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RPOS 347 - Comparative Latin American Migration: Spain and the United States (GINS 398-0112 , Class #2421)

Classroom Instruction: M-F 12 noon - 2:00 pm; 3:30-5:30 pm

Field visits and activities: Between 9-11:30 am and 5:30-7:30 pm as needed.

Learning Objectives

In this course students will:

1. Learn about and evaluate the historical and political narratives that explain international migration, comparing the experiences of Spain and the United States.
2. Students will learn about the different ways in which political science approaches the questions of immigration compared to other disciplinary approaches. They will also learn how interdisciplinary approaches can be used to better understand international population movements.
3. Using short posts and a class project students will exercise and hone writing and critical thinking skills through reflective summaries and thesis formulation, documentation, analysis and argument. They will exercise and hone these skills through the identification and interrogation of the assumptions, values, evidence, conclusions, and implications of different types of scholarly sources and will receive individual and collective feedback from oral presentations. They will also exercise critical thinking skills through observation, processing of sense data and ideas, and reflection.

Course Description

This course will examine and compare the migration experience of people from Latin America to Spain and the United States. The comparative framework will be set through pre-program readings about Spain. Then we will examine the Latin American immigration experience in both countries. We will target the period since 1965 to the present; in 1965 the United States overhauled its immigration policy, leading to decisive increases in migration from Latin America and the Caribbean. Spain becomes an immigrant-receiving country in the 1980s. In addition to classroom instruction, we will observe aspects of the immigration experience in Madrid's streets and plazas, through site visits, and will watch immigration-themed films through Ensemble Video on Blackboard as well as, if possible, in the distinctively urban way offered by Cine Doré, Filmoteca Española. As part of its cultural immersion component, the course includes a visit to Valencia.

Required Readings and Visual Materials

All on Blackboard. See Schedule below.

Course Requirements

I. Reaction Posts (50% of final grade) – Two kinds of posts are required: 1. Reading and documentary or film-based: These should provide the script for your participation in the discussion of assigned readings and visual materials. Follow the guidelines in learning objective number three. Since the

required posts are short, not all of them have to include all aspects of the outlined guidelines. At a minimum, focus on any aspect of the materials that you find interesting, that you didn't know about previously, and/or that triggers a question or questions you would like addressed in class. 2. Event based: These will be reactions and reflections written after site visits, ethnographic exercises, excursions and other activities if appropriate. There is an example of field notes on Blackboard that you should review in order to write your own field notes for scheduled ethnographic exercises. **The minimum required for each post is 150 words, unless otherwise indicated.**

The pre-program readings posts will not be graded. Feedback will be provided for these posts to make sure that subsequent posts follow the guidelines outlined here and/or learning objective number three. After that, posts will be graded and the three lowest graded posts will be dropped from the grade tabulation.

Each post will be graded A-E. The final grade for this requirement will be the average grade from all the posts. Grades shall be weighted as follows: $A = 4.00$, $A- = 3.70$, $B+ = 3.30$, $B = 3.00$, $B- = 2.70$, $C+ = 2.30$, $C = 2.00$, $C- = 1.70$, $D+ = 1.30$, $D = 1.00$, $D- = 0.70$, and $E = 0.00$.

Posts will be submitted electronically using the journal tool on Blackboard the day before class no later than 11:59 pm. Pre-program posts must be submitted on or before May 19.

II. Class Participation (30% of final grade) - Everyone will be expected to contribute to our class discussions. Participation should demonstrate a careful and thoughtful review of the assigned materials. Class participation will be graded A-E.

III. Project and Class Presentation (20% of final grade) – Your project can reflect your experience in Madrid in terms of the topic of immigration or it can combine elements of your experience with a straightforward academic exercise. Possibilities include an interview, a video project, a photo essay, a book review, a reflective journal, or a review essay. Your project must be discussed with me and approved no later than May 21st. Projects and class presentations will be graded A-E as a unit.

Grading

The course is graded A-E. The course grade will be tabulated according to the percentages for each requirement using the grade scale below.

Score Grade Scale				
A 93-100	B+ 87-89	C+ 77-79	D+ 67-69	E 0-59
A- 90-92	B 83-86	C 73-76	D 63-66	
	B- 80-82	C- 70-72	D- 60-62	

For example, the reaction posts are worth 50% of the course grade. If your cumulative grade is A- multiply .50 (50%) by 92 (I will use the top score for all tabulations) and you'll see that you earned 46 points out of the total 50 points possible for this requirement; that is also 46 points towards the total of 100 for the course. The course grade will be tabulated according to this procedure.

