

TRANSNATIONAL MIGRATION

WINTER 2012
ANTHROPOLOGY 235A (60850) CHC/LAT (61915)

SYLLABUS

Professor: Leo R. Chavez
Office: SBSG 3300
Office Hours: Monday 12:30-1:45; & by appointment.

Room: SBSG 3200
Day & Time: Weds 9-11:50

This course will examine theories for the causes and continuation of international migration. It will also examine in detail empirical studies and ethnographies of transnational migration to the United States and various other countries. Various aspects of the immigrant experience will be examined in order to explore how specific theoretical issues are examined empirically. These issues include transnationalism, citizenship, national imaginings and immigrants, race, identity, and multiculturalism, gendered differences in migration and settlement, class differences, the migration of indigenous groups, identity formation, nativism, and issues of representation. Discussions will entail an examination of methods used, disciplinary differences, selection of problem, effectiveness of argumentation, and data presentation.

GRADING

Grading will be based on class attendance, weekly questions, discussion participation, and final paper assignments.

Class Attendance (10%) Attendance is **required**. The format is a graduate seminar that requires active participation and discussion. Class attendance is an important part of your learning, and therefore, your grade. Throughout the course, you should be developing your ability to compare and contrast different perspectives; to recognize when patterns of evidence support or challenge assumptions and hypotheses; to consider how research findings might be applied; to identify methodological problems in research studies and generate ideas for future research; to think critically. There will be no way to make up for the loss of points incurred by missing class meetings.

Weekly Questions (10%): Generating one question/comment per each assigned reading is **required**. This assignment will help you to think critically as you complete the assigned readings and serve as your prepared contribution to subsequent class discussion. To obtain credit for completing this class requirement, you need to email your questions to me before class. There will be no way to make up for the loss of points incurred by missing or late weekly questions. Late questions can be used for class discussion but will receive zero points.

Discussion Participation (20%): All students will be assigned to lead the discussions on 1 of the weekly readings. Discussion lead assignments are chosen randomly, although effort is made to distribute longer and shorter readings evenly. Discussion is

central to the class. Everyone must come prepared to discuss readings and incorporate what they are learning into their medical training and patient-based experiences. It is also imperative that everyone show courtesy toward fellow classmates at all times. Do not interrupt others and seek to handle disagreements in a respectful manner. On a more general note, all students are expected to conduct themselves during the class in a manner that does not interfere with the educational experience of other students in the course. That means arriving for class on time and turning off cellular phones, pagers, and other electronic devices that might disrupt class discussion. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Final paper (60%): **Students will write a paper.** DUE: TBA

Papers should be 10 -12 pages in length, analyzing a topic relevant to the course. Paper must include a framework that includes, in part or wholly, ideas from the course readings. The paper is to be in the style of an article or book chapter.

A second paper option: FIVE short analytic papers (3-5 pages each) discussing one week's readings. Students can select which weeks' readings to write papers on. However, papers are due the week of the readings chosen. Each paper should be a critical discussion of the readings for the week rather than a summary. We will have read the assigned readings, and so extensive summary is not necessary. Papers should concentrate on the themes or ideas that weave throughout the readings, how they reinforce each other or contradict each other, or build upon previous readings.

Required Books: Selected chapters from some.

Leo R. Chavez, *The Latino Threat*, 2008, Stanford University Press.

Hans Lucht, *Darkness Before Daybreak: African Migrants Living on the Margins in Southern Italy Today*. UC Press, 2012.

Pardis Mahdavi, *Gridlock: Labor, Migration, and Human Trafficking in Dubai*. Stanford University Press. 2011.

Patricia Foxen's *In Search of Providence*, Vanderbilt University Press, 2008

NOTE: check for books at amazon.com. Usually discounted.

Articles available on class website: <https://eee.uci.edu/11s/60750>

WEEKLY READING SCHEDULE

Week 1: Jan 11 Introduction to the course

Overview of Transnational Migration and world demographics

Read: Chavez, "Culture change and cultural reproduction: Lessons from research on transnational migration."

