

Topics in Labor Studies: The Jersey Shore Economy
Labor Studies and Employment Relations
Online Hybrid --Mondays 6pm to 8:40pm
Atlantic Cape Campus
37:575:481:81
Dr. Mary Gatta
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Course Overview:

If you're not from New Jersey, then you may not have heard the phrase "we're going down the shore". But if you are from New Jersey then you know that this phrase means: "we're going to the beach", and for many of us it prompts feelings of excitement and memories of fun summer times. And for some of us the Jersey Shore may be the place we work or call home.

However the Jersey Shore is also an economic engine of New Jersey that carries with it a deep history of labor markets and social structures that impacts access to jobs and housing at the shore across different time periods. In addition the economy of the Shore has and continues to face opportunities and challenges from environmental changes; domestic and global competition, changes in legalized gaming, and larger perceptions of the Shore from television and media.

In this course we'll explore the economy of the Jersey Shore—historically and today---to discover the 'Jersey Shore' in a new light, using perspectives from sociology, anthropology, economics and industrial relations. We begin learning about the Jersey Shore economy in the 19th and early 20th century—focusing on the Jersey Shore area broadly, along with a concentration in the history of Atlantic City. We then turn our attention to the Atlantic City economy—both before and after legalized gaming—with a focus on the growth of the city and the tourism economy; and understand how race and class impacted workers chances of success in the Atlantic City economy. We then continue a more contemporary analysis of the Jersey Shore economy-exploring how the current economy, labor market, environment and other factors impact the Jersey Shore.

Hybrid Course Requirements

This course is being taught as an online hybrid. What that means is that half the class will be taught in the classroom on the Atlantic Cape Campus, and the other half will be taught online. In order to access the online portion of the course, and other course materials you will log onto Rutgers "E-companion" which you may access at <https://ecollege.rutgers.edu/students.jsp> using your netID. In addition, in order to access this site, and other resources be sure that your Rutgers email account is working. Communication from the instructor will go to your Rutgers email account; or you can set it up to forward mail to another email system if you use that.

The online portion of this course will be asynchronous. What this means is that you will NOT have to log onto the course during the time of the class, but will be able to access the online

portion during that week. There may be specific times that assignments online are due, and that must be paid attention to.

Specifically, contact time will be divided in the following way: 50 % face-to-face AND 50 % online. Online sessions will be a blend of self-paced and group activities using E-Companion and other Web sites. Activities will consist of chat, blogs, discussion forums, email, journaling, blogging, wikis, and web posting. Face-to-face sessions are at the Atlantic Cape Campus.

In addition because this class is hybrid, if any in-person classes need to be canceled because of weather or other reason, the class WILL be converted to online for that session. This means you need to check the course website regularly and will be responsible for that work.

Course Book

There is one required book for the course, and MANY other readings/videos that appear on the course website.

The book to purchase for the class is Bryant Simon (2004) *Boardwalk of Dreams: Atlantic City and the Fate of Urban America*

Course Grade:

Your grade is based on the following distribution:

Journals and Online participation	30%
Jersey Shore Autobiography	20%
Boardwalk of Dreams? Paper	25%
Final Research Paper	25%

Please note that this is a writing and reading intensive course. That means that the workload is heavy at times, but we can talk about strategies for successfully handling that. If you find yourself having difficulty with any of the work, please talk with me immediately.

Online Work (30%):

Your online participation will be evaluated on journals and forum participation. Your contribution will be evaluated as follows: How much you participated in a substantive way. Was your participation ongoing and interactive? You can interact with others by asking or answering questions, or by agreeing or disagreeing with them, but remember you must add to the discussion, not simply agree. Were your comments thoughtful and based on the readings? Did you understand the theorists' ideas correctly or did you make errors? Did you connect the ideas of one theorist to those of others? In other words, what was the quality of your comments? Were your opinions backed by personal experience or other types of evidence? Persuasive opinions are backed by a variety of types of evidence – from other academic sources, from current events, and from personal experience. Were your comments expressed clearly and appropriately? Please don't "flame" in these forums or journals. Informality is fine, but use standard written English of the sort that would be appropriate in a work setting.

2 Reflection Papers:

Jersey Shore Autobiography (20%): In this 2- to 3-page paper, you will apply either a sociological OR anthropological imagination to an analysis of your own experiences at the Jersey Shore—either as a tourist, host, or worker. You will use the frameworks explained in the reading to organize your thoughts and experiences.

Broadwalk of Dreams?: (25%) In this 6 to 8-page paper, you will visit a tourist destination in Atlantic City and use concepts from Bryant Simon’s analysis of Atlantic City to analyze that destination, the local economy, and the social relations you observe there.

Final Research Paper (25%):

You will have to complete a final research paper where you chose one Jersey Shore destination (it cannot be Atlantic City because you have a separate paper on that!) and gather research (via visits to the location; conversations with local residents and leaders; historical documentation; online city/county websites; and other research) to better understand the economic past, present and future of that Jersey Shore destination. You must analyze your data that collect in light of at least 5 readings/units from the course. You must have your location approved by me by April 1.

General Information For Papers and Online Work

The papers and exams are to be your own original work. You should use your books and notes as a reference. Be sure to cite any direct quotations that you use. You may discuss ideas with other students in the class, but the final product must be your own work. Any papers that are conspicuously similar are automatically sent to the Dean. The focus is on how what we have read and talked about in class can be used in order to critically examine the issues/arguments presented in the papers. Therefore you will be graded on your understanding of the scholarly information, theories and concepts that we have discussed. Simply regurgitating class notes is not a thoughtfully constructed work.

Course Schedule:

January 28: IN PERSON

Introduction to Course and Requirements

February 4: ONLINE

Introduction to Studying Tourism and Economy

Reading: Sociology, Anthropology and Tourism

February 11: IN PERSON

Review of Tourism and Economy Analytical Framework

Reading: Sociology, Anthropology and Tourism

AND

Jersey Shore Tourism of Days Gone By!

Reading: Sport in a Middle-Class Utopia: Asbury Park, New Jersey, 1871-1895
Reading: The Lure of the Shore: Authenticity, Spectacle, and the Wreck of the St. Paul

****Jersey Shore Autobiography Due February 16th at midnight*****

February 18: ONLINE
Race, Atlantic City and Tourism (1915-1960)
Reading: Boardwalk of Dreams, Chapters 1-3

February 25: IN PERSON
Rise and Fall of Atlantic City Economy and Tourism (1955-1978)
Reading: Boardwalk of Dreams Chapters 4-7

March 4: ONLINE
Role of Casino Gaming, Atlantic City and Social Stratification (Part 1)
Reading: Boardwalk of Dreams Chapters 8-9

March 11: IN PERSON
Role of Casino Gaming, Atlantic City, and Social Stratification (Part 2)
Reading: Boardwalk of Dreams Chapters 8-9 and Epilogue

March 18: SPRING BREAK

March 25: ONLINE:
Visit to Atlantic City for *Boardwalk of Dreams?* Observation/Paper to collect data

*****Boardwalk of Dreams? Paper Due March 29 at midnight*****

April 1: IN PERSON
Current Worker Experiences at the Jersey Shore
Reading: Transformations in Casino Gaming and the Unionization of Atlantic City's Dealers
Reading: Behind the Lights, Casino Burnout; Atlantic City Dealers Feel Trapped in Tense, Dead-End Jobs
Reading: Globalization of the summer job
Reading: Foreigners work where USA plays

April 8: ONLINE
Jersey Shore Commercial and Recreational Fishing
Reading: New Jersey Fishing and Aquaculture: Harvesting the Garden State's Waters
Reading: Recreational Fishing as Tourism

April 15: IN PERSON
EcoTourism and the Jersey Shore Economy
Reading: Ecotourism in New Jersey Is On The Rise-From Bird Watching in Cape May to Whale Watch Cruises

Reading: Pinelands Among New Jersey's Hot Ecotourism Sites : Trends: Bird-watchers, nature-lovers boost economy of heavily developed state to the tune of \$10 million a year
Reading: New Jersey Fishing and Aquaculture: Harvesting the Garden State's Waters
Reading: Recreational Fishing as Tourism

April 22:ONLINE

Environmental Impacts on Jersey Shore and Its Economy

Reading: Economic Impacts of Climate Change on New Jersey

Reading: The Shore at Risk: The Threats Facing New Jersey's Coastal Treasures, and What it Will Take to Address Them

April 29: IN PERSON

Future of the Jersey Shore

Reading: New Jersey: No Joke

Reading: Casinos Aren't the Future

Reading: After Superstorm Sandy Batters Jersey Shore, State Agonizes Over Decision To Rebuild

May 6 :ONLINE

Final Research Paper Due May 10th at midnight