

SEMINAR ON IMMIGRATION  
Sociology 230:617  
Fall 2009

Class time: M 4-6  
Office hour: M 2-4 or by appointment  
Professor Lingxin Hao

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**Course Description**

Among residents living in the U.S. in 2007, 12.6% was born abroad and 24% of children had a parent born outside of the country. The inflows, stocks, and incorporation of immigrants and their potential impact on the economic, social, cultural, and political dynamics of American society make immigration one of the most important topics in sociology.

This course is about post-1965 immigration to the U.S. Through in-depth reading and discussion, the course engages students in understanding and critiquing contentious perspectives in the following 9 topics:

1. U.S. immigration laws and trends in immigration and return-migration
2. Legal and illegal immigration
3. Theory and research on international migration
4. Theory and research on assimilation
5. Race, ethnicity, immigrant niche, and immigrant community
6. Immigration and U.S. society (economy, labor market, welfare state)
7. Transnationalism
8. Immigration in comparative perspectives
9. Integration of the second generation

**Course Objectives**

1. A solid understanding of the major literature and debates in the area of immigration
2. Designing an empirical study on a topic of immigration

**Course Requirements**

Students are required to read *all* designated materials before each class and actively participate in class discussion. In *dynamic* pairs (with weekly rotation of partners), students prepare a weekly handout (a summary of and discussion questions about the designated materials) and email it to the whole class by midnight Sunday. Students are expected to read all weekly handouts before each class. Each pair will make a brief presentation and lead a classroom discussion.

Grades will be based on class participation (weekly handout (max. 2-page single-spaced), presentations, and discussions, 40%), a research proposal outline (3 pages, double-spaced, 10%), and a full research proposal (20 pages, double-spaced, 50%).

## Course Schedule

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Class Date	Topics & Reading Assignments
week 1	<b>Background</b> Massey et al. 2002 ch.1 Alba & Nee 2003 ch.5 Van Hook et al. 2006 MPI website <a href="http://www.migrationpolicy.org/">http://www.migrationpolicy.org/</a> Migration information source <a href="http://www.migrationinformation.org/">http://www.migrationinformation.org/</a> Yearbook of Immigration Statistics (US Department of Homeland Security)
week 2	<b>Legal and illegal immigration</b> Espenshade 1995 Jasso et al. 2008 Massey et al. 2002 chs. 3-7 Massey 2008 chs. 2,3,5
week 3	<b>Theory and research on international migration 1</b> Massey et al. 1993, 1994 Massey 1999 Feliciano 2005
week 4	<b>Theory and research on international migration 2</b> Borjas 1987 Jasso & Rosenzweig 1990 Portes & Rumbout 2006 chs. 2,3
week 5	<b>Theory and research on assimilation 1</b> Alba and Nee 2003 chs. 1,2,4,6,7 Portes & Rumbaut 2006 ch. 4
week 6	<b>Theory and research on assimilation 2</b> Gans 1992 Portes & Zhou 1993 Portes et al. 2009 Waldinger & Feliciano 2004 Fry 2007 Smith 2003 Greenman & Xie 2008 Kasinitz et al. 2008 chs. 1,11
week 7	<b>Immigration and race/ethnicity</b> Waters 1999 chs. 3,5 Waldinger 1996 chs. 4,5,6,8 Waldinger 2007 Lee & Bean 2007

Class Date	Topics & Reading Assignments
week 8	<b>Immigrant niche, and immigrant community</b> Portes & Sensenbrenner 1993 Waldinger 2003 Portes & Rumbaut 2006 ch. 5 Zhou 2009 chs. 3,4,5,7,11
week 9	<b>Immigration and US society 1</b> McCall 2001 Borjas 2005 Luthra 2009 Hao 2007 chs. 1,3,7,8,9
week 10	<b>Immigration and US society 2</b> Hao & Kawano 2001 Borjas 2003 Casciano & Massey 2008 Van Hook & Bean 2009
week 11	<b>Transnationalism and Comparative Perspective</b> Portes, Guarnizo, & Landolt 1999 Portes, Haller, & Guarnizo 2002 Levitt & Schiller 2004 Levitt 2007 Waldinger & Fitzgerald 2004 Brubaker 2001 Patterson 2003 Model 2003
week 12	<b>Integration of the second generation 1</b> Kao & Tienda 1995 Hao and Bonstead-Bruns 1998 Waters 1999 chs. 7,8 Portes and Rumbaut 2006 ch. 8 Kasinitz et al. 2008 chs. 3,4
week 13	<b>Integration of the second generation 2</b> Kasinitz et al. 2008 chs. 5,10 White & Glick 2009 chs. 1-3 Hao & Pong 2008
11/30	Research proposal outline due
12/18	Research proposal due

## Reading Materials (in alphabetic order)

Books are available at the University Bookstore. All reading materials are on reserve. Electronic access is available for all articles and 3 chapters of Loury et al. book (password: HAO617).

