

Immigration and Citizenship
Topics in Sociological Analysis (920:393:02)
CAC, Murray Hall Room 212
Monday/Wednesday, 4:30-5:50 p.m.
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Fall 2015
SYLLABUS

Professor Judith Gerson
Departments of Sociology, and Women's and Gender Studies
Office: Davison Hall, Room 139, Douglass Campus
Office Hours: Wednesday 3:15 – 4:15 Art History Library; by appointment
Email: gerson@rci.rutgers.edu

Course Overview:

This course opens with an overview of migration patterns to and from the United States, comparing these patterns to other world regions at various points in time. What factors best describe immigrants and their life circumstances? How can we best understand the causes of migration? In the U.S., why were the years 1882, 1924 and 1965 pivotal? What distinguishes immigrants from refugees, and both immigrants and refugees from internally displaced people? Why and how do distinctions between legal from illegal aliens matter? Does The Dream Act effectively address immigration issues in the U.S.? Is the current refugee crisis comparable to earlier crises?

The class examines a variety of sources steeped in empirical evidence of immigration patterns and aims to provide an extensive introduction to the field of study. Gradually we integrate a variety of perspectives that will enable us to interpret the evidence before us. The course asks students to grapple with knowledge of immigration and citizenship on multiple levels—micro and macro, individual and collective, cultural and structural. Throughout the semester, we encounter ideas that engage questions pertaining to social, political and economic conditions; social movements; the law; human rights; gender, race, and nation; non-governmental organizations among others. Lastly the class considers ideas of national belonging and citizenship, paying particular attention to the social forces most likely to produce and preclude a sense of belonging.

Seminar Requirements:

This class will be conducted as a working seminar. That means everyone must come to class having read the assigned readings and prepared to actively participate in a discussion of the texts. Students will demonstrate their knowledge through sustained, active class participation (20%), five critical reading essays (best five out of six essays—30%), and two essay exams written either as a take-home or in-class exam (50%). A detailed explanation of all these requirements will be presented in class.

Please note that more than two unexcused absences during the semester will result in a lower grade with a 2 percent reduction for each additional class missed.

Lastly students will have the opportunity to attend one co-curricular event on immigration and citizenship for extra credit ranging from 1 to 3 percent of their final grade. One such opportunity is the all-day conference, "Africa, Europe and the Mediterranean Migration Crisis", to be held on October 16, 2015 at Rutgers. Details for this conference and other events will be circulated as soon as possible.

Learning Goals:

1. Students will understand the sociological perspective, a distinctive analysis of the ways people think, feel, and behave that focuses on how they are situated in historically, culturally, and socially specific environments.
2. Students will understand key questions addressed by the discipline and the ways in which social structure and social interaction shape human behavior.
3. Students will develop the skills necessary to read and evaluate social science research in an intelligent and critical manner.
4. Students will understand the role of theory in the construction of sociological inquiry. Majors will demonstrate a solid grasp of the central ideas of major classical and contemporary theorists.
5. Students will understand sociological methods of research. Majors will achieve a solid understanding of the full research process, including conceptualization, operationalization, data collection, analysis, consideration of ethical issues, and presentation of results.
6. Students will use the above learning goals to develop their knowledge of immigration and citizenship. Students will understand dominant patterns of migration and be able to analyze the key factors associated with contemporary migration.
7. Students will be able to analyze ideas of citizenship and national belonging as they have been socially and culturally constructed in a variety of institutional settings.

Codes of Conduct:

This class strives to create and sustain an environment that supports and affirms diversity in all manifestations, including but not limited to race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, social class, (dis)ability, region/country of origin, and political orientation. Students must conduct themselves with complete

respect for all class members and for the learning process. We will not tolerate any deliberate or unthinking violations of these principles, and will actively seek ways to correct and resolve all such infractions. Any and all violations of the rules of civil conduct including disregard for others, disengagement and disruption including the unauthorized use of electronic devices will risk having significant grade penalties and formal complaints filed with the university.

