

WORLD MIGRATION
HIST X 2980, Fall 2019
Diana Center 504
MW 1:10-2:25 PM

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Migration is a basic human feature, a mechanism in biological evolution that explains the development of every hominid species, including our own. It also explains the spread of humanity from our East African cradle, the emergence of cultural and physical diversity within our species (what we call ethnicity and race), and the processes of globalization of the last five centuries.

This class examines this essential human activity from our earliest movements to the present, when more than 200 million people live outside their countries of birth and a much larger number outside their hometowns. It attempts to explain why population movements have taken different forms (e.g. conquest, expulsions, slave trafficking, labor migration, etc.) and addresses the following questions: What role has migration played in the diffusion, contact, clashes, and mixtures of cultures and how this role has changed across time and place? Why have some migrant groups been able to preserve a distinct identity for centuries while others assimilate into the majority culture and disappear as a separate group in a few generations? Why have minority-majority relations cover the spectrum from harmonious pluralism to genocide? Why have some immigrant groups been more economically successful than others? Do economic success and cultural assimilation go hand in hand? Do immigrants today help the host countries' economies by doing the jobs natives are not willing to do, or do they lower wages and opportunities for the working-class and the poor? And in countries where immigrant groups are more affluent than the native population, do they provide beneficial entrepreneurship and/or an element of social conflict and resentment?

Learning Objectives. Addressing these questions will also allow us to:

- 1-Learn about migration as one of the most crucial elements in the human experience rather than as a chapter in the history of any particular nation, making our knowledge more international.
- 2-Place current debates on immigration in the U.S. in a historical and global perspective.
- 3-Apply the research methods of history and historical sociology to the study of human mobility and inter-group relations.
- 4-Learn how to evaluate the reliability of historical sources--including primary documents, statistical data, images, and art--and explore the nature of evidence.

Readings:

Articles, maps, and primary sources (e.g. travelers' accounts, personal memoirs, family letters, newspaper cartoons, photographs, plastic arts, etc.) are posted on Courseworks/Canvas for specific weeks under "Files."

José C. Moya, *Cousins and Strangers: Spanish Immigrants in Buenos Aires, 1850-1930* can be purchased at CU bookstore, is on reserve at Barnard Library, and accessible as an electronic book through Columbia Library.

Examination and Grade

Examination	Date	% of final grade
In-class, 100 multiple choice	M Oct. 21	30%
5-7 page paper*	M. Dec. 10	30%
Final, essay + short questions	M Dec. 16, 1:10-4 PM	40%

*Suggested strategies for the paper include: 1) A paper based on primary material such as migrant letters, autobiographies or interviews in which those sources are analyzed in the context of the questions and themes discussed in class. 2) A paper based on secondary sources that discusses and evaluates different understandings of a historical migration. 3) A review of Moya’s Cousins and Strangers in which you discuss and analyze some of the themes, methods, and theories in the book.

Much of the material for the examinations will come from lecture so attendance is highly recommended.

Grades:

Grade Scale: Examinations and the paper will be graded numerically. Below are the letter equivalents

97-100	A+		87-89	B+		77-79	C+		67-69	D+		0-59	F
93-96	A		83-86	B		73-76	C		63-66	D			
90-92	A-		80-82	B-		70-72	C-		60-62	D-			

Extra Credit:

You can earn 0.5 point of extra credit for each presentation you attend at the Barnard’s Forum on Migration (list below and at Barnard.edu/fom), which can raise your final grade by one step (for example from B to B+) or two (for example from B to A-). Make sure to write you name in the sign-up sheet during the events.

Class Sessions

Week	Date	Day	Topic
1	Sept. 2	M	No Class (Labor Day)
	Sept. 4	W	Introduction
2	Sept. 9	M	Prehistoric Migrations: Out of Africa I
	Sept. 11	W	Prehistoric Migrations: Out of Africa II
3	Sept. 16	M	The “Neolithic Revolution” and Migration
	Sept. 18	W	Moving in the Ancient Middle East & Mediterranean
4	Sept. 23	M	Migration and Religion: Rome & Christianity
	Sept. 25	W	Migration as Conquest: Germans and Arabs
5	Sept. 30	M	Migration as Conquest: Vikings and Mongols
	Oct. 2	W	Pre-Columbian America
6	Oct. 7	M	European Conquest & Colonization in the New World I
	Oct. 9	W	European Conquest & Colonization in the New World II
7	Oct. 14	M	Africa and its Diaspora I
	Oct. 16	W	Africa and its Diaspora II
8	Oct. 21	M	Midterm Exam
	Oct. 23	W	Migration and Modernity in the Atlantic World, 1830-1930 I

9	Oct. 28	M	Migration and Modernity in the Atlantic World, 1830-1930 II
	Oct. 30	W	Migration and Modernity in Asia, 1840-1940
10	Nov. 4	M	Out of the South and To the South: Blacks in the U.S. and Brazil
	Nov. 6	W	NO CLASS
11	Nov. 11	M	Post World War II Global Migrations I
	Nov. 13	W	Post World War II Global Migrations II
12	Nov. 18	M	Europe: From Exporter to Importer of People
	Nov. 20	W	Destination Middle East: Israel & the Gulf Kingdoms
13	Nov. 25	M	The Migration of the Poor: South to South Flows
	Nov. 27	W	NO CLASS, ACADEMIC HOLIDAY
14	Dec. 2	M	Latinos: Moving and Making Race in the US (and beyond)
	Dec. 4	W	The New[est] Immigration Debates in Historical Perspective I
15	Dec. 9	M	The New[est] Immigration Debates in Historical Perspective II
	Dec. 16	M	Final Exam, 1:10-4 PM

List of Fall 2019 presentations at Barnard's Forum on Migration:

(All events take place at 6 PM in Sulzberger Parlor, 3rd floor of Barnard Hall)

1-Refuge Beyond Reach: How Rich Democracies Repel Asylum Seekers

David FitzGerald, UC San Diego

Monday, September 9, 6 PM

2-Our America: Utopia and Persistence of a Jewish Family

Claudio Lomnitz, Columbia University

Tuesday, September 17, 6 PM

3-"Mother of Exiles": Refugees in American Myth and History

Mae Ngai, Columbia University

Tuesday, October 8, 6 PM.

4- Kugel and Frijoles: Latino Jews in the United States

Laura Limonic, College of Old Westbury, SUNY

Tuesday, November 12, 6 PM