## Books

- Alba, R and Nee, V. 2003. *Remaking the American Mainstream: Assimilation and Contemporary Immigration*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.
- Hao, LX. 2007. *Color Lines, Country Lines: Race, Immigration, and Wealth Stratification in America*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.
- Kasinitz, P., Mollenkopf, JH, Waters, MC, and Holdaway, J. 2008. *Inheriting the City: The Children of Immigrants Come of Age*. Harvard University Press.
- Massey, DS, Durand, J and Malone, NJ. 2002. *Beyond Smoke and Mirrors: Mexican Immigration in an Era of Economic Integration*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.
- Massey, DS. 2008. *New Faces in New Places: The New Geography of American Immigration*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.
- Portes, A and Rumbaut, RG. 3rd edition. 2006. *Immigrant America: A Portrait*. University of California Press and Russell Sage Foundation.
- Waldinger, R. 1996. *Still the Promised City? African-Americans and New Immigrants in Postindustrial New York*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.
- Waters, MC. 1999. (paper ed. 2001). *Black Identities: West Indian Immigrant Dreams and American Realities*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation; Cambridge: Harvard University Press.
- White, MJ, and Glick, JE. 2009. *Achieving Anew: How New Immigrants do in American Schools, Jobs, and Neighborhoods*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.
- Zhou, M. 2009. *Contemporary Chinese America: Immigration, Ethnicity, and Community Transformation*. Temple University Press.

## Articles

- Borjas, GJ. 1987. "Self-Selection and the Earning of Immigrants." *American Economic Review* 77-4: 531-553.
- Borjas, GJ. 2003. "Welfare Reform, Labor Supply, and Health Insurance in the Immigrant Population." *Journal of Health Economics* 22:933-958.
- Borjas, GJ. 2005. "The Labor-Market Impact of High-Skill Immigration." *The American Economic Review* 95(2):56-60.
- Brubaker, Rogers. 2001. "The return of assimilation? Changing perspectives on immigration and its sequels in France, Germany and the United States" *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 24:531-548.
- Casciano, R. and Massey, DS. 2008. "Neighborhoods, Employment, and Welfare Use: Assessing the Influence of Socioeconomic Composition." *Social Science Research* 37:544-58.
- Espenshade, TJ. 1995. "Unauthorized Immigration to the United States." *Annual Review of Sociology* 21:195-216.
- Feliciano, C. 2005. "Educational selectivity in U.S. immigration: How do immigrants compare to those left behind?" *Demography* 42(1):131-152.
- Fry, R. 2007. Are immigrant youth faring better in U.S. schools? *International Migration Review* 41(3):579-601.

