

GEOGRAPHIES OF MIGRATION

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Office Hours: **M** 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm; **W** 11:00 – 12:00 noon, or by appointment
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This course will examine theoretical debates surrounding how patterns of migration and refugee movements are shaped by, and engender socio-political and economic changes from and interdisciplinary and cross-cultural perspective. Additionally, we will explore implications of contemporary “transnational” movements for notions of diaspora, culture, citizenship and identities. The course will examine different migration geographies and diasporas, by comparing case studies from various regions of the world. We will explore a number of themes surrounding these issues through extensive critical readings of selected articles, books and book chapters.

SEMINAR MEETINGS: WEDNESDAYS 2:25 – 5:25p.m. Rm. 378 Science Hall

ORGANIZATION

I assume that students will come to the course with a mixture of common interests and diverse specific learning objectives. With this in mind, I have organized the course according to selected interrelated themes of interest and in a format that will require students to take a lead role in class discussion.

REQUIRED READINGS

Readings for class discussion can be accessed on-line through the Geography Library website. A paper copy of the readings will also be on reserve in the Geography Library. Books may be purchased at the University Bookstore.

COURSE EVALUATION

		<u>Important Dates</u>
MAJOR PAPERS	40%	
Option #1 – Major Research paper (20 pgs)		(Due Friday, May 7)
• Proposal and Bibliography (10%)		(Due February 25)
• Paper presentation (10%)		(April 28 & May 5)
Option #2 – Two shorter papers (10 pgs)		
CLASS PRESENTATION	15%	
WEEKLY COMMENTARIES	25%	
<u>PARTICIPATION IN SEMINAR</u>	<u>20%</u>	
TOTAL	100%	

FINAL RESEARCH PAPER

The paper can be on any topic but should relate broadly to the themes discussed in the course. The length of the paper should be 20 - 25 pages for graduate students (excluding references). The format is also flexible: it might be a critical literature review of a body of research, a secondary empirical analysis of a chosen topic, or even your own primary research. The important common requirement is a demonstrated ability to assemble and peruse relevant literature, to synthesize it clearly, to critically evaluate its usefulness, to identify tensions or questions that arise, and to write a carefully edited and coherent essay. A research proposal and preliminary bibliography is due on February 25th. The final paper is due Friday May 7th.

PAPER PRESENTATION

The last two weeks of class will be devoted to class presentation in which each student will present their own papers (15 to 20 minute presentations) and serve as discussants on at least one other paper. There will be an open discussion period after each paper or set of papers are presented. These discussions will assist the authors to clarify and refine their arguments in their papers. The presentation and discussion will hopefully assist in the preparation of final papers.

SHORTER PAPERS

Students will write two 10-page papers: (i) a critical review of one of the topics discussed in class (but with additional readings), and (ii) a critical review of a topic not covered in course readings. The length of the papers does not include the bibliography.

WEEKLY COMMENTARIES

Your commentaries should be a statement of your reactions to the readings. These are **NOT** meant to be summaries of the readings but rather thoughtful commentaries and questions for discussion, comparisons with other readings, and/or your personal reflections on the readings. You may point out strengths and weaknesses, relate the current readings to previous readings or other materials, and/or comment in light of your own personal and research experiences. Some starting points of reflection may be: What you think the central controversy or question is and your response to it? What does the reading mean to you and how does it relate to your life (i.e. support or contradict your personal knowledge experiences). What is the relevance of the material or concepts explored? Are historical, political, economic, social factors, issues of race, class, and gender, given appropriate consideration? You will be required to e-mail me the one-page entries (entries longer than one page will not be accepted) beginning the week of January 28th. Please e-mail them to me at the latest 2 hours before class time. These summaries will not be an assessment of the 'quality' of your reaction – they will be awarded for reasonable effort to come to terms with some aspect of the reading and to articulate that reaction in a coherent statement. The **PURPOSE** is to encourage you to read carefully, and consider **CRITICALLY**, the literature being explored and to **ARTICULATE** your thoughts on paper.

PRESENTATION AND PARTICIPATION IN SEMINAR

As indicated above, your active participation in the seminar represents a significant percentage of your final grade. There are thirteen weeks of seminar discussions. Each week, each student will be required to lead and facilitate class discussion. Your presentation (about 15 minutes) should provide a short synthesis of the reading, a critical evaluation of its ideas and approaches and questions that arise for discussion. Feel free to be creative in the way you lead class discussion. The class discussion format assumes that the relationship between all participants is collegial. Major differences in background and theoretical inclination that may become evident - as they often do in seminars - are to be faced openly and debated, but without any element of interpersonal

rancor, or comments that might service to close off discussion. At the beginning of each class, I will set the context for the ensuing discussion.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND READINGS*

January 21 **Introduction to the course**

INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

- January 28** **International migration: issues and trends**
Readings: Castles, Stephen and Mark J. Miller 1998. The Age of Migration. Introduction and Chapter 1, 4, 5
Silvey, R. and V. Lawson 1999. "Placing the Migrant." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 89: 121-132.
- February 4** **Theories of International Migration**
Readings: Massey, Douglas 1999. International Migration at the Dawn of the Twenty-First Century: The Role of the State. *Population and Development Review* 25(2):303-322. ONLINE
Massey, Douglas et al. 1993. "Theories of International Migration: A Review and Appraisal." *Population and Development Review* 19(3):431-46. ONLINE
Portes, A. and J. Borocz. 1989. Contemporary Immigration: Theoretical Perspectives on its Determinants and Modes of Incorporation. *International Migration Review* 23: 606-629. ONLINE
- February 11** **Theories continued: Gender and Migration**
Hondagneu-Sotelo, P. 1994. *Gendered Transitions: Mexican Experiences of Immigration*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press.

