

University of Texas at Austin
Department of Government
Spring 2015
Government 312L: Issues and Policies in American Government (#37825)
COMPARATIVE IMMIGRATION POLITICS
GSB 2.126, MWF 1-2

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TEACHING ASSISTANTS

Christina Noriega
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Recent positions taken by members of congress on immigration have highlighted the varying approaches that politicians would like to take in order to control the flow of immigrants into the United States. One can argue that the attacks of September 11th brought the issues surrounding immigration to the fore, unlike any other event in the last century. Other attacks such as the Madrid bombings, the murder of Theo Van Gogh, the London bombings and the Paris “riots” (aka “uprising”) have also highlighted issues of immigration and integration. In the last decade countries around the world have had to examine the ways that they secure their borders and control the flow of people in and out of their country. In an era of uncertainty, how can we pursue policies that will ensure the security of our borders without closing off flows which are often considered necessary to economic security?

The course will begin with an examination of immigration law and policy in the United States. Other issues to be covered include the economics of immigration, refugees and asylum seekers, and security issues since September 11th. A comparative approach will be used to provide a counterpoint to the U.S. case, as well as to examine the international forces which underpin migration flows.

TEXTS

Daniel Tichenor, *Dividing Lines: The Politics of Immigration Control in America*
Givens, Freeman and Leal, *Immigration Policy and Security: U.S., European and Commonwealth Perspectives*

Other texts will be available online or via Blackboard (marked with an * in the course outline below). Readings are subject to change, depending on current events. I will refer to my blog on immigration politics at the start of most class sessions: <http://immigrationtexas.org>

GRADING and ASSIGNMENTS

This course is designed to provide students with an overview of immigration law and politics in the U.S. and other parts of the world, particularly Europe. Students will be provided with the historical background and information on specific issues needed to analyze current immigration policy, and describe the arguments for and against particular policies. Student achievement of these goals will be assessed through exams and written assignments as described below.

To receive credit for the course, students are required to complete all assigned readings, to attend lecture, participate in class discussions, and to complete **ALL assignments. There will be two exams and a final written project which will be a 3-4 page paper describing a way to reform some aspect of U.S. immigration policy.**

The overall grading breakdown is as follows:

Exam 1	20%
Exam 2	20%
Weekly assignments	20%
In-class assignments & Participation	20%
Final Project	20%
Total	100%

Plus-Minus grading will be used:

93-100	A
90-92.9	A-
87-89.9	B+
83-86.9	B
80-82.9	B-
77-79.9	C+
73-76.9	C
70-72.9	C-
67-69.9	D+
63-66.9	D
60-62.9	D-
0-59.9	F

I reserve the right to grade on a curve if the average grade for an exam falls below a B.

Make-up Examinations

Make-up examinations will only be given in the case of a legitimate absence – documentation of an illness or other conflict must be provided to the instructor. If you are unable to take an exam, you **MUST** provide a legitimate excuse ASAP (at least within 3 days) or you will be given an F.

Incompletes

An incomplete is given only when the student has been in attendance and has done satisfactory work until within two weeks of the end of the quarter and has furnished proof satisfactory to the instructor that the work cannot be completed because of illness or other circumstances beyond the student's control.

In general, if you are having any difficulties over the course of the semester, contact the professor as soon as possible and accommodations can be made. Don't wait until you get your final grade to let us know about any problems or illness you are having.

Flags: Cultural Diversity in the United States and Global Cultures

This course carries the flag for Cultural Diversity in the United States. Cultural Diversity courses are designed to increase your familiarity with the variety and richness of the American cultural experience. You should therefore expect a substantial portion of your grade to come from assignments covering the practices, beliefs, and histories of at least one U.S. cultural group that has experienced persistent marginalization.

This course carries the Global Cultures flag. Global Cultures courses are designed to increase your familiarity with cultural groups outside the United States. You should therefore expect a substantial portion of your grade to come from assignments covering the practices, beliefs, and histories of at least one non-U.S. cultural group, past or present.

University of Texas Honor Code

The core values of The University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the university is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community.

Documented Disability Statement

The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact Services for Students with Disabilities at 471-6259 (voice) or 232-2937 (video phone) or <http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd>

Use of E-Mail for Official Correspondence to Students

E-mail is recognized as an official mode of university correspondence; therefore, you are responsible for reading your e-mail for university and course-related information and announcements. You are responsible to keep the university informed about changes to your e-mail address. You should check your e-mail regularly and frequently—I recommend daily, but at minimum twice a week—to stay current with university-related communications, some of which

may be time-critical. You can find UT Austin's policies and instructions for updating your e-mail address at <http://www.utexas.edu/its/policies/emailnotify.php>

Religious Holy Days

By UT Austin policy, you must notify me of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, I will give you an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

Behavior Concerns Advice Line (BCAL)

If you are worried about someone who is acting differently, you may use the Behavior Concerns Advice Line to discuss by phone your concerns about another individual's behavior. This service is provided through a partnership among the Office of the Dean of Students, the Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC), the Employee Assistance Program (EAP), and The University of Texas Police Department (UTPD). Call 512-232-5050 or visit <http://www.utexas.edu/safety/bcal>

COURSE OUTLINE

Week 1 Immigration in the U.S. and the World

1/21/15 Class Introduction

1/23/15 Immigration Issues in the U.S.
* Blog – <http://immigrationtexas.org>

Week 2 The Politics of Immigration Control

1/26/15 Introduction
Tichenor, Chapter 1

1/28/15 The Politics of Immigration Control
Tichenor, Chapter 2

1/30/15 Immigrants, Nativists and Parties
Tichenor, Chapter 3

Week 3 The Politics of Immigration Control (continued)

2/4/15 Chinese Immigration
Tichenor, Chapter 4

2/6/15 National Origins
Tichenor, Chapter 5

2/8/15 Two-tiered Implementation
Tichenor, Chapter 6

Week 4 The Politics of Immigration Control (continued)

2/11/15 Postwar Immigration Politics
Tichenor, Chapter 7

2/13/15 The Rights Revolution
Tichenor, Chapter 8

2/15/15 Contemporary Immigration Reform
Tichenor, Chapter 9

Week 5 The Politics of Immigration Control (continued)

2/18/15 Conclusion & Review
Tichenor, Chapter 10

2/20/15 Introduction
Givens, Freeman and Leal, Introduction

2/22/15 Immigration and U.S. National Interests
Givens, Freeman and Leal, Chapter 1

Week 6 Immigration Policy and Security, Part 1: United States

2/25/15 Immigration Policy and the Latino Community
Givens, Freeman and Leal, Chapter 2

2/27/15 U.S. Asylum and Refugee Policy towards Muslim Nations since 9/11
Givens, Freeman and Leal, Chapter 3

2/29/15 Immigration and the 2012 Presidential Election
*See immigration blog articles

Week 7 Immigration Policy and Security, Part 2: Europe

3/2/15 Current Events – Congress & Immigration
Blog – <http://immigrationtexas.org>

3/4/15 EU Immigration Policy
*Givens, Leudtke, et. al, Introduction

3/6/15 Migration, Security, and Legitimacy: Some Reflections
Givens, Freeman and Leal, Chapter 5

Week 8 Immigration Policy and Security, Part 2: Europe

3/9/15 Exam 1 Review

3/11/15 Exam 1

3/13/15 Latest Immigration Policy Developments in the U.S. and Europe
*Latest News from blog

Spring Break: March 16-20

Week 9 Immigration Policy and Security, Part 2: Europe

3/23/15 Disembedding Liberalism? Immigration Politics and Security in Britain since 9/11

Givens, Freeman and Leal, Chapter 6

3/25/15 Fortifying Fortress Europe? The Effect of September 11 on EU Immigration Policy

Givens, Freeman and Leal, Chapter 7

3/27/15 Borders, Security and Transatlantic Cooperation in the Twenty-First Century

Givens, Freeman and Leal, Chapter 8

Week 10 Immigration Policy and Security, Part 2: Europe

3/30/15 Towards a Common European Asylum Policy

Givens, Freeman and Leal, Chapter 9

4/1/15 Immigration, the War against Terror, and the British Commonwealth

Givens, Freeman and Leal, Chapter 10

4/3/15 Current Events

Week 11 Immigration Policy – Case Studies

4/6/15 Immigration Policy in Germany

*Givens and Martin, Immigration Policy in Germany

4/8/15 Muslims in Europe

*Tariq Modood, “Muslims and the Politics of Difference”

4/10/15 Comparing Europe and the U.S.

* A.R. Zolberg, L.W. Long. “Why Islam Is Like Spanish: Cultural Incorporation in Europe and the United States.”

Week 12 Radical Right Politics and Immigrant Incorporation

4/13/15 Xenophobia and Anti-Immigrant movements

*Terri Givens “The Radical Right” in *Voting Radical Right in Western Europe*, Cambridge University Press, 2005.

4/15/15 Refugees and Asylum Seekers

Movie: Well-Founded Fear, Part 1

4/17/15 Refugees and Asylum Seekers
Movie: Well-Founded Fear, Part 2

Week 13 **Immigrant Incorporation**

4/20/15 Immigrant Politics in Europe
*Givens and Maxwell, Immigrant Politics Chapter 1

4/22/15 Immigration, Islam and Terrorism in Europe
*Blog

4/24/15 The Politics of Antidiscrimination Policy in Europe
**Givens, Legislating Equality

Week 14

4/27/15 Arizona SB 1070 and State Level Legislation
*Arizona SB 1070

4/29/15 Supreme Court and State Level Legislation
*Supreme Court Decision

5/1/15 Latest Developments in State Level Legislation
*Blog

Week 15 **Conclusion and Review**

5/4/15 The Future of Immigration Reform in the U.S.
* TBD

5/6/15 Final Review

5/8/15 Exam #2