

**U.S. Ethnic Politics
Political Science 245 / Chicano/Latino Studies 235
Winter 2013**

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Office Hours: Tuesday 3:30-5, and by appointment

Course Goals and Objectives

This course assesses the major theories of ethnic political attitudes and behaviors in U.S. politics and examines various methodological approaches to testing theories of ethnic politics. Although the primary focus is the contemporary conduct of ethnic politics (that driven by groups that began to migrate in large numbers after the 1965 amendments to the immigration law), we will also assess the role of ethnic politics in American political development.

The course will revolve around three interrelated questions:

- 1) How have ethnic communities been constructed historically and how are they today?
- 2) What independent role does ethnicity play in contemporary political mobilization and behavior?
- 3) Are contemporary ethnic groups internally cohesive and, to the extent that they are, do they have a sufficient sense of their own needs to create sustainable multi-ethnic/multi-racial coalitions (whether at the local or national level)?

Time prevents us from specifically examining theories of Black politics in the United States. Throughout the course, however, we will make comparisons between the ways the scholarship has understood African American politics and non-Black minority politics.

Student Evaluation

All students will be expected to attend class sessions and actively participate in class discussions. Each student will also be expected to take responsibility for leading one class session. This "leader" should be prepared to present a brief (15 to 20 minute) summary at the beginning of the class s/he is responsible for of the key theories and methods explored in each of the class readings. The leader should also prepare three to five questions for class discussion. These questions should be distributed by email the day before class.

Assignments for these leadership roles will be made during the first week of class. Please email me your top two preferences by January 9.

Each student will also be responsible for completing a research paper of 25 to 30 pages on a topic proposed by the student and approved by me. I am very flexible on topics and methodological approaches, but I would encourage you to begin thinking about a topic soon and having some preliminary ideas to me by January 18 at the latest (this may require reading

ahead if you are new to this literature). Realistically, in order to complete the paper by the end of finals week, you will need an approved research topic by the end of the end of January. I am very happy to work with you on a research project that you have already begun for another class, though I will expect that you add substantially to what you have already begun.

Students will also be expected to make an oral presentation about their research topic and findings on the last day of class (note that this may be during final's week because of the two class sessions missed due to University holidays). The format for these presentations will be similar to a conference presentation—a 12-15 minute presentation on your research question, data, and findings. If topics lend themselves to it, I will try to organize "panels" of similar research topics. I will be happy to serve as (or recruit a) discussant if I have the papers in advance.

Course Readings and Schedule

The books are available for purchase at the bookstore and are on reserve at the library. I've posted the articles to the class web site (many are available through JSTOR).

Week One (January 7) – Introduction and Overview

Week Two (January 14) – Constructing U.S. Racial and Ethnic Identities: Competing Models

I will ask half of the students to read Fuchs and half to read Smith. To the extent that you are interested in ethnicity and American political development, you should consider also reading the other volume as well. I would expect students taking Political Science field exams in American politics to have read both books by the time of the advancement.

Rogers M. Smith. 1997. *Civic Ideals: Conflicting Visions of Citizenship in U.S. History*. New Haven: Yale University Press.

or

Lawrence H. Fuchs. 1990. *The American Kaleidoscope: Race, Ethnicity, and the Civic Culture*. Hanover: University Press of New England.

Week Three – No Class (Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday)

Week Four (January 28) – European Ethnics: Pluralism and its Discontents

Dahl, Robert A. 1961. *Who Governs? Democracy and Power in an American City*. New Haven: Yale University Press.

Wolfinger, Raymond. 1965. "The Development and Persistence of Ethnic Voting." *American Political Science Review* 59 (4) (December): 896-908.
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/1953212.pdf>.

Parenti, Michael. 1967. "Ethnic Politics and the Persistence of Ethnic Identification." *American Political Science Review* 61 (3) (September): 717-726.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/1976090.pdf>.

Marcus L. Hansen. 1938. *The Problem of the Third Generation Immigrant*. Rock Island, IL: Augustana Historical Society (pp. 5-20).

Alba, Richard. 2009. *Blurring the Color Line: The New Chance for a More Integrated America*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, chapter 3, "Solving the Puzzle: A New Theory of Boundary Change," pp. 52-89.

