

595:298 / 590:298 Latinxs and Migration: An Intersectional Approach

Professor Shantee Rosado

HYBRID

Tues 1-2:20pm and Online-Asynchronous

Location: BE-253

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines the origins and processes of international and intra-national migration by peoples from Latin America and the Latinx Caribbean to, from and within the United States. While often seen as a monolithic “Latinx block,” Latin American and Latinx Caribbean migrants come from a variety of regional and class backgrounds, migrate for different reasons, integrate in a variety of settings (rural, urban, suburban), and hold different legal statuses. We will explore the social, economic, and political histories of migrants’ countries of origin, including the effects of U.S. foreign policy and economic power in these regions, which have led to the creation of past and present U.S.-bound migratory flows. We will focus particularly on the roles of national origin, race, gender, class, sexuality, and immigrant generation in determining the life chances and experiences of migrants and their descendants in the U.S. The course is interdisciplinary and will draw from readings in sociology, anthropology, history, geography, political science, legal studies, and Latino Studies, as well as other sources such as films, poetry, policy briefs, and research reports. The class is cross-listed with 590:298.

LEARNING GOALS

Core Curriculum Learning Goal: **SCL-2 Employ tools of social scientific reasoning to study particular questions or situations, using appropriate assumptions, methods, evidence, and arguments.**

Additional Course Learning Goals met by this course:

1. The ability to define central concepts in migration theory including assimilation, immigrant incorporation, transnationalism, push and pull factors, social networks, ethnic enclaves, and diasporas.
2. The capability to describe the economic, political, social, and cultural dimensions of past and present migrations from Latin America and the Caribbean to the United States and understand how US economic and political interests have led to the influx of migrants from these regions throughout the 20th century.
3. The capacity to compare and contrast the experiences of Puerto Ricans, Dominicans, Cubans, Mexicans, Central Americans, South Americans, and other U.S. Latinx groups.
4. The ability to analyze how migration as social process and experience varies according to factors such as national origin, legal status, gender, race, ethnicity, class, sexuality, and generation.

REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Class attendance (10% of grade)

All students are expected to read the materials assigned for a particular date on the syllabus **before** arriving to class. Students are allowed **two** unexcused absences for the semester (no need to provide a note). All other absences are considered unexcused and might impact students' final grade in the course. If you expect to miss more than two classes in the semester, please contact Prof. Rosado as soon as possible to discuss options for making up work. Please, do not wait until the end of semester for this conversation, as I will not be able to accommodate late work after the end of the semester.

Weekly responses on Canvas (30% of grade)

Every Tuesday by 5pm ET, beginning on Week 2 of the semester, Prof. Rosado will post a writing prompt in the "Discussions" link of our Canvas page. Your task will be to respond to this prompt in writing. The prompts will be open questions but will require your knowledge of the readings from the week. You are expected to complete these by the following Sunday by 5pm ET.

These weekly responses are meant to help you retain the material we cover in class and apply it to your life and the world. Prompts will be posted on Canvas from weeks 2-13 of the semester. You can choose two weeks of the semester to not complete a response. If you complete all the responses, I will drop the two lowest grades from the responses you submitted.

In the second half of the semester (after the Midterm Exam), you will be allowed to gain extra credit points by responding to your classmates' response posts on Canvas. These responses should be substantive and will count for 1 percentage point each.

Midterm Exam 30%

The in-class midterm exam will cover material from the first half of the course including lectures, readings, films, and class discussions. The exam consists of three types of questions: a true and false or multiple-choice section, a section with short answers, and a section with questions requiring more elaborate essay answers. Students will have the entire class period (1 hour and 20 minutes) to complete the exam but may leave before if the exam is completed.

Research project 30%

Project summary 10%

Presentation 5%

Final paper 15%

This final assignment requires you to write a research paper on a topic chosen by you about any aspect of Latin American migration to, from, and within the United States. The topic must be approved by Prof. Rosado. In your paper, you must apply the central concepts we have studied in class regarding human and social behavior in contexts of migration to particular questions or situations relevant to your chosen

topic. All final papers must have a thesis, 3-4 main arguments, and evidence to support those arguments. Final papers should be 1200-1300 words long (excluding bibliography and any images or figures you may want to include) and double spaced. Any sources informing your paper must be cited appropriately (including sources used in class) and included in a bibliography at the end of the paper using Chicago or APA citation standards (in-text citations and an appropriately formatted final bibliography at the end). Bibliographies must include at least three sources used in class and at least five external sources appropriate to the chosen topic. When reviewing and discussing studies in your paper, you must show that you are able to explain and assess the relationship between a study or an author's assumptions, method, evidence, arguments, and theory in the materials you have chosen building on our class discussions from throughout the semester on how to evaluate social science research. Students are strongly encouraged to seek help with writing assignments from any of the Writing Centers on campus. Please consult <http://wp.rutgers.edu/tutoring/writingcenters>.

A one-page summary outlining the topic, argument of the paper, and the list of references you plan to include is due on Tuesday, November 9th. I will provide substantial feedback on abstracts and you will incorporate this feedback into your final papers. Final papers are due on or before the last day of class, Tuesday, December 7th.

During the last two weeks of class, you will present a short, 5-minute overview of your project's thesis, main arguments, and sources of evidence to myself and your classmates.

Final grades will be calculated according to LCS's current grade policy:

A (93-100) / B+ (89-92) / B (81-88) / C+ (77-80) / C (70-76) / D (65-69) / F (64 and Below)

COURSE READINGS

"The Breakbeat Poets Vol. 4: LatiNext" (2020). Edited by Felicia Chavez, José Olivarez, and Willie Perdomo.

ISBN-10: 1642591297

ISBN-13: 978-1642591293

All other course readings and materials (films, etc.) will be accessible to students via Canvas.