All students with special needs will be accommodated. Students are encouraged to speak with the instructor early during the term. To make appropriate arrangements, please contact the Office of Disability Services at the Kreeger Learning Center, located at 151 College Avenue or access their office through <http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu>.

All work for this course must adhere to the specific practices and ethos of the University's policy on academic integrity, which should be read at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/>. Full compliance with the academic integrity policy is mandatory. Failure to adhere to the specific rules and regulations as well as the overall intent of the policy will result in a failing grade.

Students are expected to attend all classes. You must use the University absence reporting website <https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/> to indicate the date and reason for your absence. Students with more than two unexcused absences will have their final grade lowered by 2 percent for each additional day missed.

Required Readings:

All readings must be completed before the class in which they will be discussed. The two books cited below are available for purchase at New Jersey Books, 39 Easton Avenue, New Brunswick and are also available on two-hour library reserve at Alexander Library. All other readings are available on Sakai.

Abdi, Cawo M. 2015. *Elusive Jannah: The Somali Diaspora and a Borderless Muslim Identity*. Minneapolis and London: University of Minnesota Press.

Dreby, Joanna. 2015. *Everyday Illegal: When Policies Undermine Immigrant Families*. Berkeley and London: University of California Press.

Schedule of Required Readings and Assignments:

September 2 Course Overview

Part I: Contemporary Issues and Evidence

September 8 The Refugee Crisis at this Moment

Read two articles from The New York Times, the Los Angeles Times or the Washington Post published in September 2015 on the current refugee crisis. Come to class prepared to briefly present what you learned.

September 9

Global Patterns

"Top 10 Migration Issues of 2014." Washington, D.C.: Migration Policy Institute.
<http://www.migrationpolicy.org/programs/migration-information-source/top-10-migration-issues-2014>

Townsend, Jacob and Christel Oomen. 2015. Before the Boat: Understanding the Migrant Journey. Washington, D.C.: Migration Policy Institute.
<http://www.migrationpolicy.org/research/boat-understanding-migrant-journey>

September 14 and 16

Global Patterns, continued

The Population Research Bureau's Report on "Global Migration Trends Infographics and the vide, "Global Challenge of Managing Migration."
[http://www. Migrationpolicy.org/research/boat-understanding-migrant-journey](http://www.Migrationpolicy.org/research/boat-understanding-migrant-journey)

Critical Reading Essay # 1

September 8, 9 and 14

Due September 16 or 21

Part II: Foundational Concepts, Structures, Processes and Perspectives

September 21

The Basics of Citizenship

Tilly, Charles. 1997. "A Primer on Citizenship." *Theory and Society* 26:599-602.

Aptekar, Sofya. 2015. The Road to Citizenship: What Naturalization Means for Immigrants and the United States. New Brunswick and London: Rutgers University Press.

The Roads to Citizenship, pp. 13 – 45; pp. 146 -147

Naturalization in Theory and Practice, 130 – 140

September 28

Foundational Concepts Revised

Waldinger, Roger. 2015. The Cross-Border Connection: Immigrants, Emigrants, and Their Homelands. Cambridge, MA and London: Harvard University Press.

"The Dialectic of Emigration and Immigration", pp. 36 – 56; p. 190

"Cross-Border Ties: Keeping and Losing the Connection", pp. 55 – 81,190-1.

September 30 Cultural Citizenship

Ong, Aihwa. 1996. "Cultural Citizenship as Subject-Making: Immigrant Boundaries in the United States." *Current Anthropology* 37:737-62.

Anderson, Benedict. 1991. *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*. London and New York: Verso

"Census, Map, Museum", pp. 163 – 185

Critical Reading Essay # 2

September 21, 28 and 30

Due September 30

Part III: Immigration and Intimate Relations

October 5 Law, Policy and Family Life

Dreby, Joanna. 2015. *Everyday Illegal: When Policies Undermine Immigrant Families*, pages 1 - 97.

