Course Information

SOC 3363 Immigrants and Immigration in U.S. Society

Fall 2016

Professor Contact Information

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PLEASE use regular UTD e-mail instead of eLearning to reach me. Thank you.

Office: GR 2.532
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m., and by appointment if these times do not fit your schedule

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

None

Course Description

This course focuses on the “newest” immigrants – those arriving after 1965 – and their U.S.-born children. The course examines these immigrants’ impact on U.S. society and their placement in U.S. social institutions (the workforce, or the economy; education; healthcare; the legal or political system; religious organizations; etc.), and how U.S. social institutions affect immigrants’ assimilation into U.S. society, and that of their children.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

The first course objective is to gain a sociological understanding of the impact of the newest immigrants on U.S. society and their placement in U.S. social institutions. The second is to understand sociologically how U.S. social institutions affect the assimilation of the newest immigrants and their children.

Required Textbooks and Other Readings

Course readings include two books: 1) Diversity in America by Vincent Parrillo (Paradigm Publishers) and 2) Brokered Boundaries: Creating Immigrant Identity in Anti-Immigrant Times by Douglas Massey and Magaly Sanchez (Russell Sage Foundation). Both are available at the
Assignments and Academic Calendar

- **Exams.** Students will write two 3-4 page take-home exams, one a Mid-Term Exam, and the other a Final Exam. The first exam will cover the first half of the course, and the second the second half. Both exams will be short answer and essay. Exam questions will be handed out one week before the exams are due.

- **Written Reports.** Students also will write two 1½-page reports on a single topic related to immigrants and immigration incorporating a review of scholarly literature on the topic. Students will submit a proposed topic to the Instructor for approval.

- **Class Presentations.** Students will make two brief Class Presentations on their Written Reports, the first on the first report, and the second on the second report.

- **Class Exercises.** Students also will work together on and complete a series of Class Exercises. **Students who do not attend the day of a Class Exercise will not get credit for the exercise, unless the student has an excused absence per the attendance policy below.**

The Instructor will provide and go over all instructions. All instructions will be posted on eLearning.

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**August 23**

**Orientation to the Course: Why Use Sociology to Study Immigrants and Immigration?**

**Class Exercise #1**

**August 25**

**Who Are the Newest Immigrants and Why Are They Here?**


**Class Exercise #2**

**August 30**

**Who Are the Newest Immigrants and Why Are They Here? Continued**

Read: Parrillo, *Diversity in America*: Chapter 1 “Perception and Reality,” and Electronic Reserve: Wheelan, excerpt from *Introduction to Public Policy*
Topic for Written Report due August 20th

September 1

Who Are the Newest Immigrants and Why Are They Here? Continued

Read: Parrillo, *Diversity in America*: Chapter 7 “Diversity in the Information Age”

Class Exercise #3

September 6

Who Are the Newest Immigrants and Why Are They Here? Continued

Read: Parrillo, *Diversity in America*: Chapter 9 “Intergenerational Comparisons”

September 8

Impact of Immigrants on U.S. Society and Its Social Institutions

Read: Parrillo, *Diversity in America*: Chapter 10 “Is Multiculturalism a Threat?”

Class Exercise #4

September 13

Impact of Immigrants on U.S. Society and Its Social Institutions Continued

Read: Parrillo, *Diversity in America*: Chapter 8 “Diversity in Today’s World”

September 15

Impact of Immigrants on U.S. Society and Its Social Institutions Continued

Read: Parrillo, *Diversity in America*: Chapter 11 “The Next Horizon”

First Written Report due September 15th

September 20

What Have We Learned about Sociology of Immigrants and Immigration So Far, and What Are Our Responses?

Class Exercise #5

September 22

First Class Presentations
September 27

First Class Presentations

September 29

First Class Presentations

Mid-Term Exam questions handed out September 29th

October 4

Sociological Study of Immigrants: What Does It Tell Us?

