Overview of Course Content:
In the 21st century, with accelerating globalization, the shrinking of time and space, and the spread of culture across the globe, immigration has become a major issue everywhere. From traditional receiving countries like the US and Europe, to newer migration strategies taking place in Asia, Latin America, and Africa, migration is truly a global phenomenon. This class begins with core sociological theories, topics, and debates in the field of immigration. We will look at the most central theories of migration, immigration policies, assimilation, acculturation, belonging, and citizenship. After covering these core topics, we will touch on some of the most important contemporary immigration issues in the 21st century: nationalism, multiculturalism, remittances, refugees, and alternative migration strategies. This class has a large reading requirement and projects intended to provide hands on interaction with the topic of immigration. It is open to anyone with an interest in migration.

Specifically, the goals of this course are: 1) to teach the core theories, concepts, and bodies of research in the field of immigration, 2) to provide an opportunity to interact with these ideas in a hands-on way, and 3) to think critically about common immigration debates and to come to one’s own informed opinion about such issues.

Grade Breakdown:
- Attendance: 5%
- Current Events Short Essay: 10%
- Reading Memos (2): 15% each for a total of 30%
- Immigration Interview + Reflection: 20%
- Take Home Final Exam: 35%

LATE ASSIGNMENTS ARE NOT ACCEPTED! All assignments will be “handed out” and completed through the bCourses website. This means that the detailed instructions of each assignment will be give out under “Assignments” on bCourses and you will turn in your assignment there as well.

There is a one-hour grace period where you can still submit your assignment even though it will be considered late. Late assignments, even assignments just couple minutes late, are penalized a full grade (e.g. an A becomes a B). If you miss this grace period, you will be unable to submit your assignment and you will be given a 0 on it. Please be sure to turn things in on time and before the stated due date/time.
*NOTE: The reason I have a strict policy on late assignments is because I am concerned about unknowingly participating in a system that privileges certain racial, cultural, socioeconomic, family background influences that may account for one student asking for an extension while others keep silent about their circumstances.

- PLEASE submit your assignments early! Do not wait for the last minute. BCourses is known to sometimes have errors in submission (I suspect due to too many students submitting at the same time), so please save us all some stress and extra work and submit things at least an hour in advance of the due date and time.
- **If you encounter an error in submission**, please take a screenshot of the error that includes the date and time of the error (your computer’s date/time clock is good enough) and email me your assignment with the screenshot attached. In order for your assignment to be accepted, I must receive this email before the submission due date.

**Grading Policy:**

A reader will be grading all of your work for this class. You may request to meet directly with the reader to discuss your assignments before the assignment is due to get some input and to have the reader answer any questions. Of course, I will also go over the assignments in class as well. You may also meet with me to talk about assignments but just know that I will not grade them personally (although I do provide rubrics for them). For the main assignments of the class, rubrics will be provided that will explain and show how the reader will grade your work.

Any questions about a grade you receive on an assignment should be directed first to the reader. After meeting and discussing your grade with the reader, if you are still unsatisfied with the results, you may meet with me to ask for a re-grade. I will ask for a written short letter (paragraph or two) that explains why you received the grade you received and why you disagree with this assessment. I will re-grade the assignment and whatever grade you receive (higher or lower) will become the grade you get on the assignment.

***If English is not your first language, or you have trouble writing in English, there are resources on campus to help in writing your papers.

1. Visit the Student Learning Center (SLC) on UC Berkeley campus. Check out their website and their writing resources at [http://slc.berkeley.edu/writing](http://slc.berkeley.edu/writing)
2. Look on the bCourse website for our class. I have posted some resources in a folder labeled “Writing Resources.” These are some rather thorough guides written specifically by and for the Sociology department.

Also, if you are part of the **Disabled Students’ Program (DSP)** and require any special accommodations, please talk to me and/or send me an email within the next two weeks to work out any needed extensions. If extensions are not worked out at least 2 weeks in advance, I am not obliged to give extensions to DSP students.
Grading Scale for the Class:

A+ (98-100)          C (72-78)
A  (92-98)            C-  (70-72)
A-  (90-92)           [Pass cut off for PNP is here]
B+ (88-90)           D+  (68-70)
B  (82-88)            D   (60-62)
B-  (80-82)           F   (everything below 60)
C+ (78-80)

Participation and Attendance:

Attendance to class is mandatory. I believe that to get the most out of the class, you simply have to show up! But also, this is just free points for you! If for some reason you have to miss several classes or your attendance has been derailed, please do come talk to me in office hours or let me know by email. You are allowed three unexplained absences before your grade begins to be affected.