Office Hours

M-F, informally or by appointment.

Schedule

Session A: COMPARATIVE LATIN AMERICAN IMMIGRATION	
MAY	

DATE	ACTIVITIES	Contact Hours
May 1-17	Pre-program readings: "Spain is Different"; "Spanish Society After Franco"; "The Spaniards"; "20th Century Spain-The Transition." Read and post reactions on Blackboard on or before May 19.	
SAT 18	Depart United States.	
S 19	Arrive in Madrid; Orientation, welcome dinner, walking tour. 5:00 pm, El Faro	
	Discussion of class projects	1
M 20	Gallery visit or meeting with Club de Madrid	1
	Discussion of pre-program readings readings: "Spain is Different"; "Spanish Society After Franco"; "The Spaniards" 12:00 noon-2:00 pm	2
	Site Visit: SOS Racismo/Mohammed Gersou (confirmed) Debriefing: Plaza de los Cabestreros 4:30-7:00 pm	2.5
T 21	Discussion of pre-program reading: "20th Century Spain-The Transition"; and "Introduction: Latino Immigrants Claiming Rights"; "Controlling Immigration" 12:00 noon-2:00 pm and 3:30-5:00 pm	3.5
	Site visit: Cuatro Caminos Diebriefing: Parque Santander 5:30-7:30 pm	2
W 22	Discussion of readings: "International migration at a crossroads;" "When the Frontier Becomes the Wall;" "Out-Migration of Immigrants in Spain" 12:00 noon-2:00 pm and 3:30-5:00 pm	3.5
	Site visit: Plaza Lavapiés Debriefing: Plaza Tirso de Molina 5:30-6:30 pm	1
	Cultural immersion activity (Cooking or Flamenco class) 8:00 pm, site TBD	
TH 23	Discussion of readings: "A Nation by Design" "Latinidades: The Making of Identity and Community"; "Anti-Immigrant Feeling in Spain" 12:00 noon-2:00 pm and 3:30-4:30 pm	3
	Ethnographic Exercise: Site TBD 5:00-7:00 pm	2
F 24	Discussion of reading: "Pathways to Citizenship" 9-10 am, Sala de Juntas at El Faro	1
	Depart from El Faro at 12 noon for Valencia trip May 24-26	
SAT 26	Meeting with immigrant association in Valencia	1.5
M 27	Discussion of readings: "Immigration and Dual Citizenship"; "Cultural Citizenship, Gender, and Labor" 12:00 noon-2:00 pm	2
	Ethnographic exercise, Plaza Sol 3:30-5:30	2
T 28	Discussion of readings: "Economic Outcomes Among Latino Immigrants"; "Neoliberalism and Globalization" 12:00 noon-2:00 pm	2
	Site Visit: CCOO/Manuel Rodríguez Nuñez (confirmed) CCOO MADRID, C/Lope de Vega, 38, 5ª planta.	2

	Debriefing: Paseo del Prado 4:30-6:30 pm	
W 29	Discussion of readings: "Europe at the crossroads: Demographic challenges and international migration"; "Latina Sexuality, Reproduction, and Fertility as Threats to the Nation;" "Latina Fertility and Reproduction Reconsidered" 12:00 noon-2:00 pm and 3:30-4:30 pm	3
	Ethnographic exercise: site TBD 5:00-7:00 pm	2
	Cultural immersion activity (Cooking or Flamenco Class) 8:00 pm, site TBD	
TH 30	Site Visit: Asociación Rumiñahuí Madrid/Vladimir Paspuel (Confirmed) 9:00-11:00 am Debriefing AIL Formación	2
	Film discussion: "Flores de Otro Mundo," "El Tren de la Memoria" Discussion of reading: "Transnational Identities" 12:30 noon-2:00 pm and 3:30-5:00 pm	3
F 31	Project presentations - 20 minutes each 12:00 noon-3:00 pm	3
	Total Contact Hours	45
JUNE 1	Free Day in Madrid	
JUNE 2	Depart for United States or stay for session B. Check out time at El Faro is anytime before noon.	