



STEVEN J. GREEN SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF GLOBAL & SOCIOCULTURAL STUDIES

COURSE SYLLABUS
ANG 6339-U01

**LATIN AMERICAN SEMINAR:
LATIN AMERICAN MIGRATION TO THE UNITED STATES**

Fall Semester 2023
Tuesdays 2:00–4:40 PM
DM 445 (CRI Conference Room)

GENERAL INFORMATION

PROFESSOR INFORMATION

Instructor:	Dr. Jorge Duany	Phone:	(305) 348–1991
Office:	DM 445 (MMC)	Fax:	(305) 348–7463
Office Hours:	Wednesdays 2:00–4:00 PM	E-mail:	joduany@fiu.edu
Website:	http://cri.fiu.edu/faculty/jorge-duany/		

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Analysis of Latin American cultures and classes using case studies. Students read a series of anthropological or sociological works and discuss them in a seminar format. This course examines the origins and development of migration from Latin America to the United States since the late 19th century. The course will focus on recent migration from Mexico, the Hispanic Caribbean, and Central America. It will also consider how U.S. society has received the immigrants over time, as represented in the mass media and particularly in Hollywood films. Course readings and discussions will emphasize how immigrants and their descendants construct, represent, and transform their cultural, racial, and ethnic identities.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Analyze the social, cultural, economic, and political causes and consequences of migration from Latin America to the United States.
2. Compare past and present patterns of Latin American migration.
3. Describe the similarities and differences among migrant flows from Mexico, the Hispanic Caribbean, Central America, and South America.
4. Assess the impact of mass migration on Latin America and the United States.
5. Analyze the representation of Latin American migrants and their descendants in Hollywood movies, both mainstream and independent.
6. Discuss the emergence of a pan-Latino identity among Latin American migrants and their descendants.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

1. Class discussion of readings
2. Oral reports
3. Film screenings and discussion

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

POLICIES

Attendance: Each student is required to attend every class and attendance will be a part of the grade. Students who miss a class are responsible for the course material covered in that class regardless of the reason for their absence. Faculty may excuse absences only in cases of documented serious illness, religious observance, civic obligations, or participation in an activity approved by the Academic Dean or Department Chair. If you miss class for a religious observance or civic obligation, you must inform your instructor one week in advance of your absence. Any other absences, such as absences for work-related travel or a family emergency, may be excused at the discretion of the instructor upon receiving documentation. It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor after any unanticipated absence.

Examination Policies: Oral reports, take-home exams, and book reviews are to be submitted on the date and time shown in the course syllabus. Missing reports, as well as late exams and reviews, will be penalized.

Accessibility and Accommodation: The Disability Resource Center (DRC) collaborates with students, faculty, staff, and community members to create diverse learning environments that are usable, equitable, inclusive, and sustainable. The DRC provides FIU students with disabilities the necessary support to successfully complete their education and participate in activities available to all students. If you have a diagnosed disability and plan to utilize academic accommodations, please contact the Center at (305) 348–3532 or visit its office at the Graham Center (GC) 190.

Incompletes: An incomplete grade (IN) is given at the instructor’s discretion to a student who has been unable to complete the course due to a serious interruption not caused by the student’s own negligence. An incomplete should only be given to a student who has successfully completed at least half of the course work. Students should contact the instructor before the end of the semester to determine if they can receive an incomplete grade. Otherwise, they will be assigned an “F” grade for the course.

Academic Integrity: All students are deemed by the University to understand that if they are found responsible for academic misconduct, they will be subject to the Academic Misconduct procedures and sanctions, as outlined in the Student Handbook. Academic misconduct includes:

1. Cheating: the unauthorized use of books, notes, aids, electronic sources; or assistance from another person with respect to examinations, course assignments, field service reports, and class recitations; or the unauthorized possession of examination papers or course materials, whether originally authorized or not.
2. Plagiarism: the deliberate use and appropriation of another’s work without any indication of the source and the representation of such work as the student’s own. Any student who fails to give credit for ideas, expressions, or materials taken from another source, including internet sources, is guilty of plagiarism.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

Graduate standing or permission of the instructor.

