SOCIOLOGY 342: Immigration & Globalization: Spaces, Places, & Crossings
Fall 2013
Oberlin College
Professor Julie C. Keller
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Class: Tues. & Thurs. 3:00-4:15pm; 341 King
Office Hours: Wednesday 1:00-3:00pm and by appointment, 324 King

Course Description

Why do people migrate? What are the larger forces that structure the choice to leave or to stay behind? How do people manage to stay connected across long distances? What sorts of symbolic and “real” spaces do migrants find themselves managing and navigating? How might places and spaces give meaning to the migration process? In this course we will set out to answer these questions and more as we examine contemporary im/migration in the context of globalization. We will begin with classical understandings of citizenship, belonging and homeland connections. Then we will examine im/migrant communities around the world using a transnational migration lens. Places, spaces, liminality and crossings will be dominant themes in our exploration.

Course Objectives

The goals of this course are threefold. At the end of the semester I hope you will have developed the following skills: 1) The ability to use the tools of sociology to critically engage with debates on immigration and globalization; 2) The ability to use theory to identify patterns, common themes, and differences among various examples of immigrant communities we discuss; 3) The ability to write three critical papers about immigration and globalization in a sociologically informed manner, drawing on current work in the field.

Course Requirements

Attendance Coming to class is mandatory. Each student is allowed to miss 2 days of class and I will not ask questions about the nature of the absence. These absences are meant to cover illnesses and unforeseen events. Each absence after 2 days results in the removal of points from your total grade. Because you are graded on class participation, it is in your best interest to attend each class. Lateness is strongly discouraged. After 2 late passes, points will be deducted from your total grade.

**I have a no phone policy in my class. Make sure your phone is turned off when you enter class. From the start of class (3:00pm) until the end of class (4:15pm), please do not engage with your phone in any manner. If this policy is violated, I will ask you to leave for the class period. You may use your laptop in class, provided that it is not used for Facebook, etc.**
**Participation**  You will be graded on your effort to verbally engage with the topic of discussion. Of course, to be able to fully engage with the topic, you must read all of the assigned material **before** coming to class each day. **Whether hard copy or electronic, please bring the assigned readings for the day and your notes to class.** I encourage you to share your viewpoint during class discussions, even, and especially, if it contradicts that of others. Disagreement and class debates can be quite fruitful and thought-provoking. During our class discussions, please show respect to me and other students who may have different perspectives from your own.

**Weekly Memos**  Every week you will write a memo, due **each Monday at 3pm.** Each memo will be very short—one paragraph minimum, two max.—and will pose questions or thought-provoking comments on **at least two of the readings** assigned for that week. Post your weekly memo on Blackboard. These will be graded as: check +, check, or check – (2 points; 1.7; 1.5).

**Immigration Media Analysis (IMA) Papers**  Over the course of the semester you will write 2 **IMA Papers**, each worth 30 points. Each paper should be a minimum of 6 full pages (8 max.), double-spaced, Times New Roman or Calibri font. For the first paper I will ask you to analyze contemporary media coverage of an immigrant community outside of the U.S. (Global IMA). For the second paper I will ask you to analyze contemporary media coverage of an immigrant community in the state of Ohio (Local IMA). Further instructions will be given in class.

**Final Paper**  You will write one long research paper at the end of the course. In your paper you will use the theories we discuss in class to analyze a particular im/migrant community of your choice. This paper will be 12 to 15 pages in length and worth 50 points. You will be required to submit an outline of the paper (12 points), as well as present your paper to the class (12 points). Detailed instructions will be given in class.

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<td>Weekly Memos</td>
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<td>Imm. Media Analysis (IMA)</td>
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**Required Texts**  Please purchase the following text books for this course. You can find them at the Oberlin campus bookstore. These books will also be available on reserve at Mudd Library. All other required readings will be available on Blackboard.


**Students with Disabilities**  Please let me know if you need disability-related accommodations in this course. Contact the Student Academic Services to develop a plan for assistance: Jane Boomer, Coordinator of Disability Services, Room G27 Peters Hall, ext. 55588.

**Academic Honesty**  This course adheres to the policies of the Oberlin College Honor Code and Honor System. Please add the statement “I affirm that I have adhered to the Honor Code in this assignment” to the top of the first page on all written work. For more information on the Honor Code, see: [http://www.oberlin.edu/students/student_pages/honor_code.html](http://www.oberlin.edu/students/student_pages/honor_code.html).

**Religious Observance**  Please inform me by the end of Week 2 of the semester if you need to miss a class to observe a religious holiday. We will find a way for you to make up the work.

**Course Schedule**

**Week 1: (9/3 & 9/5)—Overview**

T: Introduction to the Course (Syllabus Day)

R: Stepping into Migration and Globalization


*Roediger, D. 2005, “New Immigrants, Race, and ‘Ethnicity’ in the Long Early Twentieth Century,” pp. 3-11

*Sassen, S. 2007. Chapter One, from A Sociology of Globalization, pp. 3-9

**Week 2: (9/10 & 9/12)—Approaches to Understanding Citizenship & Migration**

T: Historical & Contemporary Approaches to Citizenship & Migration


R: Assessing Migration: Who Migrates, Why, & How We Study It


**Week 3: (9/17 & 9/19) — The Transnational Optic**

**T: What Transnationalism Has to Offer**
- *Levitt, P. 2001. Chapter One, from The Transnational Villagers, pp. 1-28*

**R: Limitations of the Transnational Optic**

**Week 4: (9/24 & 9/26) — Liminality, Crossings, & In-betweenness**

**T: Liminality & Crossings**

**R: ‘Free’ Migrant versus ‘Enslaved’ Migrant: Examining the In-between**
- *IF, pp. 1-56*

**Week 5: (10/1 & 10/3) — Gender & Migration**

**T: Women Migrants at Work**
- *IF, pp. 57-113*

**R: Gendered Spaces**
- *IF, pp. 247-266*

****DUE: Immigration Media Analysis (Local), October 3, Hard copy in class**

**Week 6: (10/8 & 10/10) — The Role of the State & Security**

**T: Legal Status, Visas, & Citizenship**
- *IF, pp. 178-213 and pp. 214-246*

**R: Immigration, the State and Detention Centers**
- *Bakalian, A. and M. Bozorgmehr. 2009. Backlash 9/11: Middle Eastern and Muslim Americans Respond, pp. 61-65*
Week 7: (10/15 & 10/17)—Queer Crossings
T: LGBTQs on the Move
R: Film in Class—“Entry Denied”

**Homework for Fall Break: Read to the end of chapter 2 of Divided by Borders, please**
(10/19-10/27): Fall Break—Enjoy!

Week 8: (10/29 & 10/31)—Families and Children
T: Families Living Apart Together
*DBB, chapter 3 (pp. 57-87)
R: Families Living Apart Together (cont.)
*DBB, chapter 4 (pp. 88-110) & chapter 5 (pp. 111-143)

Week 9: (11/5 & 11/7)—Place, Space & Ethnic Enclaves
T: The Power of Place & the Spaces Immigrants Occupy
R: Ethnic Enclaves

**DUE: Immigration Media Analysis (Global), November 7, Hard copy in class**
(Receive Final Paper assignment)
**Week 10: (11/12 & 11/14)—Community Reception, Belonging & Incorporation**

T: Community Reception

R: Belonging & Incorporation

**Week 11: (11/19 & 11/21)—Return Migration & the Meaning of ‘Home’**

T: The Meaning of Going Home

R: Home and Identity
   *GB, pp. 3-15

**DUE: Outline of Final Paper, November 21, Hard copy in class**

**Week 12: (11/26)—Emotions & Migration**

T: Emotion & Migration
   *GB, pp. 16-42

R: Thanksgiving Break—Enjoy!

**Week 13: (12/3 & 12/5)—Diaspora & Identities**

T: The Meaning of Diaspora and Diasporic Identities
   *GB, pp. 185-202

R: The Meaning of Diaspora and Diasporic Identities (cont.)
   *GB, pp. 203-231
Week 14: (12/10 & 12/12)—Presentations & Conclusions

T: Presentations
R: Presentations & Wrapping Up

**DUE: Final Paper, Friday, December 20, 7:00pm on Blackboard**

Note: Some details of this syllabus may change over the course of the semester.