October 7 Law, Policy and Family Life, continued

Dreby, Joanna. 2015. *Everyday Illegal: When Policies Undermine Immigrant Families*, pages 98 - 195.

October 12 Gender

Thai, Hung Cam. 2006. "Money and Masculinity among Low Wage Vietnamese Immigrants in Transnational Families." *International Journal of Sociology of the Family* 32:247-71.

Das Gupta, Monisha. 2014. "'Don't Deport Our Daddies': Gendering State Deportation Practices and Immigrant Organizing." *Gender & Society* 28:83-109.

Gardner, Martha. 2005. *The Qualities of a Citizen: Women, Immigration, and Citizenship, 1870 – 1965*. Princeton and Oxford: Princeton University Press.

"Families, Made in America", pp. 223 – 239

Critical Reading Essay #3

October 5, 7 and 12

Due October 12

October 19 Exam Review

October 21 First Essay Exam (Take-home or In-class)

Part IV: Racial Ethnic Formations

October 26 Race, Ethnicity and Governmentality

Lee, Catherine. 2010. "'Where the Danger Lies': Race, Gender and Chinese and Japanese Exclusion the United States, 1870-1924." *Sociological Forum* 25:248-71.

October 28 Beyond Binaries?

Dhingra, Pawan H. 2003. "Being American between Black and White: Second-Generation Asian American Professional's Racial Identities." *Journal of Asian American Studies* 6:117-47.

November 2 Beyond Binaries, continued

Nee, Victor and Hilary Holbrow. 2013. "Why Asian Americans are Becoming Mainstream." *Dædalus* 142:65-75.

Bean, Frank D., Jennifer Lee and James D. Bachmeier. 2013. "Immigration & the Color Line at the Beginning of the 21st Century." *Dædalus* 142:123-40.

November 4 Racial Ethnic Politics

Maira, Sunaina Marr. 2009. *Missing Youth, Citizenship, and Empire after 9/11*. Durham and London: Duke University Press.

"Cultural Citizenship", Chapter 2, pp. 76-94; 296-7

"Transnational Citizenship: Flexibility and Control", Chapter 3, pp. 95-127; 297

Critical Reading Essay #4

October 26, 28, November 2 and 4

Due November 4

November 11 The Complexities of Ethnicity and Immigration

Abdi, Cawo M. 2015. *Elusive Jannah: The Somali Diaspora and a Borderless Muslim Identity*, pp. 1-110.

November 16 The Complexities of Ethnicity and Immigration, continued

Abdi, Cawo M. 2015. *Elusive Jannah: The Somali Diaspora and a Borderless Muslim Identity*, pp. 111-242.

Critical Reading Essay #5

November 11 and 16

Due November 16

November 18 Second Exam Review

November 23 Second Essay Exam (Take-home or in-class)

Part V: Contemporary Complexities

November 30 Multiple Citizenships and a Sense of Belonging

Sejersen, Tanja Brønsted. 2008. "I Vow to Thee My Countries;: The Expansion of Dual Citizenship in the 21st Century." *International Migration Review* 42:523-49.

Marrow, Helen B. 2013. "Assimilation in New Destinations." *Dædalus* 142:107-22.

December 2 Looking Back, Looking Forward

Sassen, Saskia. 1989. "America's Immigration 'Problem.'" *World Policy Journal* 6: 811-32

Massey, Douglas S. 2013. "America's Immigration Policy Fiasco: Learning from Past Mistakes." *Dædalus* 142:5-15.

December 9 Looking Back, Looking Forward, continued

Waters, Mary C. 2014. "Ethnic Identities in the Future: The Possible Effects of Mass Immigration and Genetic Testing." *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 37:766-69.

Levitt, Laura. 2012. "What's Wrong with Migration Scholarship? A Critique and a Way Forward." *iFirst*:1 – 8.

Critical Reading Essay #6

November 30, December 2 and 9

Due December 9