Read: Electronic Reserve: “Sociological Theories of Immigration: Pathways to Integration for U.S. Immigrants” by Chris Lee

Class Exercise #6

October 6

Sociological Study of Immigrants: What Does It Tell Us? Continued

Read: Electronic Reserve: “Synthesizing Social Science Theories of Immigration” by Sara Kimberlin

Mid-Term Exam due October 6th

October 11

Sociological Study of Immigrants: What Does It Tell Us? Continued

Read: Electronic Reserve: “The Sociology of International Migration: Where We Have Been; Where Do We Go from Here?” by Philip Kasinitz

October 13

Sociological Study of Immigrants: What Does It Tell Us? Continued

Read: Electronic Reserve: “Immigrants, Immigration, and Sociology: Reflecting on the State of the Discipline” by Cecilia Menjivar

October 18

Settlement and Assimilation

Read: Massey and Sanchez, Brokered Boundaries: Chapter 1 “Constructing Immigrant Identity”

Class Exercise #7
October 20

Settlement and Assimilation Continued

Read: Massey and Sanchez, *Brokered Boundaries*: Chapter 2 “Roots and Motivations”

October 25

Anti-Immigrant Response

Read: Massey and Sanchez, *Brokered Boundaries*: Chapter 3 “The Rise of Anti-Immigrant Times”

Class Exercise #8

October 27

The Workplace

Read: Massey and Sanchez, *Brokered Boundaries*: Chapter 4 “Worlds of Work”

November 1

Immigrant Aspirations and the Reality of Disappointment

Read: Massey and Sanchez, *Brokered Boundaries*: Chapter 5 “Dreams and Disappointments”

Class Exercise #9

November 3

Immigrant Aspirations and the Reality of Disappointment Continued

Read: Massey and Sanchez, *Brokered Boundaries*: Chapter 6 “Transnational Options”

November 8

Co-Construction of Immigrant Identity by Immigrants and Citizens Continued

Read: Massey and Sanchez, *Brokered Boundaries*: Chapter 7 “Verbalizing Identity”

November 10

Co-Construction of Immigrant Identity by Immigrants and Citizens Continued

Read: Massey and Sanchez, *Brokered Boundaries*: Chapter 8 “Visualizing Identity”

Class Exercise #10

Second Written Report due November 10\textsuperscript{th}
November 15

Co-Construction of Immigrant Identity by Immigrants and Citizens Continued

Read: Massey and Sanchez, Brokered Boundaries: Chapter 9 “Identity, Integration, and the Future”

November 17

Open Class Discussion: How Can Sociology Help Us in the Face of Ambiguity in Citizen Views of Immigrants?

November 22 and 24 No Class: Fall Break / Thanksgiving Holiday

November 29

Second Class Presentations

December 1

Second Class Presentations

December 6

Second Class Presentations

Final Exam questions handed out December 6th

December 13

Final Exam due December 13th

Note: Students will turn in their exams in the Instructor’s office (GR 2.532) at 11 a.m. during the regularly scheduled exam period.

Grading Policy

The percentage distribution for each of the graded assignments and attendance (total equals 100%) for the course grade follows.

25%: the two Exams combined
25%: the two Written Reports combined
25%: Class Exercises combined
15%: the two Class Presentations combined
10%: Attendance and Class Participation

The grading scale follows.

A+ = 97-100
A   = 94-96
A-   = 90-93
B+ = 87-89
B  = 84-86
B- = 80-83
C+ = 77-79
C  = 74-76
C- = 70-73
D+ = 67-69
D  = 64-66
D- = 60-63
F  = 59 and below

Course and Instructor Policies

Attendance is required. Students automatically will be excused from two classes; no documentation is required if students miss only two classes. Students who miss more than two classes will be excused if they have a legitimate reason (for example, being out sick) and provide documentation.

The intent of this policy is to help students perform well on assignments by keeping up with lectures and discussion.

Students must submit hard copies of all assignments on the due dates. Electronic submissions will not be accepted, unless the student has a legitimate reason for being absent from class to turn in assignments. Late papers will not be accepted without the prior approval of the instructor, with the exception of emergencies.

This requirement is intended to help students turn in their work on time and to promote fairness among students who submit their work on time.

University Policies

To view university policies on Student Conduct, Grade Appeals, Disability Services, Religious Holy Days, Campus Carry, Resources to Help You Succeed, and others, please go to the link that follows.

http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies