(2\).pdf](http://www.law.berkeley.edu/files/WI_Enforcement_Paper_final_web(2).pdf)

Group Presentation #1

Part III: Transnationalism

Week 8

October 12: Theorizing about Transnationalism

Nina Glick Schiller, Linda Basch and Cristina Szanton Blanc, "From Immigrant to Transmigrant: Theorizing Transnational Migration," *Anthropological Quarterly*, Vol. 68, No. 1 (Jan 1995). <http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/3317464.pdf>

Overview of Dominican Transnationalism and the Concept of Social Remittances
Levitt, Ch. 1-2.

Week 9

October 19: Family, Gender and Work Life in a Transnational Community
Levitt, Ch. 3-4.
Film: My American Girls

Week 10

October 26: Political and Religious Transnationalism
Levitt, Ch. 5-6 and conclusion.
Group Presentation #2

Part IV: Immigration and Inter-ethnic Relations in Miami

Week 11

November 2: **Exam #2 Due**
Competing for Economic and Political Power
Stepick, Ch. 1-2.

Week 12

November 9: Discrimination and Assimilation
Stepick, Ch. 4-5.
Group Presentation #3

Part V: New Destinations of Latino Immigration

Week 13

November 16: Coming to the US – Understanding Unauthorized Migration
Marquardt, Steigenga, Williams and Vasquez (MSWV), Introduction and Chs. 1-2.
Group Presentation #4

Week 14

November 23: No class

Week 15

November 30: Inter-ethnic Relations and Spaces of Encounter
MSWV, Ch. 3-4.
Group Presentation #5

Week 16

December 7: **Exam #3 Due**
Immigrant Empowerment and Mobilization
MSWV, Ch. 5 and Conclusion
Film: Brother Towns

December 12: Research Paper Due