Transnational Migration has been an increasingly visible phenomenon both globally and locally. The course examines the ways studies of migration challenge and also contribute to existing social and cultural theory: first, by going beyond the rooted definition of culture; second, situating studies of migration in the contemporary context of globalization and transnationalism; and finally, the role of agency among the migrants themselves. Through empirical studies and ethnographies of migration (including many case studies of immigration to the U.S.), the class discussion will focus on major arenas of anthropological contributions to this issue: theories of incorporation and nativism as well as theories of culture, ethnicity, and identity. We will end with the question of power and resistance as it affects migrant workers.

Requirements/Grading:
1. Class attendance and participation
2. Midterm exam: 35 points; May 1st (Thursday)
3. Final exam: 80 P; June 13 (Friday; 8-11 a.m.)
4. Short paper on Assigned Project (5-6 pages per group of 3): 35 P; May 20 (Tuesday)

-Poor attendance will result in a Lower final grades.
-Class disruptions (chatting sessions, verbal and physical—cell phone and beeper—noises, etc.) will not be tolerated.

Readings:
The following texts are available at the bookstore.


The course reader will be available at Course Reader Material, 1141 Westwood Blvd. (310) 443-3303.

**Schedule of Classes**

**Week 1: Introduction to Migration Theory**
- Video, *La Ciudad* (Part I and II)

Optional:

**Week 2: Migration and Globalization: Diasporas**
- Spitzer, Leo, Invisible Baggage in a Refuge from Nazism. *Diaspora* 2(3): 305-336, 1993
- Kearney, Michael, Borders and Boundaries of State and Self at the End of Empire. *Journal of Historical Sociology* 4: 52-74, 1991
- Smith, Robert C., Transnational Localities: Community, Technology and the Politics of Membership within the Context of Mexico and U.S. Migration. In

Optional:

Week 3: Migration and Globalization II: Neighborhoods and New Communities
- Lin, J., Reconstructing Chinatown (Intro, 1, 3, & 6; 5, 2, & 8)

Week 4: Social Organization of Migration: Kinship, Networks and Gender/Sexuality

Video, America Becoming

Optional:
• Chinchilla, N. and N. Hamilton, Negotiating Urban Space: Latina Workers in Domestic Work and Street Vending in Los Angeles. _HJSR_ (?) : 25-34, 1996

Week 5: Incorporation or Marginality?

**Mid-Term Exam**

• Mahler, S., _American Dreaming_ (Intro, 5-9)

Optional:

• Bonanich, Edna, Latino Immigrant Workers in the Los Angeles Apparel Industry. In _Latino Social Movements: Historical and Theoretical Perspectives_. Edited by Rodolf D. Torres and George Katsiaficas, pp. 141-163, 1999

Week 6: Undocumented Workers

**Video, In the Shadow of Law**


Optional:


Week 7: Anti-Immigrant Sentiment and Nativism

**Video, La Ciudad III & IV**

• Brimelow, Peter, Time to Rethink Immigration? _National Review_ June 22/1992: 30-46
• Ong, Aihwa, Limits to Cultural Accumulation: Chinese Capitalists on the American Pacific Rim. _Towards a Transnational Perspective on Migration: Race, Class, Ethnicity, and Nationalism Reconsidered_, ed by Nina G. Schiller,

Optional:

Week 8: Theorizing Ethnicity and Diasporic Identity
• Torres, Maria de los Angeles, Encuentros y Encontronazos: Homeland in the Politics and Identity of the Cuban Diaspora. Diaspora 4(2): 211-238, 1995

Optional

Week 9: Theorizing Ethnicity and Cultural Identity
• Park, K., “I Really Do Feel I’m 1.5!”: The Construction of Self and Community by Young Korean Americans. Amerasia Journal 25(1):139-64, 1999


Optional


Week 10: Resistance (?) to the Process of Global Capitalism

• Constable, N., *Maid to Order in Hong Kong* (Optional)

*Video, Modern Slaves, Modern Lives*
Assignment

Be a participant observer at public or private events or activities involving immigrants, children of immigrants, or migrants at various locations in Los Angeles or Southern California (at least through a couple of visits); write an ethnography and comparative analysis (5-6 pages = 4 pages of field data, 1 page summary plus 1 page analysis)

- collect documents
- map/describe setting (e.g., churches, schools or other educational settings, workplaces, market places, community/ neighborhood events, places of leisure (karaoke/noraebang, coffeeshops, cafes, restaurants, bars, nightclubs, etc.), family gathering or rituals)
- identify audience: leaders, VIPs; ethnicity, age, gender, etc.

- course of events: those you observe, and fill in accounts before and after (documents, interviews)
  - describe as fully as you can--so you can use this description later--

- event (e.g., Korean Festival) as a series of events--main sequence--on stage
  - side events (demonstrations, food and other booths); informal events
  - audience--families--picnics--role of organizers (& guests)
  - watch people's actions

- informal or casual interviews: talk to at least 3 persons there: identify yourself and your purpose
  - UCLA student studying Los Angeles immigrant community--questions: have you been here before; why have you come; what do you like most; do you know other people here; why do you think this is important to Korean Americans living in LA?
  - observe how they interact with others

- think of points of comparison with another event--record what you think may be similar or different--form hypothesis as you go

Fieldnotes (double-spaced) due by May 20 (Tuesday) class