REQUIRED READINGS

Several journal articles and book chapters will be assigned for the course, as noted in the weekly schedule. Various films will be screened in class; if you cannot view them in the classroom, you might download them online.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

COURSE REQUIREMENTS	WEIGHT
Class attendance and participation	10%
Oral reports	20%

COURSE REQUIREMENTS	WEIGHT
Class attendance and participation	10%
Take-home exam 1	25%
Take-home exam 2	25%
Book review	20%
Total	100%

COURSE DETAILS

ASSIGNMENTS

1. An oral report on one of the required readings (assigned by alphabetical order)
2. Two take-home exams (due on October 10 and November 28, 2023)
3. A book review (due on December 8, 2023)

GRADING

Range	Letter Grade	Range	Letter Grade
A	94–100	A-	91–93
B+	87–90	B	84–86
B-	81–83	C+	77–80
C	74–76	C-	71–73
D+	67–70	D	64–66
D-	61–63	F	>61

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

DATE	TOPICS AND ASSIGNED READINGS
Week 1: August 22	General Introduction to the Course
Week 2: August 29	Historical Overview of Latin American Migration to the United States <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hanson, Gordon, Pia Orrenius, and Madeline Zavodny. “US Immigration from Latin America in Historical Perspective.” <i>Journal of Economic Perspectives</i> 37, no. 1 (2023): 199–222. US Immigration from Latin America in Historical Perspective (aeaweb.org)

DATE	TOPICS AND ASSIGNED READINGS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Massey, Douglas S., and Jorge Durand. "New World Orders: Continuities and Changes in Latin American Migration." <i>Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Sciences</i> 630, no. 1 (2010): 20–52. New World Orders: Continuities and Changes in Latin American Migration (sagepub.com)
<p>Week 3: September 5</p>	<p>Mexican Migration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Israel, Emma, and Jeanne Batalova. "Mexican Immigrants in the United States." <i>Migration Information Source</i>, November 5, 2020. Article: Mexican Immigrants in the United States migrationpolicy.org • Durand, Jorge, Douglas S. Massey, and Rene M. Zenteno. "Mexican Immigration to the United States: Continuities and Changes." <i>Latin American Research Review</i> 36, no. 1 (2001): 107–27. Mexican Immigration to the United States: Continuities and Changes on JSTOR
<p>Week 4: September 12</p>	<p>Film Screening and Discussion</p> <p><i>Zoot Suit</i> (1981), directed by Luis Valdez</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fregoso, Rosa Linda. "The Representation of Cultural Identity in 'Zoot Suit' (1981)." <i>Theory and Society</i> 22, no. 5 (1993): 659–74. The Representation of Cultural Identity in "Zoot Suit" (1981) (jstor.org) • Chiodo, John J. "The Zoot Suit Riots: Exploring Social Issues in American History." <i>The Social Studies</i> 104 (2013): 1–14. The Zoot Suit Riots: Exploring Social Issues in American History (tandfonline.com)
<p>Week 5: September 19</p>	<p>Cuban Migration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duany, Jorge. "Cuban Migration: A Postrevolution Exodus Ebbs and Flows." <i>Migration Information Source</i>, July 6, 2017. Article: Cuban Migration: A Postrevolution Exodus .. migrationpolicy.org • Portes, Alejandro, and Aaron Puhmann. "A Bifurcated Enclave: The Economic Evolution of the Cuban and Cuban American Population of Metropolitan Miami." <i>Cuban Studies</i> 43 (2015): 40–63. A Bifurcated Enclave: The Economic Evolution of the Cuban and Cuban American Population of Metropolitan Miami (jstor.org)
<p>Week 6: September 26</p>	<p>Film Screening and Discussion</p> <p><i>El Súper</i> (1979), directed by León Ichaso</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hidalgo, Narciso J. "On Cuban Film: A Brief History in Four Easy Lessons." <i>Hopscotch: A Cultural Review</i> 2, no. 4 (2001): 107–115. Project MUSE - On Cuban Film: A brief history in four easy lessons (openathens.net)

