

**University of Connecticut-Storrs  
Department of Political Science  
Puerto Rican & Latino Studies Institute**

**POLS 296W/PRLS 271: Immigration and Trans-Border Politics**

**MWF 9:00-9:50am  
ARJ 109**

**Fall 2007**

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**Introduction**

The trans-national mobility of subjects and citizens impacts the structural conditions of all national-societies in various ways. Subjects and citizens may bring a surplus skilled or unskilled labor power to a country and may also deplete another country of professional resources creating conditions of scarcity. Transnational subjects and citizens may exert control over public institutions, and or may be marginalized from the public realm. In the United States, the immigration and migration of Latin American subjects and citizens has given way to a host of polemical public debates which have often regressed to ideological statements. This course will introduce the students to the study of the relationship between Latino-American immigration/migration and politics in the United States. The course will be divided into two parts addressing the history of U.S. immigration politics and the some relevant theoretical and social polemics informing current debates. Students will be expected to grapple with complex immigration and trans-border debates by the end of the course.

**Grading & Policies**

This course will be a writing-intensive course and thus will require a significant amount of submissions and revisions. The main goal of the course is to provide students with an opportunity to develop a publishable paper or a paper that can be developed into a broader research project. All work needs to be typed, double-spaced and legible.

**Weekly Journal Question (20%):** Students will be expected to hand a 1-2 page response to the relevant questions (see below) in-class on **Friday mornings**. Students will be evaluated on their ability to answer the questions using the assigned readings.

**Participation (15%):** Students are expected to attend all classes and participate in an active and critical manner. Students will be evaluated on their ability to contribute to class discussions in an informed manner that draws upon the assigned readings. Participation credits will be assigned on a random basis and in-class.

**Short Writing Assignments (15%):** Students will be expected to write three short statements about their political position on relevant issues pertaining to the class. Each assignment will be worth 5% of your grade.

**Op-Ed (500 words):** Write a 500 word op-ed response on any one of the topics discussed in class throughout the semester. This short essay should address an

immigration issue relevant to your home community. Due on Wednesday September 19, 2007, **in-class**.

**SGA position paper (1-2 pages):** This position paper should address an immigration issue that is relevant to the UConn academic community and should require the Student Government Association to take a position on your issue. Due on Wednesday, October 31, 2007, in-class.

**State Legislature or Federal position paper (1-2 pages):** This position paper should address either a State or Federal question pertaining to immigration. Due on Wednesday, November 21, 2007, in-class.

**Research Paper or Proposal (12-15 pgs.) (50%):** Students are expected to write a substantive research paper that addresses one of the topics discussed in class.

**Thesis Statement (5%):** Students are expected to hand in a 1 page thesis statement with a preliminary outline of a paper topic that they would like to research in further detail. I expect that students enrolled in this course have a clear sense of what they are interested in studying. This is not an exploratory course or an introductory course. Please plan accordingly. Due on Monday September 17, 2007, in class.

**Annotated Bibliography (5%):** Students are expected to identify at least 5 journal articles that address the subject that they are researching. They are expected to write a brief annotated bibliography on each article. Please remember that you are expected to do college level work, no internet sources will be accepted as legitimate unless they are reports or substantive sources of information that are not available otherwise. Due on Monday, October 15, 2007, in-class.

**Outline (5%):** This outline should provide a detailed description of the student's project. Due on Monday, November 19, 2007, in class.

**Final Paper (35%):** First draft due on Monday November 26, 2007, in-class. Final draft due on Monday, December 10, 2007 by 12:00pm in my office in the Department of Political Science, Monteith Hall.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL LATE PAPERS WILL BE PENALIZED HALF A GRADE PER EACH LATE DAY. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS WITH ME IN ORDER TO GET AN EXTENSION, AND THESE ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD BE MADE WELL IN ADVANCE. IF YOU GIVE ME A PAPER AFTER IT IS DUE, DO NOT EXPECT ME TO GRADE IT RIGHT AWAY. ALL PAPERS HAVE TO DISCUSS THE ASSIGNED CLASS READINGS; OTHERWISE YOUR WORK WILL BE DOWNGRADED AS APPROPRIATE. I WILL NOT ALLOW RE-WRITES. I WILL NOT ACCEPT PAPERS SENT TO ME VIA EMAIL. PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAND ME A HARD COPY IN CLASS.**

