

Sociology of Immigration

SOCI 125

Fall 2009

MWF, 11:00-11:50, Center Hall 115



Professor April Linton

Office: SSB 483

Office Hours: F 1:00-3:00, or by appointment

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Immigration originates within economic, political, cultural, and familial contexts. In immigrant-receiving societies, newcomers both deal with *and* influence these contexts. This course will focus on why people migrate and how immigrants are received and incorporated in the United States. It touches on aspects of international migration that are especially important to migrants and their relatives, including the refugee experience, changed gender/family dynamics and the development of transnational identities. You will become familiar with theory and contemporary research on these topics.

***For course documents, supplementary readings, and lecture slides, please visit WebCT
<http://webct.ucsd.edu>***

Announcements to the class will be sent via UCSD email.

Reading

- ◆ Portes, Alejandro and Rubén G. Rumbaut. 2006. ***Immigrant America: A Portrait (3rd edition)***. Berkeley, Los Angeles, and London: University of California Press (available at Groundwork Books).
- Foner, Nancy (Ed.) 2009. ***Across Generations: Immigrant Families in America***. New York and London: New York University Press (available at Groundwork Books).
- ❖ Articles on **e-reserve**, UCSD Libraries

Grades

- In-class assignments/ mini-quizzes (10%)
- Exercise – applying theories of migration and immigrant incorporation (20%)
- Midterm – multiple choice, T/F, short answer (30%)
- Final exam – take home essay (40%)

IMPORTANT NOTE: There is an optional, 2-credit service learning opportunity attached to this course. Tricia Taylor of UCSD Academic Internship Programs (AIP) will present details on the second day of class.

Participation

I expect you to attend class regularly and read the assigned texts *beforehand*. If you are absent on a day when there is an in-class assignment or mini-quiz, you MAY NOT make it up. I post handouts of lecture slides on WebCT. These are note-taking aids; they do *not* contain all the information you need to do well in the course.



This syllabus is subject to change.

Day 1 (Sept. 25)

Discuss syllabus, exercise, and service learning option; student surveys

Why do people migrate?

Week 1: Sept. 28-Oct. 2

- ◆ Portes and Rumbaut Chapters 1 and 2
- ❖ Massey Douglas S, Joaquin Arango, Hugo Graeme, Ali Kouaouci, Adela Pellegrino, and J. Edward Taylor. 1993. "Theories of International Migration: A Review and Appraisal." *Population and Development Review* 19(3):431-466.

Immigrant destinations in the U.S.

Week 2: Oct. 5-9

- ◆ Portes and Rumbaut Chapter 3
- 🎬 Film: "Displaced in the New South"

Exercise due Oct. 12

Where do immigrants work?

Week 3: Oct. 12-16

- ◆ Portes and Rumbaut Chapter 4
- ❖ Linton, April. 2002. "Immigration and the Structure of Demand: Do Immigrants Change the Labor Market Composition of US Cities?" *International Migration Review* 36:58-80.
- ❖ Tierney, John. 2006. "The Manicure Menace." *New York Times*, May 30.

Immigrant incorporation, part I

Week 4: Oct. 19-23

- ❖ Bean, Frank D., Gillian Stevens and Susan Wierzbicki . 2003. "The New Immigrants and Theories of Incorporation." Chapter 5 in *America's Newcomers and the Dynamics of Diversity* by Frank D. Bean and Gillian Stevens.
- ◆ Portes and Rumbaut Chapters 5 & 6

A study guide for the midterm will be posted on Web CT on Oct. 23.

Week 5

Oct. 26: Guest Speaker Kathi Anderson, Survivors of Torture International

Oct. 28: Guest speaker – Joseph Jok, International Rescue Committee

Oct. 30: *MIDTERM EXAM*

Immigrant incorporation, Part II

Week 6: Nov. 2-6

◆ Portes and Rumbaut Chapter 7

❖ Linton, April. “Language Politics and Policy in the United States: Implications for the Immigration Debate.” Forthcoming in *International Journal of the Sociology of Language*. (not required reading, posted on WebCT)

Nov. 6: Guest Speaker Travis Silva, UCSD CILAS and MMFRP

Immigration in the context of families and gender relations

Week 7: Nov. 9-13

◆ Portes and Rumbaut Chapter 8

NO CLASS ON NOV. 11 – VETERANS DAY

○ Foner Ch. 1 (Min Zhou)

Week 8: Nov. 16-20

○ Foner Ch. 2 (Yen Le Espiritu)

○ Foner Ch. 4 (Nazli Kibria)

○ Foner Ch. 7 (Cecilia Menjivar and Leisy Abrego)

Transnationalism

Week 9: Nov. 23-25

This week’s first lecture will comprehensively discuss transnationalism .

❖ Levitt, Peggy. 2009. *God Needs No Passport: Immigrants and the Changing Religious Landscape*. Chapter 2: “Transnational Lives.” New York: The New Press.

NO CLASS ON NOV. 27 – THANKSGIVING BREAK

How should sociologists of immigration focus our future efforts? Research and policy recommendations

Week 10: Nov. 30-Dec. 4

- ❖ Portes, Alejandro and Patricia Fernández-Kelly. 2008. "No Margin for Error: Educational and Occupational Achievement among Disadvantaged Children of Immigrants." Forthcoming in *ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* (posted on Web CT)
- ◆ Portes and Rumbaut Chapter 10

The final exam will be posted on WebCT on Dec. 4. It is due Tues. Dec. 8 at 2:30 pm. You may turn it in (1) via WebCT or (2) on paper to the sociology office (SSB 401) or (3) in Prof. Linton's office on 12/8 between 11:00 and 2:30

Late assignments or exams will be graded down 5 points per day.