Please come to class prepared to discuss the day’s reading and/or assignment. Your participation during class is crucial to learning and understanding the course material. “Participation” does not mean simply speaking out a lot. The content, quality, and depth of your participation are more important than how many times a week you speak.

Current Events Short Essay:

In the first few weeks of the class, you will be given an assignment to look up an important current event related to immigration and write a short 2-page double spaced essay on the event. You will read several sources/articles about the event and provide a brief summary of what happened. You will also provide some response or reaction to what you think about the event and what questions or issues it brings up for you in relation to ideas of immigration. More information to be given out the first week of class.

2 Reading Memos:

This class does not have any midterms. Instead, it uses reading memos as a way to test your understanding of the different parts of the class. One memo assignment will be given out for parts II, III, and IV of the class for a total of three memos. You will choose two of the three memos to write on. Each memo will be explained at the beginning of that part of the course (see reading schedule below).

The memos will ask you to write a 4-page double-spaced argumentative paper answering a major question and/or debate relevant to that part of the course. It will ask you to draw on readings and lecture as evidence to back up the position of your paper.

Immigration Interview + Reflection:

As part of this course, you will be asked to do an in-depth interview with a first-generation immigrant (meaning that they were the first ones to actually immigrate). You will ask questions about their migration journey as well as the difficulties they faced upon arrival.

Once you have conducted this interview, you will be asked to write a reflection on what you learned from this person’s story and relate their story to some of the themes discussed in the readings from the first three parts of the course. More detailed information to follow.
Take Home Final Exam:

Your final exam will be a take-home exam. I like to keep the final exam a bit vague to allow for flexibility depending on how the semester goes and what topics seem most interesting to students. Therefore, more information as the semester moves along.
**Reading List and Semester Schedule**

**Tuesday, January 17**

Introduction
- Top 10 Migration Issues of 2016:
  http://www.migrationpolicy.org/programs/migration-information-source/top-10-migration-issues-2016 [Browse the stories that most interest you on this website]

**Thursday, January 19**

Introduction: Migration Overview and Statistics
- UN Migration Report 2015 [Skim and get a sense for key statistics and concepts]

Current Events Short Essay Explained in Class
Part I: Theories of Migration

Tuesday, January 24
Theories of Migration: Overview

Additional Reading:

Thursday, January 26
Economic Models of Migration

Tuesday, January 31
Social Networks and Migration
- Menjivar, Cecilia Fragmented Ties, UC Press, 2000, pp. 26-36; chap 5

Thursday, February 2
NO CLASS – Out of Town!

***Current Events Short Essay Due Before Thursday, February 2, 11:59pm***
Part II: Immigration and the State

Tuesday, February 7  
The Influence of the State  

Immigration Interview Explained in Class  
Part II Memo Explained in Class

Thursday, February 9  
Right to Restrict  

Tuesday, February 14  
Immigration Policies: Goals and Limitations  

Thursday, February 16  
Mechanisms of Immigration Control  

Tuesday, February 21  
Border Control  
- Andreas, Peter. Border Games, Cornell, 2000, ch 1
Part III: Assimilation, Integration, and Belonging

Thursday, February 23
Models of Assimilation and Integration

Immigration Interview Reflection Explained in Class
Part III Memo Explained in Class

***Immigration and the State Memo Due Before Friday, February 24, 11:59pm***

Tuesday, February 28
Segmented Assimilation

Thursday, March 2
Integration and Ethnicity

Tuesday, March 7
Citizenship

Thursday, March 9
Political Integration
Tuesday, March 14  
Integration in the US  

Thursday, March 16  
Integration Beyond the US  

***Assimilation/Integration Memo Due Before Friday, March 17, 11:59pm***
Part IV: Nationalism, Transnationalism, and Multiculturalism

Tuesday, March 21
Nationalism

Part IV Memo Explained in Class

Thursday, March 23
Nativism and Xenophobia

***Immigration Interview + Reflection Due Before Friday, March 24, 11:59pm***

March 27-31 Spring Break

Tuesday, April 4
Transnationalism

Thursday, April 6
Postnationalism: Beyond Citizenship

Tuesday, April 11
Multiculturalism and Diversity
Part V: Migration in the Global South

Thursday, April 13  
Step-Wise Migration / South-to-South Migration  

***Nationalism/Multiculturalism Memo Due Before Friday, April 14, 11:59pm***

Tuesday, April 18  
Refugees and Forced Migration  

Thursday, April 20  
Brain Drain  

Tuesday, April 25  
Remittances  

Thursday, April 27  
Final Review / Evaluations