

Proposal for Interdisciplinary Learning and Service Course

Course Title: Migration, Migrant Labor, and Social Movements in the Americas: Miami in Perspective

Cross and Co-Listings:

International Studies 310, Department of History, Department of Geography, Latin American Studies and American Studies

Lead Professor:

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Faculty Coordinator, Service Coordinator and Lecturer:

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Timeline:

Coordination and development of course: May-November 2006
Course Offered: Spring Semester 2007
Class meets on Tuesdays 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Room: TBA

Maximum number of students: 35

Summary:

This class is an interdisciplinary, team-taught course focused on migration, migrant labor, and social movements in the Americas that requires a significant amount of student engagement in relevant community service. The twin goals of the course are to provide students with: 1) an understanding of the core literature and major issues regarding the linkages between migration, migrant labor, and movements for social justice in the Americas generally and South Florida particularly; and 2) the opportunity to appreciate first-hand aspects of the immigrant experience by working directly with immigrant organizations, related governments organizations, or NGOs in the South Florida area.

Weekly sessions will be taught by different faculty members from schools and departments across the University of Miami campus, by guest lecturers invited from other universities, and by leading experts from within the South Florida community. Each class will combine lectures with faculty-led discussions of assigned readings and occasional documentary films. As a broad introductory seminar, the course will expand students'

understanding of the key economic, social, political, cultural and policy-related issues surrounding migration, migrant labor, and social movements in the Americas while placing Miami at the center of the analysis.

The service aspect of the course is designed to provide students with a more practical learning experience related to immigration and migrant communities in South Florida. Each class member will have the opportunity to select from a variety of options the specific organization and kind of service experience they would prefer. Every student will be required to complete a total of approximately 40 service hours during the semester and to write up a report on the experience for the class.

The founding 1925 slogan of the University of Miami, “Keep the world coming to Florida. Build the University of Miami” implies both an intellectual and social responsibility. Relatively recent migration trends have indeed transformed Miami into an internationalized community. This course assumes that the University of Miami is an integral part of this community and as such it has the responsibility to address both the intellectual and social needs that a community such as ours generates.

Required assignments and grading structure:

Course requirements include one short reading response paper, a final research paper, a journal, a five-minute oral presentation, and participation in a service learning project to be arranged in conjunction with the instructors. Students will receive writing credit for this course.

One reading response paper (3-5 pages) 15%

Each student is required to submit a critical review of the required **and** supplementary texts for a particular week of their choosing. This review should end by posing an analytical question with respect to the themes covered in the readings. The review must be posted on blackboard by **midnight of the Monday before the day of the seminar** in which we are to discuss those readings so the whole class can read the reviews before we meet. Up to three students write a critical review for each week.

Final research paper (10-15 pages) 35%

Students are to identify a topic related to the themes of the course. They are required to write a 1-2 page proposal for their research topic. The proposal itself receives no grade, and students will have the opportunity to rewrite their proposals. Nevertheless, students must turn in a final proposal that identifies a research topic, sets forth a central research question, lays out the basic organization structure, and includes a statement on method before Spring Break. The final research paper is due May 7, 2007.

Learning through Community Service 50%

The service-learning component is crucial to this course. Students are expected select a community service project and to devote at least 40 hours to it over the course of the 14-week semester. The students will be required to keep a weekly journal (3-5 pages per week) that allows them to reflect upon their service experience and its relationship to the classroom component of the course. The journal must be turned in every two weeks via

blackboard. A final (revised) printed and posted journal is due the last day of class for our discussion and will be kept for the development of this course's archives. The service learning grade will be based upon the journal (20%), a five minute oral presentation at the end of the semester (10%), and supervisor comments and fulfillment of duties (20%).

Course Books

Alejandro Portes and Alex Stepick, *City on the Edge: The Transformation of Miami*

Dan Clawson, *The Next Upsurge: Labor and the New Social Movements*

Juan Gonzalez, *Harvest of Empire*

Course Reader:

Selected readings are to be developed with professors who teach particular sections.

Average reading assignments (required and supplementary) will total approximately 250 pages per week. Required readings for students will range from 50 to 150 pages per week..

Break-down of class lectures

Week

1. Course Introduction

1/16 Bruce Bagley
Lina Del Castillo

Status: Confirmed

Introduction of select members of participating faculty and service learning organizations to set tone for course. Discussion of course objectives, requirements and structure

Students sign up to write up a 3-5 page review of readings for a week they select. Each must have 1-3 students.