DATE	TOPICS AND ASSIGNED READINGS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laguna, Albert Sergio. "Aquí está Alvarez Guedes: Cuban Choteo and the Politics of Play." <i>Latino Studies</i> 8, no. 4 (2010): 509–31. Aquí Está Alvarez Guedes: Cuban choteo and the politics of play SpringerLink
<p>Week 7: October 3</p>	<p>Puerto Rican Migration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acosta-Belén, Edna. "Haciendo patria desde la metrópoli: The Cultural Expressions of the Puerto Rican Diaspora." <i>CENTRO: Journal of the Center for Puerto Rican Studies</i> 21, no. 2 (2009): 49–83. Redalyc.Haciendo patria desde la metrópoli: The Cultural Expressions of the Puerto Rican Diaspora • Duany, Jorge. "'May God Take Me to Orlando': The Puerto Rican Exodus to Florida before and after Hurricane Maria." In <i>Caribbean Migrations: The Legacies of Colonialism</i>, edited by Anke Birkenmaier, 40–56. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 2020. Caribbean Migrations - Google Books
<p>Week 8: October 10</p>	<p>Film Screening and Discussion</p> <p><i>West Side Story</i> (1961), directed by Robert Wise and Jerome Robbins</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negrón-Muntaner, Frances. "Feeling Pretty: <i>West Side Story</i> and Puerto Rican Identity Discourses." <i>Social Text</i> 18, no. 2 (2000): 83–106. Feeling Pretty: West Side Story and Puerto Rican Identity Discourses (jhu.edu) • Sandoval Sánchez, Alberto. "West Side Story: A Puerto Rican Reading of 'America.'" <i>Jump Cut: A Review of Contemporary Media</i> 39 (1994): 59–66. "West Side Story" by Alberto Sandoval Sanchez (ejumpcut.org) <p>First take-home exam due in class.</p>
<p>Week 9: October 17</p>	<p>Dominican Migration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hernández, Ramona, Francisco L. Rivera-Batiz, and Sidie S. Sisay. <i>Dominicans in the United States: A Socioeconomic Profile 2022</i>. New York: CUNY Dominican Studies Institute, 2022. Dominicans in the United States: A Socioeconomic Profile 2022 (cuny.edu) • Morales, Daniel, and Catherine Rodríguez. <i>Migration in the Dominican Republic: Context, Challenges and Opportunities</i>. New York: UNDP Latin America and the Caribbean, Policy Documents Series, 2022. Migration in the Dominican Republic: Context challenges and Opportunities (undp.org)
<p>Week 10: October 24</p>	<p>Film Screening and Discussion</p> <p><i>Nueva Yol</i> (1995), directed by Miguel Angel Muñiz</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • García-Crespo, Naida. "Caribbean Transnational Films and National Culture, or How Puerto Rican or Dominican Can You Be in 'Nueva