Week 2: Jan 18 Theoretical Elaborations

Brettell chapter on Migration Theory and Anthropology in Brettell and Hollifield, *Migration Theory*

Douglas S. Massey, Jorge Durand, and Nolan J. Malone, Chapter 2 in *Beyond Smoke and Mirrors*.

Glick Schiller on Transnationalism

Alejandro Portes, "Immigration Theory for a new century."

Marsten, the social construction of scale

Week 3: Jan 25 Citizenship

Saskia Sassen "The Repositioning of Citizenship"

Renato Rosaldo, Cultural citizenship, Inequality, and Multiculturalism.

Aihwa Ong, Cultural Citizenship.

Linda Bosniak, "Universal Citizenship and the Problem of Alienage."

Reed-Danahay and Brettell, Introduction, *Citizenship, Political Engagement, and Belonging*.

Week 4: Feb 1 Belonging

READ: Nira Yuval-Davis, "Belonging and the Politics of Belonging."

Chavez, *The Latino Threat*. Introduction and Chapters 1 and 2, 6, 7.

-Carlos Sandoval Garcia, Contested Discourses on National Identity: Representing Nicaraguan Immigration to Costa Rica.

-Tsuda, Domesticating the Immigrant Other

- Paul A. Silverstein, Immigrant Racialization and the New Savage Slot: Race, Migration, and Immigration in the New Europe. *Annual Review of Anthropology*, 2005.

-NY Times, Japan foreign workers
 -LA Times Turks Germany

WEEK 5: Feb 8 Phenomenology, Embodied Experiences, Subjectivity

READ: Csordas, Embodiment as a Paradigm for Anthropology. *Ethos* 18(1):5-47, 1990

Sarah Willen 2007. Toward a Critical Phenomenology of "Illegality": State Power, Criminality and Abjectivity Among Undocumented Migrant Workers in Tel Aviv, Israel. *International Migration* 45 (3):8-38.

Gonzales and Chavez, "Awakening to a nightmare." *Current Anthropology*, 2012 [forthcoming]

Recommended: Merleau-Ponty, *Phenomenology of Perception*, selected chapters

Week 6: Feb 15 Reproduction, Citizenship

READ: Chavez, Chapters 3 and 4 in *The Latino Threat*.

Anwen Tormey, "Everyone With Eyes Can See The Problem": Moral Citizens and the Space of Irish Nationhood"

Bledsoe, *Reproduction at the Margins: Migration and Legitimacy in the New Europe*. *Demographic Research* 2004.

Peutz, *An Anthropology of Removal*. *Currant Anthropology*

WEEK 7: Feb 22 Transnational Families

READ: HONDAGNEU-SOTELO, Pierrette, Neither here nor there: transnational motherhood

Jennifer Hirsch, *En El Norte, La Mujer Manda*

Boehm, Deborah A. 2008. "For My Children": Constructing Family and Navigating the State in the U.S.-Mexico Transnation. *Anthropological Quarterly* 81 (4):777-802.

Menjívar, Cecilia, and Leisy Abrego. 2009. Parents and Children Across Borders: Legal Instability and Intergenerational Relations in Salvadoran and Guatemalan Families. In *Across Generations: Immigrant Families in America*, edited by N. Foner. pp. 160-189. New York: New York University Press.

Parrenas, Rhacel. 2005. *Long distance intimacy Class, gender and intergenerational relations between mothers and children in Filipino transnational families; Global Networks*, 5 (4): 317-336; 2005.

Week 8: Feb 29 The Aftermath of Political Upheaval

READ: Patricia Foxen's *In Search of Providence*, Vanderbilt University Press, 2008
Preface, Chapter 1, [skim 2 + 3], read 4, 5, 6

Week 9: March 7 Africa and Europe and Immigration Control

Read: Hans Lucht, *Darkness before Daybreak*, selected chapters

Week 10: March 14 Human Trafficking

Read: Pardis Mahdavi, *Gridlock: Labor, Migration, and Human Trafficking in Dubai*.
Stanford University Press, 2011. Selected chapters.