2. Migration, Labor and Social Movements in the Americas: A bird's-eye view

1/23 Lina Del Castillo

Status: Confirmed

Required Readings:

David Held & Anthony McGrew, David Goldblatt & Jonathan Perraton, "People on the Move" in *Global Transformations: Politics, Economics and Culture* (Stanford: Stanford UP, 1999) p. 283-326 (43 pages)

Matthew Restall, "Apes and Men" in *Seven Myths of the Spanish Conquest* (Oxford: Oxford UP, 2003) p. 131-145 (14 pages)

Dan Clawson, "Why Organize" in *The Next Upsurge*, p. 1-12 (12 pages)

Supplementary reading:

Viki Ruiz, *Cannery Women, Cannery Lives: Mexican Women, Unionization and the California Food Processing Industry, 1930-1950* (136 pages)

Viki Ruiz will be giving her talk on campus that week on Thurs, Jan 25.

Students will receive extra credit on their final journal grade by seeing her and writing up their impressions of her talk in their journals.

Student Assignments due:

3-5 page review essay with analytical question by at most 3 students

Sheet and schedule that shows which organization you decided to work with and the days and times that you can engage in community service

The schedule must allow for at least 40 hours of service for the entire semester (Works out to be at least 3-4 service hours per week over the course of 3 months).

SERVICE SCHEDULE SHOULD START WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2007 AND END TUESDAY, APRIL 24, 2007

3. Theme 1: Migration in the Americas

1/30 Lecture title: "Migration Trends and Policies in the Western Hemisphere: The view from Washington"

Bruce Bagley

Status: Confirmed

Required Readings: TBA

Supplementary Readings: TBA

Student Assignments due:

3-5 page review essay with analytical question by 3 students

4. Theme 1: Migration in the Americas

2/6 Lecture Title TBA: * Panel Discussion. something along the lines of “Geographic, Historical, and Sociological perspectives on modern Migration patterns in the Americas”

Proposed Guest Lecturers:

List of people to ask:

Boswell (geography) **(status: still have to ask)**

Elizabeth Aranda (sociology) **(Status: interested, but will be on leave, so depends on date)**

Date not flexible: Feb 6

Required Readings: TBA

Supplementary Readings: TBA

Student Assignments due:

3-5 page review essay with analytical question by 3 students

3-5 page journal entries for weeks 1 & 2 of service (6-10 pages total)

5. Theme 1: Migration in the Americas

2/13 Lecture Title: TBA most likely “Miami: City on the Edge”

Alejandro Portes

Status: Confirmed

Required Readings: Alejandro Portes and Alex Stepick *City on the Edge*

Supplementary Reading: TBA

Student Assignments due:

3-5 page review essay with analytical question by 3 students

6. Theme 2: Migration and Labor in the Americas

2/20 Title TBA: something relating to history of Labor, Labor organization, and social movements in the United States

Guest Lecturer: Robin Bachin

Status: Pending date confirmation

(Dates flexible... either Feb 20, Feb 27, March 6)

Required Readings: TBA

Supplementary Readings: TBA

Student Assignments due:

3-5 page review essay with analytical question by 3 students

3-5 page journal entry for weeks 3 & 4 (students should now have anywhere from 12-20 pages total)

7. Theme 2: Migration and Labor in the Americas

2/27 Guest Lecturer: Eduardo Elena

Lecture Title: TBA, something along the lines of “Historical Perspectives on Commodities and Markets of Labor in the Americas”

Status: Pending

(Dates flexible... either Feb 20, Feb 27, or March 6)

Required Readings: TBA

Supplementary Readings: TBA

Student Assignments due:

3-5 page review essay with analytical question by 3 students

8. Theme 2: Migration and Labor in the Americas

3/6 Lecture Title: TBA something along the lines of

“The effects of Labor Law and US Policy Trends on Immigrant Labor”

(Dates flexible... either Feb 20, Feb 27, or March 6)

List of people to ask:

Bruce Nissen (FIU)

Lisandro Perez (poly-sci, cuba)

Status: Pending to ask

Required Readings: TBA

Supplementary Readings: TBA

Student Assignments due:

