Syllabus
Immigration Public Policy and Worker Rights 37:575:320:81
School of Management and Labor Relations, Rutgers University
Fall 2012

Course Number: 37:575:320:81
Day and Time: Thursdays 6:00-8:40 pm
Location: AC/Mays Landing

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Office Hours: By appointment

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will examine U.S. immigration with a focus on globalization, Latino immigrants, and the proliferation of low wage work.

The topics we will explore include:

- Immigration theories and why people come.
- The history of migration and migration policy in the U.S.
- Current immigration laws in the U.S.
- The impact of globalization.
- How immigrants manage and survive in the U.S.
- The employment and labor rights of immigrant workers.
- Labor markets, subcontracting and low wage immigrant-dominated industries.
- Efforts to organize through unions and worker centers to improve wages and working conditions.
- Current policy initiatives/debates and fixing a broken system.

II. LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course we will:

- Know and understand fundamental social science, historical, and legal perspectives, theories, and concepts relating to immigration;
- Know the fundamental laws/institutions governing immigration;
- Understand how the global economy impacts immigration;
- Understand how our diverse backgrounds and cultures shape our experiences and perspectives on immigration; and
- Improve our critical thinking, problem solving and communication skills.

III. EXPECTATIONS

Preparation

We will be covering a lot of ground in a very short time so please read and bring the assigned material to each class and take good notes.

Participation
Class sessions will include short lectures, small group discussions and group exercises. The expectation is that everyone will actively participate in the class.

When participating in discussions use your experience and the information you get from the readings. When you take a position try to back it up with facts, data and examples. And above all, be respectful and listen when others are speaking. You do not have to agree but you must give full attention and consideration to other points of view.

Texting, or talking on cell phones and emailing are all prohibited during class.

Attendance
Thirty percent (30%) of your grade will be based on attendance and participation so it is vitally important to attend every class. Failure to sign the sign-in sheet will result in a loss of attendance points. You can only be excused for an illness, death in the family or other *real* emergencies.

Students who are late to class will lose attendance points so please be punctual. *Also,* if you leave early without permission you will be marked absent for the entire class.

Communication
I will communicate any official course correspondence via email, so please check your Rutgers email account regularly. Feel free to contact me via email with questions or concerns about the course. I will do my best to get back to you within 24 hours.

When emailing always include "Immigration and Worker Rights 37:575:320:81" in the subject line of your email.

IV. EVALUATION
Final grades will be based on the following:

1. Class preparation, attendance and participation (30%)
2. Mid-Term (35%)
3. Final Exam (35%)

Mid-Term and Final Exams
The mid term and final exams will be take-home test that cover all course readings, lectures, discussion questions, films, exercises, etc. There may be one cumulative question to answer for the final.

V. COURSE READINGS
All other materials are available on the course Sakai website. Students can access the course Sakai site by following these directions:

- Go to http://sakai.rutgers.edu
- To log on, enter your Rutgers net ID and password in the upper right hand corner.
- Look for the tabs at the top of the next page.
- Click on the tab: 37:575:320:81 F12 Imm Wrk Rts Resources.

- Click on "resources" on the menu on the left hand side of the next page. You should see a folder for each week of class and inside each folder you will fine all of the course readings.

VI. SYLLABUS

PART I: IMMIGRATION HISTORY, THEORY AND WHY THEY COME

(WEEK 1) THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH
COURSE INTRODUCTION

Read:

Sakai Folder:
The syllabus

In-Class: Introduction: Our expectations for the class and review syllabus

(WEEK 2) THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH
TODAY'S IMMIGRANTS AND WHY THEY COME (THEORIES)

Read:

Sakai Folder:
Portes, Alejandro and Ruben G. Rumbaut. Chapter One: *"Nine Stories"* 1-11 and Chapter Two: *"Who They Are and Why They Come"* 12-36; Immigrant America: A Portrait, Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press 2006

Douglas S. Massey, Jorge Durand, and Nolan J. Malone. Chapter 2: *"Principles of Operation: Theories of International Migration"*; Beyond Smoke and Mirrors, Mexican Immigration in An Era of Economic Integration, Russell Sage Foundation, New York, 2006.

Theories of International Migration: A Review and Appraisal Author(s): Douglas S. Massey, Joaquin Arango, Graeme Hugo, Ali Kouaouci, Adela Pellegrino,J. Edward Taylor Source: Population and Development Review, Vol. 19, No. 3 (Sep., 1993), pp. 431-466

In-Class: Lecture/Discussion on theories of migration and why people migrate.

