Northwestern University
Fall 2018
Sociology of Immigration
SOCIOL 476-0-22
Wednesday 9-11:50 AM, Parkes Hall 222

Professor Héctor Carrillo
Office: 1808 Chicago Avenue, Room 101
Office hours: Wednesday 3:15-4:15 PM, Thursday 2-3 PM, or by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This graduate seminar will survey the recent sociological literature on immigration. We will focus on a range of topics that include: the evolution of sociological immigration theories; the social construction of immigrants and “expats,” as well as the tension between these two categories; the social construction of refugees and asylum; the structural factors that propel and hinder transnational migration; the entrenchment of international borders in the era of globalization; the shifting understandings of immigrant incorporation in host societies; the emergence of transnationalism as a framework for understanding the links that immigrants maintain with their home countries; and the effects of shifting attitudes on immigration policies. We will link transnational migration to a wide range of related sociological issues, including race, economics, nationalism and nativism, culture, religion, crime, gender, sexuality, and social stratification and inequality.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Students will be expected to:

- Do all required readings prior to each class session and participate in class discussion.

- Submit a term paper electronically (20-25 pages in length) by December 10 at noon. You must get my approval of your proposed topic by submitting a short written description electronically by no later than Friday, October 26 and meeting with me individually soon thereafter. Include an initial bibliography with your description. The bibliography for the term paper must expand beyond the readings for the seminar. The paper can be on a topic of your choice, but it is expected to be a sociological paper that relies on concepts and theories discussed in the seminar.

- Circulate discussion questions in advance of two seminar sessions during the quarter. These questions must be posted by 5:00 pm on the Tuesday before class. A sign-up sheet will be circulated.

- Read weekly posted discussion questions before class and be prepared to discuss them.
• Make sure that your own submitted questions are addressed during our discussion of the readings.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

Grading: You will earn a grade by completing the following assignments:

Term paper 75% of the final grade
Class participation and discussion questions 25% of the final grade

Attendance Policy: You are expected to attend class seminars on a regular basis.

Syllabus is Subject to Change: This syllabus and schedule are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances. If you are absent from class, it is your responsibility to check whether any announcements were made while you were absent.

Academic Integrity: Academic integrity is fundamental for this course and plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Please review the Graduate School’s policy on academic integrity at: http://www.northwestern.edu/provost/policies/academic-integrity/index.html.

Accessibility: Any student with a documented disability needing accommodations is requested to speak to the Accessible NU Center: http://www.northwestern.edu/accessiblenu/about-us/our-office/evanston-campus/index.html. Please also speak with me as early as possible in the quarter (preferably within the first two weeks of class). All discussions will remain confidential.

Communication:
This course will use the new Canvas course management system. (http://www.it.northwestern.edu/education/learning-management/login.html).

SCHEDULE AND READINGS:


Class 1 – October 3: Foundations: Immigration, Racialization, Citizenship, and Exclusion

Portes, Alejandro and Rubén G. Rumbaut. 2014. Immigrant America. Chapters 1-3 (pp.1-111). The book is available online at the NU Library.


Class 2 – October 10: Lifestyle vs. Economic Migration


Class 3 – October 17: Refugees and Asylum


Class 4 – October 24: Borders and Movement Control


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Class 5 – October 31: Immigrant Incorporation: Relational Assimilation


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Class 6 – November 7: Transnationalism


Class 7 – November 14: Citizenship


Class 8 – November 21: Nativism vs. Multiculturalism


Class 9 – November 28: Social Attitudes and Immigration Policy


December 10 – Term paper due at noon.