**Required Texts:**

- Gloria Anzaldúa, *Borderlands/La Frontera, The New Mestiza*, Second Edition (San Francisco: Aunt Lute Books, 1999). ISBN: 1-879960-56-7
- Lisa Magaña, *Mexican Americans and the Politics of Diversity, ¡Queremos poder!* (The University of Arizona Press: Tucson, 2005). ISBN 13: 978-0-8165-2265-1

- Edward J.W. Park and John S.W. Park, ***Probationary Americans: Contemporary Immigration Policies and the Shaping of Asian American Communities*** (New York: Routledge, 2005). ISBN: 0-415-94751-0

All texts will be available through the COOP. The readings for the first four weeks will be available in-class. Depending on the number of enrolled students, the course packet will be available in class.

**Students interested in additional discussions in Spanish can join the *Linkage Through Languages* section which will be taught by Alfonso Varona.**

### **Course Outline:**

#### **Week 1: Contextualizing the Debates**

Monday, August 27, Introductions

Wednesday, August 29, U.S. Latino/as

- Rachel F. Moran, *Neither Black nor White*, 2 **Harv. Latino L. Rev.** 61 (1997).

Recommended Readings:

- Jorge J.E. Gracia & Pablo De Greiff, eds., ***Hispanics/Latinos in the United States, Ethnicity, Race and Rights*** (New York: Routledge, 2000).

Friday, August 31, Latino/as & Latin America

- Walter D. Mignolo, *Capitalism and Geopolitics of Knowledge: Latin American Social Thought and Latino/a American Studies* (Available in Class).

Recommended Readings:

- Jorge J.E. Gracia, ***Hispanic/Latino Identity, A Philosophical Perspective*** (Malden: Blackwell Publishers, 2000).
- Marcelo M. Suárez-Oroszco and Mariela M. Páez, Eds. ***Latinos, Remaking America*** (Berkeley: University of California Press and DRCLAS, 2002).

**Journal Question # 1:** *Do you think that Latino/as experience political institutions differently?*

### **Part I: Historical Context of Immigration in the United States**

#### **Week 2: U.S. Territorial Expansion & Imperialism**

Monday, September 3

- Bartholomew H. Sparrow, Introduction & Chapter 1, ***The Insular Cases and the Emergence of American Empire***. (Course Reader)

Wednesday, September 5

- The Northwest Ordinance of 1789.
- The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo (1848).
- Richard Griswold del Castillo, *Symposium: Manifest Destiny: The Mexican-American War and The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo*, 5 **Sw. J.L. & Trade Am.** 31 (Spring 1998): 31-42. (Course Reader)

Friday, September 7

- *U.S. v. Verdugo-Urquidez*, 494 U.S. 259 (1990). (Course Reader)

**Journal Question # 2:** *Is the United States an Anglo-American nation? Has it been an Anglo-American country since its inception? When do you think that it became an Anglo-American nation?*

### **Weeks 3 & 4: Institutional Context of U.S. Immigration Law**

Monday, September 10 & Wednesday, September 12

- Aleinikoff et al., Chapter 2, §A: *The Foundations of Immigration Power*. (Course Reader)

Friday, September 14 & Monday, September 17

- Aleinikoff et al., Chapter 2, §B: *The Foundations of Immigration Power*. (Course Reader)

**Journal Question # 3:** *Should states have the power to develop and enforce immigration laws?*

Wednesday, September 19 & Friday, September 21

- Aleinikoff et al., Chapter 3, §A & B: *Federal Agencies and Courts*. (Course Reader)

Recommended Readings:

- Thomas A. Aleinikoff, et al., *Immigration and Citizenship, Process and Policy* Fourth Edition (St. Paul: West Group, 1998).
- Robert James McWhirter, *The Criminal Lawyer's Guide to Immigration Law, Questions and Answers*, Second Edition (Chicago: American Bar Association Publishing, 2006).

