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Immigration Politics and Policy
GO 367 (4 credits)
Spring 2010

Immigration is one of the most important forces in American society today –re-shaping cities, suburbs, and rural areas, altering racial dynamics, influencing families, education, culture, labor markets, and politics. This class will examine these issues from an interdisciplinary perspective incorporating readings from economics, sociology, demography, and political science as well as the depiction of immigration in popular culture. Some of the topics we will address are: the historical evolution of American immigration policy, push and pull theories of immigration, the economic costs and benefits of immigration, the assimilation of recent immigrant, and the future direction of US immigration policy.

Readings

Daniel Tichenor, Daniel J. *Dividing Lines: The Politics of Immigration Control in America* (2002).
Jorge Durand, Nolan J. Malone, and Douglas S. Massey, *Beyond Smoke and Mirrors: Mexican Immigration in an Era of Economic Integration* (2003)
George Borjas, *Heaven's Door: Immigration Policy and the American Economy* (2001)
Samuel P. Huntington, *Who Are We: The Challenges to America's National Identity* (2004)

You should complete the assigned reading and assignment before class. Class will consist primarily of discussion and student presentations.

REQUIREMENTS & GRADING

As befitting your status at one of the “New Ivies”, I have high expectations of student performance. Grades will be determined by student performance on all of the following

1. Class participation/presentations (10%)
2. Explanation of Major U.S. Immigration Legislation 3-4 pages (15%)
3. Migration Paper 3-4 pages (15%)
4. Economic Analysis of Immigration 3-4 pages (15%)
5. Huntington paper 3-4 pages (15%)
6. Final policy paper 10-12 pages (30%)

COURSE ABSENCES

A well functioning class that promotes learning requires good attendance. You are allowed two personal days (absences), after that I will deduct 2.5% from your final grade. For example, you receive a 90%, but have missed four classes; your final grade is an 85%. You have an unlimited number of excused absences for illnesses, family crises, etc, though they count against your two absences. For each of these absences, you must provide written excuse from the Dean of Students’ office.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Jan 26 Introduction – Why Study Immigration?

Section I. US Immigration Policy: Past and Present

Jan 28 Theoretical Foundations of Immigration Policy Reform

Tichenor, Ch. 2 “The Politics of Immigration Control: Understanding the Rise and Fall of Policy Regimes”

Tichenor, Ch. 3 “Immigrant Voters in a Partisan Polity: European Settlers, Nativism and American Immigration Policy, 1776-1896.”

Feb 2 The Politics of Restrictionist Immigration Policy: Closing the Door?

Tichenor, Ch. 4 “Chinese Exclusion and Precocious State-Building in the 19th-Century American Policy”

Tichenor, Ch. 5 “Progressivism, War, and Scientific Policymaking: The Rise of the National Origins Quota System, 1900-1928”

Feb 4 The Politics of Immigration Policy Reform: Open- and Closed-Doors Policies

Tichenor, Ch. 6 “Two-Tiered Implementation: Jewish Refugees, Mexican Guestworkers, and Administrative Politics.”

Tichenor, Ch. 7 “Strangers in Cold War America: The Modern Presidency, Committee Barons, and Postwar Immigration Politics.”

Feb 9 The Politics of Immigration Policy Reform: The Prelude and Rise of the Restrictionist (and Expansionist) Approach to Illegal Immigration

Tichenor, Ch 8 “The Rebirth of American Immigration: The Rights Revolution, New Restrictionism, and Policy Deadlock.”

Tichenor, Ch. 9 “Two Faces of Expansion: The Contemporary Politics of Immigration Reform.”

Feb 11. Tichenor Catch-up Day.

Feb 16 A Comparative Perspective on Immigration Politics and Policies

Gary P. Freeman and Bob Birrell. Divergent Paths of Immigration Politics in the United States and Australia, Population and Development Review, Vol. 27, No. 3 (Sep., 2001), pp. 525-551 902.

Christian Joppke. Are "Nondiscriminatory" Immigration Policies Reversible? Evidence from the United States and Australia. Comparative Political Studies, Vol. 38, No. 1, 3-25 (2005)

Feb 17 Policy Paper Due

Section II. Immigration Policy and the Mexican Immigration System or Do Fences Work?

Feb 18 Why do people migrate?

Massey, Chapters 1-3, p. 1-51

Feb 23 History of US-Mexico Migration

Massey, Chapters 4-5 p. 52-104

Feb 25 Policy Implications

Massey, Chapter 6 and 7 p. 105-164

Mar 2 A Contrasting Perspective

Gary P. Freeman, Can Liberal States Control Unwanted Migration? The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, Vol. 534, No. 1, 17-30 (1994)

Mark Krikorian, Immigration Enforcement? Yes, We Can! August 2008 <http://www.cis.org/node/742>

Mark Krikorian, Enforcement at Work: The strategy of attrition is bearing fruit, <http://www.cis.org/OpedsandArticles/EnforcementatWork>

Office of Homeland Security, "Immigration Enforcement Actions: 2006, Annual Report,"
http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/statistics/publications/enforcement_ar_06.pdf

March 4 Migration Continued

Eliot Turner and Marc Rosenblum, "Solving the Unauthorized Migrant Problem: Proposed Legislation in the US"
<http://www.migrationinformation.org/Feature/display.cfm?id=333>

James McKinley Jr. "Napolitano Focuses on Immigration Enforcement," *New York Times*, August 11, 2009.
<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/08/12/us/12border.html>

Steven A. Camarota "Use Enforcement to Ease Situation," <http://www.cis.org/articles/2005/camerataoped1005.html>

Michael Dukakis and Daniel Mitchell, "Raise Wages, Not Walls," *New York Times* OP-Ed, July 25, 2006.

Alan Greenblat, "The Immigration Debate," in *CQ Researcher* 18(5): 97-120. February 1, 2008.

- Rogers Smith, "Alien Rights, Citizen Rights, and the Politics of Restriction," in Swain, 114-126.

March 5 Migration paper due.

Section III. Economic Impact of Immigration: Who wins, who loses?

March 9 Who comes to America?

Borjas, *Heaven's Door*, Preface, Ch 1, 2, 3

Mar 11 Who wins and loses from immigration?

Borjas, *Heaven's Door*, 4, 5, 6

Mar 16 An Economic Approach to Immigration- A Point System

Borjas, *Heaven's Door*, Ch 10-11

March 13-21 Spring Break

Mar 18 The Opposing View

Executive Office of the President, Council of Economic Advisers, *Immigration's Economic Impact*, Washington, DC: June 20, 2007, p 1-8 http://www.whitehouse.gov/cea/cea_immigration_062007.pdf

Roger Lowenstein, *The Immigration Equation*, *New York Times*, July 9, 2006

Fiscal Policy Institute, Executive Summary, "Working for a Better Life: A Profile of Immigrants in the New York State Economy," 2007, p. 1-4 http://www.fiscalpolicy.org/publications2007/FPI_ExecSumm_WorkingforaBetterLife.pdf

Skim Ira Gang and Ann Piehl, Program on Immigrant and Democracy, *Destination New Jersey: How Immigrants Benefit The State Economy* <http://www.eagleton.rutgers.edu/Immigration/NJImmigrationReport.pdf>

Mar 23 Brain Circulation

AnnaLee Saxenian, *Brain Circulation: How High-Skill Immigration Makes Everyone Better Off*, The Brookings Institution
http://www.brookings.edu/articles/2002/winter_immigration_saxenian.aspx

AnnaLee Saxenian, *The New Argonauts*, Chapter 1 http://thenewargonauts.com/SAXNEW_excerpt.pdf

Skim Richard Florida, *Creative Class War: How the GOP's anti-elitism could ruin America's economy*. January/February 2004 *Washington Monthly*, <http://www.washingtonmonthly.com/features/2004/0401.florida.html>

Mar 25 Economics Wrap-Up Day

Readings TBD

Mar 26 Economics and Immigration Paper due

Section IV American Identity in an Era of Mass Immigration- The Huntington Challenge

Mar 30 A Crisis in American Identity

Huntington, Foreword, Ch 1 and 3

Apr 1 The American Identity

Huntington, Ch 4-6, 59-141

Rogers Smith, Alien Rights, Citizen Rights, in Swain, Debating Immigration p. 114-129

Apr 6 Challenges to American Identity

Huntington, Ch 7 Deconstructing America, and Ch 8 Assimilation

Peruse nativist websites <http://www.fairus.org> and Dick Lamm, How to Destroy America - <http://www.safehaven.com/article-4837.htm>

Ewa Morawska, Transnationalism

Apr 8 Assimilation

Huntington, Ch. 9 Mexican Immigration and Hispanization

Jack Citrin, et al. Testing Huntington: Is Hispanic Immigration a Threat to American Identity? Perspectives on Politics (2007), 5:1:31-48

--See also Pew Hispanic Center, Hispanic Attitudes Towards Learning English,

<http://pewhispanic.org/files/factsheets/20.pdf>

--See also Growing Share of Immigrants Choosing Naturalization,

<http://pewhispanic.org/reports/report.php?ReportID=74>

Apr 13 Renewing American Identity

Huntington, Ch 11 and 12

Zolberg. Why Islam is like Spanish: Cultural Incorporation in Europe and the United States, Politics & Society, 1999

Peruse Center for Immigration The French Riots and U.S. Immigration Policy Panel Transcript,

[http://www.cis.org/articles/2005/frenchriots transcript.html](http://www.cis.org/articles/2005/frenchriots%20transcript.html)

April 15 Huntington Conclusion

April 16 Huntington American Identity Paper Due

Section V. Presentations

Apr 20- May 4