3-5 page review essay with analytical question by 3 students

3-5 page journal entries for weeks 5&6 (students should now have anywhere from 18-30 pages total)

1-2 page research paper proposals due FINAL DRAFT hard copy to Lina

*****Spring Break March 10-18*****

9. Theme 2: Migration and Labor in the Americas

3/20 Title TBA: something relating to Latin American -Caribbean perspectives on Labor in the Americas
Guest Lecturer: Raymond Craib (Cornell University)

Status: Confirmed

Required Readings: TBA

Supplementary Readings: TBA

Student Assignments due:

3-5 page review essay with analytical question by 3 students

10. Theme 3: Migration, Labor and Social Movements for Social Justice

3/27 Topics to cover:

*Migration legal issues and labor, Migrant Labor Health and Human Services, Transnational social movements, Religious organizations

Guest Lecturers:

Eleni D. Sfakianaki, MD, MSPH, Professor (**confirmed**)

Department of Epidemiology and Public Health (R-669)

University of Miami School of Medicine

Home:

530 Caligula Avenue

Coral Gables, FL 33146

Rev. **C.J. Hawking**

South Florida Interfaith consortium for Worker Justice (**pending Dr. Bachin meeting**)

Susan Reyna (**status: asked, no answer pending**)

(M.U.J.E.R. - social movements in S Fl migrant worker community)

Cheryl Little immigration law (**status: held in abeyance pending other replies**)

Required Readings:

Dan Clawson, *The Next Upsurge: Labor and the New Social Movements*

(*chapters?*)

Supplementary Readings: TBA

Student Assignments due:

3-5 page review essay with analytical question by 3 students

3-5 page journal entries for weeks 7&8 (students should now have anywhere from 24-40 pages total)

11. Politics of Migration: U.S. Senate meets Latin American Consulates

4/3 (Dates not flexible) (Ojo greek orthodox easter)

Guest speakers:

Senator Bill Graham (90 min)
Consulate reps from: Argentina, Haiti, Mexico, Colombia (etc..who is available)
Status: pending (have yet to ask Sen. Graham and all others.)

Required Readings: TBA

Supplementary Readings: TBA

Assignment: TBA

12. Who has rights to Miami: Miami as a Global City

4/10 (Title will change)

Guest Lecturer: Jan Nijman

Status: Confirmed

Required Readings: TBA

Supplementary Readings: TBA

Student Assignments due:

3-5 page review essay with analytical question by 3 students

3-5 page journal entries for weeks 9 & 10 (students should now have anywhere from 30-50 pages total)

13. Literature from the Diaspora

4/17 Panel discussion on literature inspired by the migrant experience

Evelina Galang (status: asked, interested, pending dates)

Patricia Saunders (status: asked, interested but will be on sabbatical. Pending dates)

Lillian Manzur (asked, no reply yet; she's in Chile)

Required Readings: TBA

Supplementary Readings: TBA

Student Assignments due:

3-5 page review essay with analytical question by 3 students

14. Round-Table Discussions and wrap up

4/24 Moderators: Bagley and Del Castillo

Status: Confirmed

Five-minute Student presentations of service labor experiences

Required Readings: Student journals

Student Assignment due:

Final Journal version due that includes weeks 11 & 12 and final revisions on other entries (36-60 pages total)

15. Miami Fusion Cuisine Dinner

5/7 All participating faculty and representatives of organizations with whom the students worked with are welcomed to join (please RSVP to Lina).
Five minute student presentations con't.

Student Assignment due:

Final research papers due by dinner time (normal class time).

Calendar of Assignment Due Dates

(Does Not include weekly 3-5 page critical review):

- 1/23 a) Sheet selecting a community service org.
b) Schedule for community service hours
- 2/6 Journal entries for weeks 1 & 2 of service (extra credit for attending and writing up impressions of Viki Ruiz talk)
- 2/20 Journal entries for weeks 3&4 of service
- 3/6 a) 1-2 page research paper proposals due FINAL DRAFT hard copy to Lina
b) Journal entries for weeks 5&6 of service
- 3/27 Journal entries for weeks 7&8
- 4/10 Journal entries for weeks 9 & 10
- 4/24 Final Journal version due that includes weeks 11 & 12 and final revisions on other entries. 5 minute (no more, no less) oral presentation of experiences.
- 5/7 Final research papers due