

Garret-Evangelical Theological Seminary

M-418 - Immigration: Biblical Mandate and Political Realities Summer 2017

Professor: Daniel S. Schipani, Dr.Psy., Ph.D.

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Schedule: June 12-16, 2017 (Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm)

Location: TBA

Course Description

This course focuses on contemporary realities and concerns related to immigration with an integrative approach. It addresses key theoretical and practical issues from a multidisciplinary perspective with biblical-theological, historical, ethical, pastoral, and socio-political lenses. Students are guided to understand holistically the main contextual and substantive questions that immigration raises; further, they are equipped to integrate the course resources to their pastoral, academic or other professional vocations.

The three main **goals** and six **objectives** of the course are:¹

- To nurture the participants' ministerial identity and vocation (*being*) by
 - identifying values and virtues necessary for effective and faithful presence in the face of foreignness
 - fostering the experience of inclusive community as social and spiritual reality
- To strengthen professional/ministry skills (*doing*) by
 - developing biblical-theological, socio-cultural and political hermeneutical competencies
 - practicing the disciplines of critical reflection, supervision and consultation
- To develop competency in pastoral and theological reflection (*knowing*) by
 - understanding in context the multiple dynamics of immigration
 - integrating biblical-theological and behavioral-social perspectives and resources in terms of practical and public theology

The **methodology** to be used in the *on campus* class sessions (85% of total course time) includes: inspirational biblical-theological reflections, short lectures, role plays, video/film presentations, case study discussion, and student presentations. The main activities during the *on line* section of the class (15% of time) will be presentation and forum discussion of case studies as a practice of consultation and supervision, and presentation and discussion of the students' final essays.²

¹ The goals and objectives of this course are stated in terms of the personal-spiritual ("being"), ministerial-professional ("doing"), and academic-theological ("knowing") formation goals that define holistic formation in theological education.

² The course activities and assignments address course (and program) goals and objectives by combining *experiential learning* (guided by inspirational reflections, assessment of self-awareness and faith dynamics , etc.);

Requirements and Evaluation Percentages

1. Pre-class assignments (to be completed by June 12) = 25%

A. Reading and writing

M. Daniel Carrol, *Christians at the Border: Immigration, the Church, & the Bible*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Brazos, 2013.

Ched Myers & Matthew Colwell. *Our God is Undocumented: Biblical Faith and Immigration Justice*. Maryknoll: Orbis Books, 2012

Write two 800--1,000-word evaluative book reviews (one for each of the two books indicated above), to be submitted by June 13. Students must include their understanding of the challenges and opportunities of immigration in light of their particular vocational situation and location.

B. Two options:³ (1) Interview (or personal account) and writing

Interview a person or couple/family of immigrants. (2) View and review one of the films that focus on immigration.⁴

2. Expectations and assignments during June 12-16 week = 55%

A. Regular attendance and active participation; reading and completion of other assignments in preparation for the sessions is, therefore, essential (40 %).

B. Preparation and presentation of a reflection report⁵ (15%).

3. Expectations and assignments during on line period = 20%⁶

a. Read and review (600-700 words) another text on immigration, chosen in consultation with the professor (10%)

b. Post a final essay (1500-2000 words) by June 30, focusing on the student's understanding of, and approach to the challenges and opportunities of immigration in their social and ecclesial context (10%).

Papers

All the papers should be written according to Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 8th Edition.

practical learning (elicited and assessed in interviewing, exercises of hermeneutical and ministerial skills, etc.); and *theoretical learning* (encouraged by professor input, readings, peer feedback, etc.).

³ The professor will send specific guidelines to complete the assignment (one of the two options under B) for those who register for this course.

⁴ Selected films: "A Better Life", "In America", "Entre Nos", "The Visitor". Other films may also be considered in consultation with the professor.

⁵ Guidelines for the preparation of the ministry report will be given in class.

⁶ During the online part of the course, students will engage each other by providing feedback (Moodle forum) on each of the assignments indicated (case study, book review, and final essay). The professor will join students and provide feedback in the forum discussions as well. Postings will be due by June 18, 25, and July 7.