IMMIGRATION AND SETTLEMENT

- February 18** **Immigration and the Labor Market**
Readings: Zhou, Min. 1997. Segmented Assimilation: Issues, controversies and recent research on the new second generation. *International Migration Review* 31: 975-1008.
Samers, M. 1998. Immigration, 'Ethnic Minorities' and 'Social Exclusion' in the European Union: a critical perspective. *Geoforum* 29: 123-144.
Peck, Jamie and Nik Theodore. 2001. Contingent Chicago: restructuring the spaces of temporary labor. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 25(3): 471-496.
Pratt, G. 1999 "From Registered Nurse to Registered Nanny: Discursive Geographies of Filipina Domestic Workers in Vancouver, BC." *Economic Geography* 75: 215-36.

February 25

Networks and Integration of Newcomers

Readings: Menjivar, Cecilia 2000. *Fragmented Ties: Salvadoran Immigrant Networks in America*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press

MIGRATION AND TRANSNATIONALISM

March 3

Transnationalism: Theoretical Issues

Readings: Glick Schiller et al. 1995. "From Immigrant to Transmigrant: Theorizing Transnational Migration." *Anthropological Quarterly* 68: 48-63.
Portes, A., L. Guarnizo and P. Landolt. 1999. "The Study of Transnationalisms: pitfalls and promise of an emergent research field." *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 22:217-237.
Other readings: TBA

March 10

Critiques of Transnationalism

Foner, N. 1997. "What's New about Transnationalism? New York Immigrants Today and at the Turn of the Century." *Diaspora* 6: 355-375.
Kivisto, P. 2001. "Theorizing Transnational Immigration: a critical review of current efforts." *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 24: 549-577.
Vertovec, Steven. 1999. Conceiving and Researching Transnationalism. *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 22: 447-462.

March 17

SPRING RECESS - NO CLASSES

March 24

Case Studies

Readings: Levitt, Peggy 2001. *Transnational Villagers*. Berkeley. University of California Press.
Bailey et al. 2002. (Re)producing Salvadoran Transnational Geographies. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 92:125-144.
Olwig, Karen Fog. 2003. "Transnational" socio-cultural systems and ethnographic research: View from an extended field site. *International Migration Review* 37: 787
Itzigsohn, J. and Giorguli Saucedo, S. 2002. Immigrant incorporation and sociocultural transnationalism. *International Migration Review* 36:766-799

March 31

Gender and Transnationalism

Parrenas, Rhacel 2001. *Servants of Globalization: Women, Migration and Domestic Work*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press.
Mahler, S. and Pessar, P. 2001. Gendered Geographies of Power: Analyzing Gender Across Transnational Spaces. *Identities* 7: 441-459.
Kempadoo, K. 2001. Women of Color and the Global Sex Trade: Transnational Feminist Perspectives. *Meridians* 1: 38-51.
Fouron, Georges and N. Glick Schiller. 2001. All in the Family: Gender, Transnational Migration and the Nation-State. *Identities* 7:539-582.

TRANSNATIONAL AND DIASPORA ACTIVITIES

April 7

Transnationalism and Citizenship

Readings: Ong, A. 1999. *Flexible Citizenship: The Cultural Logics of Transnationality*. Duke University Press.

Waters, J. 2003. Flexible citizens? Transnationalism and citizenship among economic migrants in Vancouver. *Canadian Geographer* 47:219-234.

Kofman, E. and K. England. 1997. "Citizenship and International Migration." *Environment and Planning A* 29: 195-248.

Goldring, L. 1998. "The Gender and Geography of Citizenship in Mexico-US Transnational Spaces. *Identities* 7: 501-537.

Abu-Laban, 2000. "Reconstructing an inclusive citizenship for a new millennium: Globalization, migration and difference." *International Politics* 37, no.4 (2000) p. 509-526

April 14

Economic Transnationalism; Remittances

Readings: Portes, A., William Haller and Luis E. Guarnizo 2002.

"Transnational Entrepreneurs: An Alternative Form of Immigrant Economic Adaptation." *American Sociological Review* 67: 278-298.

Landolt, P. 2001. Salvadoran economic transnationalism: embedded strategies for household maintenance, immigrant incorporation and entrepreneurial expansion. *Global networks* 1(3) 217-241.

Conway, D. and Cohen, J.H. 1998. Consequences of migration and remittances for Mexican transnational communities. *Economic Geography* 74:26-44.

April 21

Transnationalism and 'Home'

Readings: Salih, R. 2002. Shifting meanings of 'home': consumption and identity in Moroccan women's transnational practices between Italy and Morocco

Khoser, K. 2002. From refugees to transnational communities. In *New Approaches to Migration*, eds. Nadjé Al-Ali and Khalid Koser, pp. 138-151.

Adamson, Fiona B. 2002. Mobilizing for the transformation of home: politicized identities and transnational Practices. In Al-Ali and Khoser. 155-168.

April 28

Transnationalism, Diaspora, Identity

Readings: Tololyan, K. 1996. Rethinking Diaspora(s): Stateless power in the transnational moment.

Butler, K. D. 2001. Defining Diaspora, Refining a Discourse. *Diaspora* 10: 191-217.

Ghosh, S. and Wang, Lu. 2003. Transnationalism and Identity: a tale of two faces and multiple lives. *Canadian Geographer* 47:239-282.

Morawska, E. 2003. Disciplinary agendas and analytic strategies of research on immigrant transnationalism: Challenges of interdisciplinary knowledge. *International Migration Review* 37: 611.

CLASS PRESENTATIONS

W May 7