### **Week 5: Latino/as & U.S. Immigration**

Monday, September 24, Mexicans

- Lisa Magaña, Chapter 2: *History of Mexican Americans in Politics*

Wednesday, September 26

- Jorge Duany, Chapter 7: *Following Migrant Citizens* (Course Packet)

Friday, September 28

- Jennifer Lundquist & Douglas Massey, *Politics or Economics? International Migration During the Nicaraguan Contra War*, *Journal of Latin American Studies* 37:1-25, 2005. (Available at: [http://journals.cambridge.org/download.php?file=%2FLAS%2FLAS37\\_01%2FS0022216X04008594a.pdf&code=3a7741775c1341bfa69d566e33aeaf5e](http://journals.cambridge.org/download.php?file=%2FLAS%2FLAS37_01%2FS0022216X04008594a.pdf&code=3a7741775c1341bfa69d566e33aeaf5e))

**Journal Question # 4:** *Discuss two factors that push people to migrate?*

### **Week 6: Immigration & U.S. National Security**

Monday, October 1

- Park & Park, Chapter 2, *Governing Admission to the United States*

Wednesday, October 3

- Park & Park, Chapter 4: *Efficiency and Cost*

Friday, October 5, No Class

Monday, October 8, Immigration & the War on Terror

- Park & Park, Chapter 6, *"Temporary Workers" in American Law & Society Since 1996*

Recommended Readings:

- United States General Accounting Office, "*Immigration Reform: Employer Sanctions and the Question of Discrimination*," Report to Congress, GAO/GGD-90-62. (Washington, DC.: 1990). (Available at <http://www.gao.gov/docsearch/repandtest.html>)

## **Part II: Trans-Border Politics & Immigration**

### **Week 7: The Borderlands Debate**

Wednesday, October 10

- Gloria Anzaldúa, *Borderlands/La Frontera, The New Mestiza*

Friday, October 12

- Richard Rodriguez, Chapter 1, *The Triad of Alexis de Tocqueville*; and Chapter 5, *Hispanic in Brown*. (Course Reader)
- Josefina Saldaña-Portillo, *Who's the Indian in Aztlán? Re-Writing Mestizaje, Indianism, and Chicanismo from Lacandón* (Course Reader)

**Journal Question # 5:** *Are Anzaldúa and Rodriguez' arguments reproducing the ideological arguments that call for a borderlands narrative?*

Monday, October 15

- Kevin R. Johnson, *Open Borders?* (Course Reader)

### **Week 8: Rights & Borderlands Militia**

Wednesday, October 17

- Saskia Sassen, Chapter 6, *Foundational Subjects for Political Membership* (Course Reader)
- Evening 6:30pm, Film: Landon Van Soest & Jeremy Levine, *Walking the Line* (2005), Room TBA

### **Week 9: Social Issues, Crime & Wages**

Friday, October 19

- G. Ottaviano and G. Peri, "*Rethinking the Effects of Immigration on Wages*," NBER Working Paper 12497 (2006). (Available at: <http://papers.nber.org/papers/w12497>)

Recommended Readings:

- Rakesh Kochhar, *1995 – 2005: Foreign-Born Latinos Make Progress on Wages* (Available at: <http://pewhispanic.org/reports/report.php?ReportID=78>)

**Journal Question # 6:** *Should the U.S. government hold the borderland militias accountable to the same legal standards that it uses to hold undocumented migrants accountable?*

Monday, October 22

- Juan Perea et al., Chapter 13, §1, 2A, 3B & 3C, *Race and Crime* (Course Reader)

Wednesday, October 24

- Lisa Magaña, Chapter 5: *Policies & Issues Affecting the Mexican American Community*

Friday, October 26, No Class

Recommended Readings:

- Lawrence M. Friedman, *Crime and Punishment in American History* (New York: Basic Books, 1993).

- Kristin F. Butcher and Anne Morrison Piehl, *Why Are Immigrants' Incarceration Rates So Low? Evidence On Selective Immigration, Deterrence, And Deportation*, Working Paper 13229. (Available at: <http://www.nber.org/papers/w13229>)

### **Week 10: Social Issues, Education**

Monday, October 29

- *Plyler v. Doe*, 457 U.S. 202 (1982). (Available at: <http://www.findlaw.com/casecode/supreme.html>)

Wednesday, October 31

- María Pabón López, *Reflections on Educating Latino and Latina Undocumented Children: Beyond Plyler v. Doe*, 35 **Seton Hall L. Rev.** 1373 (2005). (Available at: <http://www.lacrit.org/>).

Friday, November 2

- Lisa Magaña, Chapter 5: *Policies & Issues Affecting the Mexican American Community*

Recommended Readings:

- Randolph Capps et al., *The New Demography of America's Schools: Immigration and the No Child Left Behind Act* (Research Report) available at **The Urban Institute** (<http://www.urban.org/immigrants/trends.cfm?page=2>).