Contacting the Professor

Regular office hours during the week will be 1:00-2:30 pm.; other times by arrangement (574-215-6280) dschipani@ambs.edu). Students are welcome to knock at my door when it is open.

Selected Bibliography

Required

M. Daniel Carrol, *Christians at the Border: Immigration, the Church, & the Bible*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Brazos, 2013.

Ched Myers & Matthew Colwell. *Our God is Undocumented: Biblical Faith and Immigration Justice*. Maryknoll: Orbis Books, 2012.

Recommended

The following list is intended for students as they write the final assignment and consider further study on immigration.

Aviva Chomsky, *Undocumented: How Immigration Became Illegal*. Boston: Beacon Press, 2014.

Roger Daniels, *Coming to America: A History of Immigration and Ethnicity in American Life*. 2nd ed. New York: Harper Collins, 2002.

Daniel G. Groody & Giacchino Campese, eds., *Theological Perspectives on Migration*. University of Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press, 2008.

Kristin Heger, *Kinship Across Borders: A Christian Ethic of Immigration*. Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2012.

Elaine Padilla & Peter C. Phan, eds., *Contemporary Issues of Migration and Theology*. New York: McMillan, 2013.

Elaine Padilla & Peter C. Phan, eds., *Theology of Migration in the Abrahamic Religions*. New York: McMillan, 2014.

Susanna Snyder, *Asylum-Seeking, Migration and the Church*. Burlington: Ashgate, 2012.

Other texts

For consultation

Thomas A. Aleinikoff, David A. Martin, and Hiroshi Motomura, & Maryellen Fullerton.

Immigration and Citizenship: Process and Policy, 7th Edition, 2012

Thomas A. Aleinikoff, David A. Martin, and Hiroshi Motomura, & Maryellen Fullerton.
Immigration and Nationality Law of the United States, 2012 Edition (Supplement)

Selected general titles

Katja Franko Aas, Mary Bosworth, eds., *The Borders of Punishment: Migration, Citizenship, and Social Exclusion*. Oxford University Press, 2013.

Leisy J. Abrego, *Sacrificing Families: Navigating Laws, Labor, and Love Across Borders*. Stanford University Press, 2014.

Eiichiro Azuma, *Between Two Empires: Race, History and Transnationalism in Japanese America*. Oxford University Press, 2005.

Vivek Bald, *Bengali Harlem and the Lost Histories of South Asian Americans*. Harvard University Press, 2013.

James Barrett, *The Irish Way: Becoming American in the Multi-Ethnic City*. Penguin Press, 2012.

George J. Borjas, *Immigration Economics*. Harvard University Press, 2014.

Joseph Carens, *The Ethics of Immigration*. Oxford University Press, 2013.

Paul Collier, *Exodus: How Migration is Changing Our World*. Oxford University Press, 2013

Ariane Chebel D'Appollonia, *Frontiers of Fear: Immigration and Insecurity in the United States*. Cornell University Press, 2012.

Edwidge Danticat. *The Cultural Dimensions of Immigration: The Immigrant Artist at Work*. Princeton University Press, 2010.

David Scott Fitzgerald, David Cook-Martín. *Culling the Masses: The Democratic Origins of Racist Immigration Policy in the Americas*. Harvard University Press, 2014.

Robert L. Fleegler. *Ellis Island Nation: Immigration Policy and American Identity in the Twentieth Century*. University of Pennsylvania Press, 2013.

Alfonso Gonzales, *Reform Without Justice: Latino Migrant Politics and the Homeland Security State*. Oxford University Press, 2013.

Ian Goldin & Geoffrey Cameron, Meera Balarajan *Exceptional People: How Migration Shaped Our World and Will Define Our Future*. Princeton University Press, 2011

Alberto R. Gonzales & David N. Strange, *A Conservative and Compassionate Approach to Immigration Reform: Perspectives from a Former US Attorney General*. Texas Tech University Press, 2014.

