

Immigration, the State, and Justice: On the Margins of Membership

EES 79903/MALS 70300

Fall Semester 2017

Tuesdays 4:15-6:15pm

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Course Description

With a focus on *immigration* (as opposed to *immigrants*), our primary task is to interrogate and explore the ways in which the state mediates and controls the membership and movement of people across national boundaries and within the territory of the nation-state, both historically and in the contemporary era. In exploring the changing relationship between migrants and the state, we will define “state” broadly to include the local, national, and supranational. Topics include, *inter alia*, the changing landscape and rescaling of immigrant enforcement, the construction of migrant illegality, the role of discretion in immigration enforcement, deportation and detention, and the expanding “crimmigration” system. While the class focuses most specifically on the US context, international examples will also be discussed and papers based on international case studies are welcome.

Course Expectations and Requirements

This is a reading-intensive, discussion-oriented seminar. Students are expected to attend all seminar meetings with the assigned texts read in completion and arrive to class ready to fully participate in discussions.

Assignments

(1) You will write a **short weekly memo** of approximately 500 words. This memo should be structured like a literature review or book review essay. In other words, you should combine a critical summary of the reading(s) with a discussion of the contributions and/or deficiencies—theoretical, empirical, methodological—of each reading to the broader literature under consideration. If appropriate, you can also frame the readings in relation to your evolving research topic. **Please post your memo to Blackboard prior to our class meeting each week.**

(2) **Presentation:** You will present your paper-in-progress once during the semester. You should plan to speak for 10 minutes, and then engage your classmates in discussion and feedback regarding your work.

(3) You will write a **final paper of approximately 15-25 pages**. This paper should be professionally useful for you. In that light, you might choose to write an article-length manuscript that you plan to submit to a journal, a thesis or dissertation proposal, a grant proposal, or a standard seminar paper that allows you to ruminate on the themes of the course and/or your evolving research topic. **Please meet with me by mid-October** to discuss your plans for the paper. I am available to work with you and provide guidance throughout the

semester as your project develops. **Final papers are due Tuesday, December 19. Please post to Blackboard.**

Readings and Course Materials

We will be reading all or significant portions of various books (see below). Additional readings will be available on Blackboard or available via the library's journal databases.

COURSE OUTLINE

1. August 29: Introduction

2. September 5: Tanya Golash-Boza. 2015. *Deported: Immigrant Policing, Disposable Labor, and Global Capitalism*. New York: NYU Press.

3. September 12: Jenna Loyd, Matthew Mitchelson, and Andrew Burrige (eds.). 2012. *Beyond Walls and Cages: Prisons, Borders, and Global Crisis*. Athens: University of Georgia Press.

4. September 19: NO CLASS TODAY (classes follow a Thursday schedule)

5. September 26: Colin Dayan. 2013. *The Law is a White Dog: How Legal Rituals Make and Unmake Persons*. Princeton NJ: Princeton University Press.

6. October 3: Hannah Arendt. 1951. "The decline of the nation-state and the end of the rights of man," in *The Origins of Totalitarianism*. New York: Harcourt, Chapter 9; pp. 267-304.

Judith Butler. 2006. "Indefinite detention," in *Precarious Life*. London: Verso, pp. 50-100.

Giorgio Agamben. 2005. "The state of exception as a paradigm of government," in *State of Exception*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

7. October 10: Mark Dow. 2005. *American Gulag: Inside U.S. Immigration Prisons*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

8. October 17: Daniel Kanstroom. 2010. *Deportation Nation: Outsiders in American History*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

9. October 24: S. Deborah Kang. 2017. *The INS on the Line: Making Immigration Law on the US-Mexico Border, 1917-1954*. New York: Oxford University Press.

10. October 31: Ian Haney López. 2006. *White by Law: The Legal Construction of Race*. Rev. and updated, 10th anniversary ed. New York: New York University Press.

11. November 7: Ruben Andersson. 2014. *Illegality, Inc.: Clandestine Migration and the Business of Bordering Europe*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

12. November 14: Michael Collyer and Russell King (eds.). 2016. *Narrating Europe's Migration and Refugee Crisis*, *Human Geography* 9(2). Read all the articles in this special issue.

13. November 21: NO CLASS TODAY (classes follow a Friday schedule)

14. November 28: Amada Armenta. 2017. *Protect, Serve, and Deport: The Rise of Policing as Immigration Enforcement*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

15. December 5: Patricia Macías-Rojas. 2016. *From Deportation to Prison: The Politics of Immigration Enforcement in Post-Civil Rights America*. New York: NYU Press.

16. December 12: Cybelle Fox and Thomas Guglielmo. 2012. "Defining America's racial boundaries: Blacks, Mexicans, and European immigrants, 1890-1945," *American Journal of Sociology* 118(2): 327-379.

Inés Valdez, Mat Coleman & Amna Akbar. 2017. "Missing in action: Practice, paralegality, and the nature of immigration enforcement," *Citizenship Studies* 21(5): 547-569.