### **Week 11: Social Issues, Public Health**

Monday, November 5

- Statutory Law Memo (available in class)
- *San Antonio School District v. Rodriguez*, 411 U.S. 1 (1973) (Available at: <http://www.findlaw.com/casecode/supreme.html>) (Dicta on public resources)

Wednesday, November 7

- Jeffrey T. Kullgren, *Restrictions on Undocumented Immigrant's Access to Health Services: The Public Health Implications of Welfare Reform*, 93 **American Journal of Public Health** 10: 1630-33 (2003).

Friday, November 9

- Lisa Magaña, Chapter 5: *Policies & Issues Affecting the Mexican American Community*

Recommended Readings:

- Vicente Navarro, *The Politics of Health Policy: The U.S. Reforms, 1980-1994* (Blackwell Publishers, 1994).

**Journal Question # 7:** *Should undocumented migrants be entitled to basic human rights in the U.S.?*

### **Week 12: Latino/as and Political Participation**

Monday, November 12: Latino/as and Voting in the US

- Juan Perea et al., Chapter 8, *Race, Voting & Participation in Democracy* (Course Reader)

Wednesday, November 14: Dual Nationality and Citizenship

- Guest Lecturer, Jacqueline Polanco (TBC)
- Michael Jones-Correa, Chapter 8: *Wanting it Both Ways, The Quest for Dual Citizenship* (Course Reader)
- The Dominican American National Roundtable (DANR), <http://www.danr.org/>.

Friday, November 16

- Lisa Magaña, Chapter 3, *Elected Officials and Party Affiliations*

Recommended Readings:

- National Association of Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO), <http://www.naleo.org/index.html>.
- PEW Hispanic Center, <http://pewhispanic.org/>.
- The Tomás Rivera Policy Institute, <http://www.trpi.org/index.html>.
- Foro político y ciudadanía No. 1, **SISTEMA ELECTORAL Y PARTIDOS POLÍTICOS** (Santo Domingo: FLACSO, 2003).

**Journal Question # 8:** *Should immigrants be allowed to vote in their home countries despite the fact that they may not be living in their home country?*

**Thanksgiving Recess, November 18-24**

**Week 13: Anomalous Political Questions, The Case of Puerto Rico**

Monday, November 26

- Juan Perea et al., Chapter 4, §2, *Puerto Rico and Puerto Ricans* (Course Reader)

Wednesday, November 28

- *Igartua De La Rosa v. United States*, 417 F.3d 145 (2005). (Available at: <http://www.findlaw.com/casecode/supreme.html>).

Recommended Readings:

- Gregorio Igartua, ***U.S. Democracy for Puerto Rico, A Denial of Voting Rights in Presidential Elections to Over 3.5 Million American Citizens*** (1995).

Friday, November 30

- Luis Raúl Cámara Fuertes, Chapter 1, ***The Phenomenon of Puerto Rican Voting*** (available in Class)

Recommended Reading:

- Fernando Byron Toro, ***ELECCIONES Y PARTIDOS POLITICOS DE PUERTO RICO, 1809-1976*** (Mayagüez: Editorial Isla, Inc., 1977).

**Journal Question # 9:** *Should U.S. citizens residing in Puerto Rico be granted the right to vote in Federal elections?*

**Week 14: The Politics of Immigration Reform in the U.S.**

Monday, December 3: States of Emergency?

- Executive Office of The President, Council of Economic Advisers, *Immigration's Economic Impact*, June 20, 2007 (<http://www.whitehouse.gov/cea/>) (Course Reader)
- Patrick J. Buchanan, Chapter 13: *Last Chance* (Course Reader)

Wednesday, December 5: Culture Wars?

- Lisa Magaña, Chapter 6: *Implications for the Future*
- Samuel P. Huntington, *The Hispanic Challenge*, ***Foreign Policy*** (March/April 2004) (Available at: <http://cyber.law.harvard.edu/blogs/gems/culturalagency1/SamuelHuntingtonTheHispanic.pdf>).

Friday, December 7: Diversity and Immigration

- Robert D. Putnam, *E Pluribus Unum: Diversity and Community in the Twenty-first Century, The 2006 Johan Skytte Prize Lecture*, **Scandinavian Political Studies** 30 (2007) 2:137-174. (Available at: <http://www.blackwell-synergy.com/doi/abs/10.1111/j.1467-9477.2007.00176.x>).

**Journal Question # 10:** *If right wing ideologues defend free-market capitalism, should they also defend open borders? How can self-proclaimed conservatives reconcile capitalism with a closed nation-state?*