- Gans, HJ. 1992. "Second Generation Decline Scenarios for the Economic and Ethnic Futures of Post-1965 American Immigrants." *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 15:173-192.
- Greenman, E. and Xie, Yu. 2008. "Is assimilation theory dead? The effect of assimilation on adolescent well-being." *Social Science Research* 37:109-137.
- Hao, LX and Bonstead-Bruns, M. 1998. "Parent-Child Difference in Educational Expectations and Academic Achievement of Immigrant and Native Students." *Sociology of Education* 71:175-198.
- Hao, LX and Kawano, Y. 2001. "Immigrants' Welfare Use and Opportunity for Coethnic Contact." *Demography* 38:375-389.
- Hao, LX and Pong, SL. 2008. "The Role of School in Upward Mobility of Disadvantaged Immigrants' Children." *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 620(1):62-89.
- Jasso, G and Rosenzweig, MR. 1990. "Self-Selection and the Earning of Immigrants: Comment." *American Economic Review* 80:298-304.
- Jasso, G, Massey, DS, Rosenzweig, M and Smith, J. 2008. "From Illegal to Legal: Estimating Previous Illegal Experience among New Legal Immigrants to the United States." *International Migration Review* 42:803-843.
- Kao, G., & Tienda, M. 1995. "Optimism and Achievement: The Educational Performance of Immigrant Youth." *Social Science Quarterly* 76(1):1-19.
- Lee, J. and Bean, FD. 2007. "Reinventing the Color Line Immigration and America's New Racial/Ethnic Divide." *Social Forces* 86(2):561-586.
- Levitt, P and Glick-Schiller, N. 2004 "Conceptualizing Simultaneity: A Transnational Social Field Perspective on Society." *International Migration Review* 38:1002-1039.
- Levitt, P. 2007 "Transnational Migration Studies: Past Development and Future Trends." *Annual Review of Sociology*. 33:129-156.
- Luthra, Renee Reichl. 2009. "Temporary Immigrants in a High-Skilled Labour Market: A Study of H-1Bs." *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* 35(2):227-250.
- Massey, DS. Arango, J, Koucouci, A, Pelligrino, A, and Taylor, JE. 1993. "Theories of international migration: Review and appraisal." *Population and Development Review* 19: 431-466.
- Massey, DS, Arango, J, Koucouci, A, Pelligrino, A., and Taylor, JE. 1994. "An Evaluation of International Migration Theory: The North American Case." *Population and Development Review* 20:699-752.
- Massey, DS. 1999. "International migration at the dawn of the twenty-first century: The role of the state." *Population and Development Review* 25:303-322.
- McCall, L. 2001. "Sources of racial wage inequality in metropolitan labor markets: Racial, ethnic, and gender differences." *American Sociological Review* 66:520-541.
- Model, S. 2003. "Nonwhite origins, Anglo destinations: Immigrants in the USA and Britain." Pp.363-392 in Glenn Loury, Tariq Modood and Steven Teles (eds.) *Race, Ethnicity and Social Mobility in the US and UK*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Patterson, O. 2003. "Four modes of ethno-somatic stratification: The experience of Blacks in Europe and the Americas." Pp.67-122 in Glenn Loury, Tariq Modood and Steven Teles (eds.) *Race, Ethnicity and Social Mobility in the US and UK*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Portes, A and Zhou, M. 1993. "The New Second Generation: Segmented Assimilation and Its Variants." *ANNALS, AAPSS* 530:74-96.

- Portes, A and Sensenbrenner, J. 1993. "Embeddedness and Immigration: Notes on the Social Determinants of Economic Action." *American Journal of Sociology* 98: 1320-50.
- Portes, A, Guarnizo, LE and Landolt, P. 1999. "The Study of Transnationalism: Pitfalls and Promise of an Emergent Research Field." *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 22(2):217-37.
- Portes, A, Haller, WJ, and Guarnizo, LE. 2002. "Transnational Entrepreneurs: An Alternative Form of Immigrant Economic Adaptation." *American Sociological Review* 67(2):278-98.
- Portes, A., Fernandez-Kelly, P., and Haller, WJ. 2009. "The Adaptation of the Immigrant Second Generation in America: A Theoretical Overview and Recent Evidence." *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* 35(7):1077-1104.
- Smith, JP. 2003. "Assimilation across the Latino Generations." *American Economic Review* 93:315-319.
- Van Hook, J, Zhang, WW, Bean, FD, and Passel, J. 2006. "Foreign-Born Emigration: A New Approach and Estimates Based on Matched CPS Files." *Demography* 43(2):361-382.
- Van Hook, J. and Bean, FD. 2009. "Explaining Mexican-Immigrant Welfare Behaviors: The Importance of Employment-Related Cultural Repertoires." *American Sociological Review* 74(3):423-444.
- Waldinger, R. 2003. "Networks and Niches: The Continuing Significance of Ethnic Connections." Pp.342-362 in Glenn Loury, Tariq Modood and Steven Teles (eds.) *Race, Ethnicity and Social Mobility in the US and UK*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Waldinger, R. and Feliciano, C. 2004. "Will the new second generation experience 'downward assimilation'? Segmented assimilation re-assessed." *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 27(3):376-402.
- Waldinger, R and Fitzgerald, D. 2004. "Transnationalism in Question." *American Journal of Sociology* 109(5):1177-95.
- Waldinger, R. 2007. "The Bounded Community: Turning Foreigners into Americans in 21st Century Los Angeles." *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 30(7):341-74.