DATE	TOPICS AND ASSIGNED READINGS
	<p>Yol'?" <i>CENTRO: Journal of the Center for Puerto Rican Studies</i> 28, no. 1 (2016): 146–75. Caribbean Transnational Films and National Culture, or How Puerto Rican or ...: Discovery Service for FIU Libraries. (ebSCOhost.com)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leonard, Mary. "Wind, Water, Women: Liminal Spaces and Border Crossings Between Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic." <i>Black Camera</i> 11, no. 1 (2019–20): 142–66. Wind, Water, Women: Liminal Spaces and Border Crossings Between Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic (jhu.edu)
<p>Week 11: October 31</p>	<p>Central American Migration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Menjívar, Cecilia. "Liminal Legality: Salvadoran and Guatemalan Immigrants' Lives in the United States." <i>American Journal of Sociology</i> 111, no. 4 (2006): 999–1037. Liminal Legality: Salvadoran and Guatemalan Immigrants' Lives in the United States (jstor.org) • Orozco, Manuel. <i>Central American Migration: Current Changes and Development Implications</i>. Washington, DC: Inter-American Dialogue, 2018. CA-Migration-Report-Current-Changes-and-Development-Opportunities I.pdf (edu-links.org)
<p>Week 12: November 7</p>	<p>Film Screening and Discussion</p> <p><i>El Norte</i> (1983), directed by Gregory Nava</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List, Chris. "El Norte: Ideology and Immigration." <i>Jump Cut: A Review of Contemporary Media</i> 34 (1989): 27–31. "El Norte" by Chris List (ejumpcut.org) • Marcianak, Katarzyna. "Becoming Transnational: <i>El Norte</i> and the 'Elsewhere' of Exile." In <i>Alienhood: Citizenship, Exile, and the Logic of Difference</i>, 33–55. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2006. Becoming Transnational El Norte and the Elsewhere of Exile-libre.pdf (dlwqtxts1xzle7.cloudfront.net)
<p>Week 13: November 14</p>	<p>South American Migration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lorenzi, Jane, and Jeanne Batalova. "South American Immigrants in the United States." <i>Migration Information Source</i>, February 16, 2022. Article 2022: South American Immigrants in the Uni.. migrationpolicy.org • Sabogal, Elena. "Viviendo en la sombra: The Immigration of Peruvian Professionals to South Florida." <i>Latino Studies</i> 3, no. 1 (2005): 113–31. Viviendo en la Sombra: The Immigration of Peruvian Professionals to South Florida SpringerLink

DATE	TOPICS AND ASSIGNED READINGS
<p>Week 14: November 21</p>	<p>Film Screening and Discussion</p> <p><i>María Full of Grace</i> (2004), directed by Joshua Marston</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schultermandl, Silvia. “From Drug Mule to Miss America: American Exceptionalism and the Commodification of the ‘Other’ Woman in <i>María Full of Grace</i>.” <i>The Journal of American Culture</i> 34, no. 3 (2011): 275–88. From Drug Mule to Miss America: American Exceptionalism and the Commodification of the “Other” Woman in María Full of Grace (wiley.com) • Saona, Margarita. “Migrant Mothers: The Domestication of Latina Images for the Global Market.” <i>Letras Femeninas</i> 34, no. 1 (2008): 125–45. Migrant Mothers: The Domestication of Latina Images for the Global Market (jstor.org)
<p>Week 15: November 28</p>	<p>The Emergence of Pan-Ethnic Alliances among Latinos in the U.S.</p> <p>Film Screening and Discussion</p> <p><i>In The Heights</i> (2021), directed by Jon M. Chu</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gregorio-Fernández, Noelia. “Lin-Manuel Miranda: New Articulations of Latinidad in the Hollywood Imagination.” <i>Camino Real</i> 14, no. 17 (2022): 63–85. CaminoReal_17_4.pdf (institutofranklin.net) • Negrón-Muntaner, Frances. “The Generic Latinidad of ‘In the Heights.’” <i>The New Yorker</i>, June 21, 2021. The Generic Latinidad of “In the Heights” The New Yorker <p>Second take-home exam due in class.</p>
<p>Finals Week: December 8</p>	<p>Book review due in instructor’s office.</p>

GUIDELINES FOR THE BOOK REVIEW

One of the requirements for this course is a written assignment that will count 20 percent of your final grade. The assignment consists of a critical review of a recent book on migration from Latin America to the United States. Your paper should be between 5 and 7 pages long, typewritten, double-spaced, and using a 12-sized font. Please choose one of the suggested readings listed after these guidelines. You can consult with the professor before you choose the book for review. The deadline to submit your book review is Friday, December 8, 2023, before 4:30 PM in the instructor's office (DM 445). No late papers will be accepted without a medical excuse.

Please do not limit yourself to summarizing, paraphrasing, or quoting the contents of the book. Write in your own words and focus on your personal reactions and impressions in response to the author's arguments and findings. If you need to quote or cite from the text, use quotation marks and indicate the page number(s) of your citation. No other references are necessary.

Below are some questions to help you organize and draft your review. You're free to adapt this format to your own style, but make sure you cover all of these issues in your essay.

Introduction (1–2 paragraphs)

- What are the main topics of the book?
- What is the author's central argument?
- What are his or her basic objectives?

Theoretical Framework (1–2 paragraphs)

- What is the author's conceptual approach to the subject?
- What is the author's thesis?
- What are his or her basic hypotheses?

Methodology (1–2 paragraphs)

- How did the author collect the data for this book?
- How reliable and valid are these sources of information?
- How appropriate are the author's research techniques?

Results (2–3 paragraphs)

- What are the book's most important findings?
- To what extent do the results confirm the hypotheses of the study?

Conclusions and Interpretations (1–2 paragraphs)

- What are the author's main conclusions?
- Do you agree with the author's interpretations of the findings?

- What are the broader implications of the book?

Overall Assessment (1 paragraph)

- What are the book's major accomplishments?
- What are the book's principal limitations?
- In general, what is your opinion of the book?
- Would you recommend it to other readers?

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE BOOK REVIEW

Aranda, Elizabeth M., Sallie Hughes, and Elena Sabogal. *Making a Life in Multiethnic Miami: Immigration and the Rise of a Global City*. Boulder, CO: Rienner Publishers, 2014.

Bustamante, Michael J. *Cuban Memory Wars: Retrospective Politics in Revolution and Exile*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2021.

Contreras, Eduardo. *Latinos in the Liberal City: Politics and Protest in San Francisco*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2019.

Coutin, Susan Bibler. *Exiled Home: Salvadoran Transnational Youth in the Aftermath of Violence*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2016.

Dávila, Arlene. *Latinx Art: Artists, Markets, and Politics*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2020.

Delorme, Simone. *Latino Orlando: Suburban Transformation and Racial Conflict*. Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2020.

Eckstein, Susan. *Cuban Privilege: The Making of Immigrant Inequality in America*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2022.

Graziano, Frank. *Undocumented Dominican Migration*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 2013.

Hall, Linda Jean. *The Transnational "Good Life": Ecuadorian Social Clubs as Spaces of Resistance*. Chapel Hill, NC: UNC Institute for the Study of the Americas, 2020.

Henderson, Timothy J. *Beyond Borders: A History of Mexican Migration to the United States*. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2011.

Hoffnung-Garskof, Jesse. *A Tale of Two Cities: Santo Domingo and New York after 1950*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2018.

Hoffnung-Garskof, Jesse. *Racial Migrations: New York City and the Revolutionary Politics of the Spanish Caribbean*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2021.

Jonas, Susanna, and Néstor Rodríguez. *Guatemala-U.S. Migration: Transforming Regions*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 2014.

Meléndez, Edgardo. *The Puerto Rican "Problem" in Postwar New York City*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University, 2022.

Meléndez, Edgardo. *Sponsored Migration: The State and Puerto Rican Postwar Migration to the United States*. Columbus: Ohio State University Press, 2017.

Mirabal, Nancy Raquel. *Suspect Freedoms: The Racial and Sexual Politics of Cubanidad in New York, 1823–1957*. New York: NYU Press, 2017.

Overmeyer-Velázquez, Mark. *Beyond la Frontera: The History of Mexico-U.S. Migration*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2011.

Pérez, Lisandro. *Sugar, Cigars, and Revolution: The Making of Cuban New York*. New York: NYU Press, 2021.

Roth, Wendy. *Race Migrations: Latinos and the Cultural Transformation of Race*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2012.

Thomas, Lorrin. *Puerto Rican Citizen: History and Political Identity in Twentieth-Century New York City*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2010.