Diner, Hasia R., *Hungering for America: Italian, Irish and Jewish Foodways in the Age of Migration*. Harvard University Press, 2003.

James Hollifield, Philip L. Martin, Pia Orrenius, eds., *Controlling Immigration: A Global Perspective*, Third Edition. Stanford University Press, 2013.

Leon Fink, *The Maya of Morgantown: Work and Community in the Nuevo New South*. University of North Carolina Press, 2003.

Eric Goldstein, *The Price of Whiteness: Jews, Race and American Identity*. Princeton University Press, 2006.

Tom Guglielmo, *White on Arrival: Italians, Race, Color and Power in Chicago, 1880-1945*. Oxford University Press, 2003.

Matthew Fry Jacobson, *Special Sorrows: The Diasporic Immigration of Irish, Polish and Jewish Immigrants in the United States*. Harvard University Press, 1995.

David L. Leal, José E. Limón, eds., *Immigration and the Border: Politics and Policy in the New Latino Century*. University of Notre Dame Press, 2013.

Erika Lee, *At America's Gates: Chinese Immigration During the Exclusion Era, 1882-1943*. University of North Carolina Press, 2003.

Natalie Masuoka & Jane Junn, *The Politics of Belonging: Race, Public Opinion, and Immigration*. University of Chicago Press, 2013.

Walter J. Nicholls. *The DREAMers: How the Undocumented Youth Movement Transformed the Immigrant Rights Debate*. Stanford University Press, 2013.

Mae Ngai, *Impossible Subjects: Illegal Aliens and the Making of Modern America*. Princeton University Press, 2004.

Vicki Ruiz, *From Out of the Shadows: Mexican Women in Twentieth Century America*. Oxford University Press, 2008.

Proposed Class Itinerary (Subject to adjustments)

Monday June 12 - 9:00 am to 12:00 am - Pre-class assignments due

Personal introductions. Opening inspirational reflection: Genesis 11:1-9 --the challenge of imperial homogeneity.

Introduction to the course agenda.

Sharing from the readings and reports: challenges and opportunities of immigration in light of the students' particular vocational situation and location.

Monday June 12 - 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Case studies on immigration based on the students' interviews and/or personal accounts.⁷
Understanding and writing case studies.

Tuesday June 13 – 9:00 am to 12:00 am

Inspirational reflection: Gen 12 –called to become a blessing.
Towards a biblical theology of immigration: Old Testament perspectives and resources (I).
Guidelines for ministry and mission work and socio-political action.

Tuesday June 13 – 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Case studies on immigration based on the students' interviews and/or personal accounts.
Film focusing on immigration: view and discussion.

Wednesday June 14 – 9:00 am to 12:00 am

Inspirational reflection: Selection from Matthews and Luke's Nativity narratives – Baby Jesus, refugee; lodging-shelter without borders.

Toward a biblical theology of immigration: Old Testament perspectives and resources (II).
Guidelines for ministry and mission work and socio-political action.

Wednesday June 14 – 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Case studies on immigration based on the students' interviews and/or personal accounts).
Film focusing on immigration: view and discussion.

Thursday, June 15 – 9:00 am to 12:00 am

Inspirational reflection: Isaiah 56:1-8 and Luke 4:16-30; 19:35 ff – Prophetic vision and radical inclusion.
Towards a biblical theology of immigration: New Testament perspectives and resources.
Guidelines for ministry and mission work and socio-political action.

Thursday, June 15 – 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Film focusing on immigration: view and discussion.
A philosophy and theology of foreignness.

Friday, June 16 – 9:00 to 12:00 am

Inspirational reflection: Acts 2: 1-13 -- transformational heterogeneity; celebration of diversity.
Taking stock: another look at the current debate on immigration.
The way forward: public and ecclesial challenges and opportunities.

Friday, June 16 – 1:00 pm to 5:00 am

Review of course material.
Guidelines for the final essay. Academic and professional projections.
Evaluation of the class.

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⁷ Depending on the size of the class, this activity can take different forms (e.g. small group discussion).