History 064

Migrants and Migrations.
Europeans in Latin America and Latinos in the United States

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This course will explore the interaction between global forces and local and individual circumstances in the migration experience. Central questions we will try to answer are who left, how, why, and when and how these migrants adjusted in the host societies. We will focus on two movements of people: those who emigrated from Europe to certain areas in Latin America and Latin Americans who moved to the United States and are becoming Latinos. We will explore problems of urban ecology; ethnic segregation; class formation; the reproduction of social inequalities; the use of social networks; patterns of socializing; work; cultural, social and political citizenship; nationalism; assimilationism and cultural pluralism; and the construction of ethnicity.

The course will be conducted in a colloquium format.

Requirements

1. Reading

Required readings are listed in the course schedule below. A list of books available for purchase follows. All readings with an asterisk (*) are on blackboard.

2. Writing

a) Two papers, 5 pages in length.
b) A final paper, on a subject chosen in consultation with the instructor, of about 8-10 pages in length. Summaries of these essays will be presented in class.

Students must complete all writing assignments to pass the course. Please do not send your written work by email.

For those who are not familiar with modes of historical writing, writing conventions, and source documentation I strongly recommend to read Richard Marius and Melvin Page, A Short Guide to Writing about History (New York: Longman, 2002).

C) Class participation:
Each week reading must be completed prior to class. Active participation is vital to receiving a good final grade. Unexcused absences will result in a lower grade.

Besides doing the reading for each week you will be asked to lead a number of class discussions during the semester. If necessary, discussion leader will meet with me prior to the scheduled class to talk about how to focus her or his presentation. Presentations should not recapitulate the assigned readings but rather elucidate key themes and arguments and raise questions for class discussion.
Books

The following books are available for purchase and are also on library reserve.
José Moya. Cousins and Strangers. Spanish Immigrants in Buenos Aires
Patricia Pessar, A Visa for a Dream. Dominicans in the United States
Sarah Mahler, Salvadorans in Suburbia. Symbiosis and Conflict
Alejandro Portes, City on the Edge. The Transformation of Miami
Ilan Stavans, The Hispanic Condition

Course Schedule.

Week 1
January 18
Introduction to course.

January 20
Issues and Approaches I
Thistlethwaite, “Migration from Europe Overseas in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries” (*)
Morawska, “The Sociology and Historiography of Immigration” (*)
Tilly, “Transplanted Networks” (*)
MacDonald, “Chain Migration, Ethnic Neighborhood Formation and Social Networks” (*)

Week 2.
January 25
Issues and Approaches II
Mahler, “Theoretical and Empirical Contributions on Transnationalism” (*)
Massey, “Introduction to Return to Aztlan” (*)
Portes, Guarnizo and Landolt, “The Study of Transnationalism” (*)
Portes, “The Origins and Effects of Transnational Activities” (*)

January 27
Issues and Approaches III
Yans-McLaughlin, “Metaphors of Self in History: Subjectivity, Oral Narrative and Immigration Studies” (*)
Hondagneu-Sotelo, “Gender and Immigration: a Retrospective” (*)
Pessar, “Engendering Migration Studies” (*)
Baily, “Introduction to Immigrants in the Lands of Promise”, pp 9-24 (*)

Week 3.
February 1
Immigration in Argentina and Chile
Solberg, (*)

February 3
Italians in Buenos Aires and New York
Baily, pp. 91-216 (*)

Week 4.
February 8
Italians in Buenos Aires and New York
Baily, pp. 217-237 (*)

February 10
Spaniards in Buenos Aires
Moya, Cousins and Strangers, chapters 4 and 5
Week 5.
February 15
Spaniards in Buenos Aires
Moya, Cousins and Strangers, chapters 6 and 7

February 17
Argentine Rural Settings
Solberg, 2 parts (*)

Week 6.
February 22
Brazilian Rural Settings
Holloway, The immigrant stream in the Brazilian coffee sector, 4 parts (*)
Basanezzi, Family and Immigration in the Brazilian Past (*)
Basanezzi, Santo Codo (*)
Seyferth, German migration to Brazil (*)

February 24
Jewish Immigration
Avni, The Spanish Speaking World and the Jews (*)
Levine, Adaptive Strategies (*)
Merckx, Jewish Studies in Latin America (*)
Gudmunson, Costan Rican Jewry (*)
Lesser, Jewish Immigration to Brazil (*)

Week 7.
March 1
Avni, Argentina and the Jews (*)
Gerchunoff, The Jewish Gauchos of the Pampas (*)
Gerchunoff, A Jewish Gaucho (*)

Video: The Yidishe Gauchos

March 3
Sofer, From Pale to Pampa (*)

Week 8
Spring Vacation

Week 9
Rumbaut, The Americans: Latin American and Caribbean Peoples in the US (*)
Portes, From South of the Border (*)

First Paper Due

March 17
Stavans, The Hispanic Condition

Week 10
March 22
Dominicans in New York
Pessar, A Visa for a Dream

March 24
Dominicans in New York
Itzigsohn, Mapping Dominican (*)
Singer, The Blue Passport (*)

Movie: *Nueba Yol*

Week 11
March 29
Migrants in the Suburbs
Mahler, Salvadorans in Suburbia
Landolt, From Hermano Lejano to Hermano Mayor (*)

March 31
Mexicans
Massey, The Social Organization of Migration (*)
Roberts, Transnational Migrant Communities (*)
Hondagneu-Sotelo y Avila, The Meanings of Latina Transnational Motherhood (*)

Week 12.
April 5
Cubans in Miami
Portes, *City on the Edge*, 1-124

April 7
Cubans in Miami
Portes, *City on the Edge*, 123-227

Week 13.
April 12
Colombians
Guarnizo, Transnational Migration: a View from Colombia (*)

Movie: *The City (La Ciudad)*

April 14
Second Generation
Portes and Rumbaut, Lost in Translation (*)
Portes and Rumbaut, Ethnic Identities (*)
Oboler, The Politics of Labeling (*)
Oboler, Language and National Identity (*)

Week 14
April 19
TBA
April 21
TBA

Second Paper Due

Week 15.
April 26
TBA
April 28
TBA

Final Essay Due by: