

History 214.401/Urban Studies 220.401/Africana Studies 078.401
Spring 2008
Monday 2-5
Immigrants, African Americans, and Cities in Twentieth-Century America

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This seminar analyzes the intersection of immigration and race in twentieth-century American cities. Seminar sessions will be divided between discussion of readings and analyses of primary sources. Readings consist of topical overviews and case studies. Requirements consist of reading approximately one book per week, presenting analyses of primary sources, and writing both short commentary papers and a final exercise.

Topics

I. The issues

1. Major issues
2. Immigration, globalization, and gender

II. Immigration, policy, and politics

3. The history of immigration policy: an overview

III. Immigrant exclusion

4. Making immigrants illegal
5. The case of Chinese immigrants

IV. African-Americans, cities, and the consequences of public policy

6. Origins of segregation
7. Consequences of federal policy
8. Urban crisis

V. Interpretive issues

9. Affirmative action
10. Assimilation
11. The immigration debate

VI. Retrospect

12. Looking back on the twentieth century

Reading assignments and dates due

I. The issues

1. Major issues

Jan. 28 Foner and Frederickson, Introductions, chapters 1,2,9,10.

Kritz and Gruak

Waldinger, chs. 1,2,9

2. Immigration, globalization, and gender

Feb. 4 Castles and Miller, chs. 1,2,12

Sassen. "Global Migration and Economic Need"

Zolberg, ch. 1

Moorehead

II. Immigration, policy, and politics

3. The history of immigration policy: an overview

Feb. 11 Tichenor

III. Immigrant exclusion

4. Making immigrants illegal

Feb. 18 Ngai

5. The case of Chinese immigrants

Feb. 25 Lee

IV. African-Americans, cities, and the consequences of public policy

6. Origins of segregation

March 3. Hirsch; Jones; Massey and Denton chs. 2 and 3

7. Consequences of federal policy

March. 17 Katznelson

8. Urban crisis

March 24 Sugrue

V. Interpretive issues

9. Affirmative action

March 31 Anderson

10. Assimilation

April 7 Alba and Nee

11. The immigration debate

April 14 Zolberg chs. 11 and Conclusion

VI. Retrospect

12. Looking back on the twentieth century

April 21 Katz and Stern

13. Wrap up

Assignments

There are 4 types of assignments: (1) reading assigned material; (2) organization and leadership of one or two workshops on primary sources; (3) 6 2-3 page commentary papers based on the reading; (4) a final exercise. These assignments are explained below.

All assignments must be turned in on time. Late papers will not be accepted. Written assignments should be posted on the seminar's Blackboard site.

The Blackboard site provides an opportunity to continue discussions between seminar sessions. I hope you will take advantage of it by posting and replying to comments.

Remember that a seminar is only as lively as participants make it. I expect you all to do the reading faithfully and to come prepared to contribute to discussion.

Commentary papers: students should write 6 2-3 page papers commenting on the week's reading. These should not summarize the book or articles; I assume you all can do that. Rather, the papers should be a reaction to the reading: anything that strikes you as particularly interesting, important, outrageous, or worth thinking about. I will keep track of these papers, but they will not be given formal grades. I expect one paper every other week starting with either the first or second reading assignment. These papers are due at the end of the session at which the reading is discussed and should be submitted *via the digital drop box on Blackboard*. They are not acceptable later, and they are an integral part of the seminar. To receive credit for the seminar, you must turn them in on time. I may ask students with especially interesting papers to send them out to share with the whole seminar.

Primary source workshop. Roughly half of each seminar will be spent analyzing one or two types of primary sources (listed below) related to the seminar's topics. The purpose is to familiarize students with several of the principal primary sources available for the study of immigration, race, and cities; to assess their strengths and limits; and explore how they might be used. Session leaders should: (1) explain the features of the source and where it is to be found; (2) provide a bibliography and/or web addresses where appropriate; (3) develop and lead a group exercise based on samples of sources. For the most part, these exercises should consist of dividing the seminar into small groups and giving each group a sample of the source to analyze and report back on.

Remember that only a very small fraction of historical sources are found on the internet. Do not restrict your discussion of sources only to those available on line.

The sources are:

1. Census: manuscript, aggregate, IPUMS
2. Ethnic associations
3. Ship manifests and naturalization records
4. Legal: courts, human relations commissions
5. Maps and real estate transactions
6. Personal documents (diaries, letters, etc.)

7. Institutions (schools, hospitals, labor unions)
8. Photographs and built environment
9. Government reports and legislative documents
10. Not-for-profit organizations/philanthropy
11. Oral history
12. Newspapers

Final Exercise. A final exercise will be distributed on the last day of the seminar. The due date will be announced during the semester. The exercise will require synthesizing ideas discussed in the readings and discussions.

- Alba, Richard D., and Victor Nee. 2003. *Remaking the American Mainstream: Assimilation and Contemporary Immigration*. Cambridge, MA and London, England: Harvard University Press.
- Anderson, Terry H. 2004. *The Pursuit of Fairness: A History of Affirmative Action*. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press.
- Castles, Stephen, and Mark J. Miller. 2003. *The Age of Migration: International Population Movements in the Modern World*. Third ed. New York and London: The Guilford Press.
- Foner, Nancy, and George M. Fredrickson, eds. 2004. *Not Just Black and White: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives on Immigration, Race, and Ethnicity in the United States*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.
- Hirsch, Arnold R. 1993. With or Without Jim Crow: Black Residential Segregation in the United States. In *Urban Policy in Twentieth-Century America*, edited by A. R. Hirsch and R. A. Mohl. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press.
- Jones, Jacqueline. 1993. Southern Diaspora: Origins of the Northern "Underclass". In *The "Underclass" Debate: Views from History*, edited by M. B. Katz. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Katz, Michael B., and Mark J. Stern. 2006. *One nation divisible : what America was and what it is becoming*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.
- Kritz, Mary A., and Douglas T. Gurak. 2004. *Immigration and a Changing Economy, The American People Census 2000*. New York and Washington: Russell Sage Foundation and Population Reference Bureau.
- Lee, Erika. 2003. *At America's gates : Chinese immigration during the exclusion era, 1882-1943*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press.
- Massey, Douglas S., and Nancy A. Denton. 1993. *American apartheid : segregation and the making of the underclass*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press.
- Moorehead, Caroline. 2007. Women and Children For Sale. *New York Review of Books* 54 (15).
- Ngai, Mae M. 2004. *Impossible Subjects: Illegal Aliens and the Making of Modern America*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Sugrue, Thomas J. 1996. *The origins of the urban crisis : race and inequality in postwar Detroit*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press.
- Sassen, Saskia. 2007. Global Migration and Economic Need.
- Tichenor, Daniel J. 2002. *Dividing Lines: The Politics of Immigration Control in America*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Waldinger, Roger. 1996. *Still the Promised City? African-Americans and New Immigrants in Post-Industrial New York*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.
- Zolberg, Aristide R. 2006. *America by Design: Immigration Policy in the Fashioning of America*. New York and Cambridge: Russell Sage Foundation and Harvard University Press.