Week Five (February 4) – Legacies of Exclusion and Identity Formation among Contemporary Immigrant/Ethnic Populations

Telles, Edward, and Vilma Ortiz. 2008. *Generations of Exclusion: Mexican Americans, Assimilation, and Race*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation Press.

Katznelson, Ira, and Suzanne Mettler. 2008. "On Race and Policy History: A Dialogue About the G.I. Bill." *Perspectives on Politics* 6 (3) (September): 519-537.
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/20446759.pdf>.

Shannon Gleeson and Roberto G. Gonzales. 2012. "When Do Papers Matter? An Institutional Analysis of Undocumented Life in the United States?" *International Migration* 50 [4].
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1468-2435.2011.00726.x/pdf>.

Week Six (February 11) – Panethnicity in the Formation of Contemporary Ethnic Politics

Cristina Beltrán. 2010. *The Trouble With Unity: Latino Politics and the Creation of Identity*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Junn, Jane, and Natalie Masuoka. 2008. "Asian American Identity: Shared Racial Status and Political Context." *Perspectives on Politics* (December): 729-740.
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/20446825.pdf>.

Wayne A. Santoro and Gary M. Segura. 2011. "Generational Status and Mexican American Political Participation: The Benefits and Limits of Assimilation." *Political Research Quarterly* 64 [1]: 172-184. <http://prq.sagepub.com/content/64/1/172.full.pdf+html>.

Week Seven (February 18) – No Class (Presidents' Day Holiday)

Week Eight (February 25) – Panethnic Political Behavior and Attitudes

Please read one of the following books:

Luis Fraga, et. al. 2012. *Latinos in the New Millennium: An Almanac of Opinion, Behavior, and Policy*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

or

Janelle Wong, et. al. 2011. *Asian American Political Participation: Emerging Constituents and Their Political Identities*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.

and

Natalie Masuoka. 2006. "Together They Become One: Examining Predictors of Panethnic Group Consciousness Among Asian Americans and Latinos." *Social Science Quarterly* 87 (5): 993-1011.

Chong, Dennis, and Dukhong Kim. 2006. "The Experiences and Effects of Economic Status Among Racial and Ethnic Minorities." *American Political Science Review* 100 (3) (August): 335-351. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/27644359.pdf>.

Week Nine (March 4) – Institutional Mobilization

Matt Barreto. 2012. *Ethnic Cues: The Role of Shared Ethnicity in Latino Political Participation*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.

Matt Barreto; Gary M. Segura; and Nathan D. Woods. 2004. "The Mobilizing Effect of Majority-Minority Districts on Latino Turnout." *American Political Science Review* 98 (1) (February): 65-75. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/4145297.pdf>

Louis DeSipio. 2011. "Immigrant Incorporation in an Era of Weak Civic Institutions: Immigrant Civic and Political Participation in the United States." *American Behavioral Scientist* 55 [9] [September]: 1189-1213. <http://abs.sagepub.com/content/55/9/1189.full.pdf+html>.

Daniel Stevens and Benjamin G. Bishin. 2011. "Getting Out the Vote: Minority Mobilization in a Presidential Election." *Political Behavior* 33: 113-138. http://download.springer.com/static/pdf/386/art%253A10.1007%252Fs11109-010-9128-7.pdf?auth66=1355001126_475afb14432d313096111b377d1af200&ext=.pdf.

Week Ten (March 11) – A New Racial/Ethnic Order? Building Blocks

Jennifer Hochschild, Vesla Weaver, and Traci Burch. 2012. *Creating a New Racial Order: How Immigration, Multiracialism, Genomics, and the Young Can Remake America*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Frédéric Douzet. 2012. *The Color of Power: Racial Coalitions and Political Power in Oakland*. Charlottesville, VA: University of Virginia Press.

Richard Alba and Tariqul Islam. 2009. "The Case of the Disappearing Mexican Americans: An Ethnic-Identity Mystery." *Population Research Policy Review* 28: 109-121. http://download.springer.com/static/pdf/608/art%253A10.1007%252Fs11113-008-9081-x.pdf?auth66=1355001002_f059b3f7a7610557fedb2612a7760f6d&ext=.pdf.

Make-Up Class (Date/Time Negotiable) – Conclusions: Comparative Perspectives & Student Research Presentations

Maurice Crul and John Mollenkopf. 2012. *The Changing Face of World Cities: Young Adult Children of Immigrants in Europe and the United States*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.