Seminar on Transnational Migration

Assigned Readings:


Books and xeroxed article can be purchased at Orange and Blue Textbooks, 309 NW 13th Street, Gainesville, FL 32601, 352-375-2707. A xerox of the Lowenstein article, "The Immigration Equation," will be handed out in a few weeks in class.

Course Outline and Reading Assignments

Week 1 
Introduction to Transnational Migration

Week 2 
Transnational Migration: Definitions and Theories


*Nations Unbound*, Chapter One

Week 3  Transnational Migration as Part of the World System

*Nations Unbound*, Chapter Two

Weeks 4  Transnational Migrants: Destinations

*Nations Unbound*, Chapter Three
Levitt, *Transnational Villagers*

Weeks 5-6  Transnational Migrants and Employment

*Nations Unbound*, Chapter Seven
Lowenstein, "The Immigration Equation."

Weeks 7-8  Social Class, Education and Transnational Migration
Margolis, *Little Brazil*

Weeks 9-10  Race, Gender and Transnational Migration

*Nations Unbound*, Chapters Four & Six
Adler, *Yucatecans in Dallas, Texas*

Week 11  Family, Social Relations and Transnational Migration

*Nations Unbound*, Chapter Five

Week 12  Ties in Two Lands: Transnational Migrants and Politics

Week 13  Ties in Two Lands: Transnational Migrants and Popular Culture
Lessinger, *From the Ganges to the Hudson*

Week 14  Anti-Immigrant Sentiment

*Nations Unbound*, Chapter Eight

Week 15  From Sojourner to Immigrant?
Appadurai article
EXAMINATIONS and RESEARCH PAPER:

First exam: Wednesday, October 4, in class

Paper due: Wednesday, November 8

Second exam: Wednesday, December 6, in class

Course Requirements: Attendance in class, required readings, two exams and research paper on some aspect of transnational migration. More information on the paper will be provided in class. In addition, graduate students will be asked to make short presentations in class (about 10 minutes) about their research papers. All students should speak to me (via e-mail or during office hours) about their paper topics.

Grading Policy:

Exam 1 - 20 percent of grade
Exam 2 - 40 percent of grade
Research paper - 40 percent of grade

Office Hours: Tuesday 10:30 to 12:30 and by appointment

Note: There will be no class on Wednesday, November 22.

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A Brief List of Possible Term Paper Topics

Why are some groups more transnational than others?

Within a single immigrant group, there may be variation in the frequency, depth and range of transnational ties. Why?

What role does gender, class and/or age play in transnational migration?

How is ethnic identity affected by transnational migration?

What role does the mobility of capital play in transnational migration?

Social networks and migration

Theories of transnational migration
The role of the media in transnationalism

The labor market niche of transnational migrants

The impact of remittances on sending communities