(WEEK 3) THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH
THE HISTORY OF MIGRATION TO THE U.S. AND WHO GETS IN TODAY

Read:

Sakai Folder:
Tichenor, Daniel J. Dividing Lines: The Politics of Immigration Control in America, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2002. Chapter 2: *"The*

Politics of Immigration Control: Understanding the Rise and Fall of Policy Regimes" pp. 16-45

How the US. Immigration System Works
(See Link in Sakai Folder)

US Citizenship and Immigration Services (Temporary Non-immigrant Workers)
(See Link in Sakai Folder)

U.S. Historical Immigration Trends
(See Link in Sakai Folder)

U.S. Immigration Timeline
(See Link in Sakai Folder)

In-Class: Lecture/Discussion on what we can learn from the history and U.S. policy on immigration.

PART II: GLOBAL CAPITALISM (NEO-LIBERIALISM) AND MIGRATION

(WEEK 4) THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH
GLOBAL CAPITALISM AND MIGRATION

Read:

Sakai Folder:
Jeffrey Kaye, Moving Millions: How Coyote Capitalism Fuels Global Immigration, Chapter 3, *Migrants in the Global Marketplace*, John Wiley & Sons Inc., 2010.

Ruth Gomber-Munoz, Labor and Legality, Chapter 2, *Why Is There Undocumented Migration?* Oxford University Press, 2011.

In-Class: Lecture/Discussion on the mobility of capital and workers

Documentary: The Other Side of Migration

(WEEK 5) THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4TH
GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAINS, SUBCONTRACTING AND RACIALIZED LABOR MARKETS

Read:

Sakai Folder:
Gonos and Martino, *Temp Agency Workers In New Jersey's Logistics Hub: The Case for a Union Hiring Hall*, Working USA, The Journal of Labor and Society, Vol. 14, Dec. 2011, pp. 499-525.

Chain of Greed, How Walmart's Domestic Outsourcing Produces Everyday Low Wages and Poor Working Conditions for Warehouse Workers, National Employment Law Project, June 2012.

Optional—The New Age of Walmart

Goldstein, Bruce, *"A Lesson For Reforming 21st Century Labor Subcontracting: How 19th Century Reformers Attacked the Sweating System."*

In-Class: Lecture/Discussion on supply chains, low prices, low pay, the reality of what a global supply chain looks like and who it employs.

PART III: LOW WAGE WORK AND LIVING IN THE U.S.A.
(WEEK 6) THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11TH
OCCUPATIONS, EDUCATION AND INCOME

Read:

Sakai Folder:
Portes, Alejandro and Ruben G. Rumbaut. Chapter 4:*"Making It in America: Occupational and Economic Adaptation"* pages 67-102; Immigrant America: A Portrait, Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press 2006

"Immigration and Wages: Methodological Advancements Confirm Modest Gains for Native Workers" Heidi Shierholz, Economic Policy Institute (EPI) Issue Brief #255, February 4, 2010

"Immigration: The Effects on Low-Skilled and High-Skilled Native-Born Workers" Linda Levine, Congressional Research Service, 2009

"Still An Hourglass? Immigrant Workers in Middle-Skilled Jobs" Randy Capps, Michael Fix and Serena Yi-Ying Lin, Migration Policy Institute 2010

In-Class: Lecture/Discussion—How Do Immigrants Survive the Global Economy?

(WEEK 7) THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18TH
WAGE THEFT, WORKING CONDITIONS AND WEAK ENFORCEMENT

Read:

Sakai Folder:
Nik Theodore, Mirabai Auer, Ryan Hollon, and Sandra Morales- Mirque, *Unregulated Work in Chicago, The Breakdown of Workplace Protection in the Low Wage Labor Market*, Center for Urban Economic Development, University of Illinois at Chicago, April 2010

Jason Rowe, *New Jersey's Supply Chain Pain: Warehouse & Logistics Work Under WalMart and Other Big Box Retailer*s, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, 2012

Iron Bound Underground: Wage Theft and Workplace Violations Among Day Laborers in Newark's East Ward Immigrant Workers' Rights Clinic, Center for Social Justice Seton Hall University School of Law

Ruth Gomber-Munoz, Labor and Legality, Chapter 5, *Working Hard* Oxford University Press, 2011

Wage Theft: The Crime Wave No One Talks About

In-Class: Lecture/Discussion on Wage Theft and what should we do about it.

You Tube: Wage Theft Faces of a Hidden Crime

(WEEK 8) THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25TH
IMMIGRANTS LIVING IN THE U.S

Mid-Term Take Home Assignment
Read:

Sakai Folder:
William Perez, We Are Americans, Undocumented Students Pursing the American Dream, (Selected Chapters) Stylus Publishing, 2009.

Ruth Gomber-Munoz, Labor and Legality, Chapter 4, *Friends, Networks and Households* Oxford University Press, 2011.

In-Class Lecture/Discussion undocumented students who have lived in the U.S. their whole lives but still find themselves isolated and marginalized.

Film: The Invisible Chapel or The Invisible Mexicans of Deer Canyon

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PART IV: WORKER RIGHTS, ORGANIZNG AND THE CURRENT DEBATE

(WEEK 9) THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST
WORKER RIGHTS

Mid-Term Due
Read:

Sakai Folder:
Richard McIntyre, *The Perplexities of Worker Rights*, The Good Society, Vol. 16, Number 2, 2007

"International Law: Workers' Human Rights, Government Obligations and Corporate Responsibility" in Blood, Sweat and Fear, Human Rights Watch 2005

Employment Rights Are Human Rights, International Human Rights Law Clinic, American University, Washington College of Law, 2004

Iced Out: How Workplace Enforcement has interfered with Workers' Rights, National Employment Law Project and the AFL-CIO

Understanding the US Supreme Court's Decision in Hoffman Plastic Compounds v. NLRB" Fact Sheet for Immigrant Worker Advocates, National Employment Law Project, 1-2.

In-Class: Lecture/Discussion on worker rights and immigrants

(WEEK 10) THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH
ORGANIZING IMMIGRANTS (UNIONS)

Read:

Sakai Folder:
"A Movement Wrestling: American Labor's Enduring Struggle with Immigration 1866-2007" Janice Fine and Daniel J. Tichenor Studies in American Political Development, Volume 23, Number 1, pp. 84-113, April 2009

Ness, Immanuel, Chapter 3, pp. 40-57 in Immigrants, Unions, and the New U.S. Labor Market. Temple University Press 2005

"Si Se Puede, Chapter 4: "*Union Organizing Strategies and Immigrant Workers"* pp. 145-186 in LA Story: Immigrant Workers and the Future of the U.S. Labor Movement New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 2007

Gordon, Jennifer, Chapter 1: *"The New Sweatshops"* in Suburban Sweatshops: The Fight for Immigrant Rights, Cambridge: Harvard University Press 2005

In-Class: Lecture/Discussion on the history of unions an immigration in the U.S.

Documentary: Made in LA

(WEEK 11) THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH
ORGANIZING IMMIGRANTS (WORKER CENTERS)

Read:

Sakai Folder:

Fine, Janice, Worker Centers: Organizing Communities at the Edge of the Dream (New York: Cornell University/ILR Press) 2006. *(Selected chapters)*

Fine, Janice "Worker Centers: Entering a New Stage of Growth and Development" *New Labor Forum* Fall 2011.

In-Class: Lecture/Discussion on worker centers and New Labor.

Documentary: Coalition of Immokalee Workers

(WEEK 12) TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH
RELIGION, CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION

Read:

Sakai Folder:
James, R. Edwards Jr. *A Biblical Perspective on Immigration Policy*, in Debating Immigration, Ed, Carol M. Swain, 2009

Strangers No Longer, Together on the Journey of Hope
A Pastoral Letter Concerning Migration Catholic Bishops of Mexico and the United States, 2003; *Catholic Social Teaching and Migration*, Justice For Immigrants.org

Judith Gans, Citizenship in the Context of Globalization, Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy, The University of Arizona, Immigration Policy Working Papers, 2005

In-Class: Lecture/Discussion on how we define citizenship

(WEEK 13) THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH
IMMIGRATION REFORM/POLICY DEBATES

Read:

Sakai Folder:
Noah Pickus and Peter Skerry, *Beyond the Legal-Illegal Immigration Debate*, in Debating Immigration, Ed, Carol M. Swain, 2009

Stephen Macedo, *The Moral Dilemma of U.S. Immigration Policy: Open Borders Versus Social Justice?* in Debating Immigration, Ed, Carol M. Swain, 2009

Marshall, Ray "Getting Immigration Reform Right" EPI Briefing Paper, March 15, 2007

In-Class: Lecture/Discussion on politics and immigration policy.

Documentary: 9500 Liberty

(WEEK 14) THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6TH
FINAL EXAMINE