MEDIA, CULTURE AND COMMUNICATION
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

MEDIA AND MIGRATION
MCC-UE 1011

Course Description

Through theoretical readings, case studies, this course examines how media practices and representations enable a re-imagining of national belonging, identity and community in the context of global relocations. Students will read and critique current events, research and theory drawn from interdisciplinary sources in order to engage with issues of transnational mobility, identity and citizenship. Specifically we will examine how media and technology impact and transform the experience of migration. The city will serve as a backdrop and context to situate our discussions and ethnographic understands of transnational immigrant communities.

Required Texts

Note: Books 1 & 2 are available at NYU Bookstore; Books 3 & 4 at Shakespeare


Expectations

Students are expected to come prepared with the readings and actively participate in class and engage in collaborative activities

Given the timely nature of our subject, students are expected to keep pace with current affairs and international news about immigration

Responsible and honest participation in group project is expected

Class Policies

All work has to be completed on time except under extraordinary circumstances.
All components of the course have to be satisfactorily completed to receive a final grade.
Plagiarism will result in failing the course and other actions as indicated in the statement. All work should be original and done for this class and sources should be acknowledged in the appropriate and required manner.
**Academic Integrity**
Academic honesty is of utmost importance and any violation will result in grave consequences. The NYU Steinhardt Statement on Academic Integrity, consistent with New York University Policy on Student Conduct, is published in the NYU Student Guide. Please read it carefully to understand what constitutes plagiarism.

**Laptops and Cell Phones**
The use of messaging devices and cell phones is not allowed in the classroom. Laptops may be used to take notes but using it for any other purpose is prohibited. This is an agreement which I hope you respect and take seriously.

**Evaluation**
*Paper*
1. 20% Final
2. Paper: 30%
3. Postings/Short assignment/Participation: 20%
4. Group presentations (15% each): 30%

**Reading Responses**
It is essential that you complete assigned readings for each class.
It is important that you pay close attention to news about immigration in major news outlets and integrate this in your comments.
As and when required, you might have to post responses to readings/lectures on Blackboard.

**Paper 1**
This paper is based on the material covered in the first three weeks of the course. Details and requirements will be posted on Blackboard.
*Paper length: 6-8 pages*

**Group presentation and Short Assignment**
There will presentations based on collaborative reading of texts (E.Main street & 97 Orchard). Students will be assigned to a small group and will present the prescribed chapter(s) on dates assigned and write a brief post on the subject.
There will also be a brief, ethnographic assignment of an aspect of immigrant life and NYC.
Details will be posted.

**Final Project**
*Brief presentation in class: December 10 & 12; Papers due: December 12.* This final paper will engage with some aspect of how media and communication practices intersect with immigrant lives and identities. Using the readings and theories discussed in class as a point of departure, students are expected to discuss one specific instance and provide evidence to demonstrate how media and technology have transformed and/or redefined the experience of migration. Paper should demonstrate familiarity with relevant texts discussed in class and present at least 3 other scholarly sources on the topic. *Paper length: 12-14 pages.* More details will be posted on Blackboard,
**General Guidelines for Papers**

Papers are to be typed double spaced 12-point font.
Please use MLA or APA style manual and be consistent
Papers to be turned in electronically on the date indicated on the syllabus.
Your name and page numbers should be printed on the header.

**SCHEDULE**

*Note: Asterisk indicates reading is posted on Blackboard.*

**Week 1: September 10th**

**Introduction**

Introduction to course content, expectations and key issues.
Screening: *The Naturalized*

* Garry Gerstle, The immigrant as threat to American security: A Historical perspective.

**Week 2: September 17**

**Citizenship and Belonging**

*Readings:*
* Huntington, Samuel, Clash of Civilizations (2000)*
Guest Presentation on media and the Dream Act – NYIC

**Week 3: September 24**

**Of Documents & Dreamers**

Nazario, Sonia, Enrique’s Journey
* **Vargas, Jose Antonio (2011) Outlaw: My life in America as an undocumented immigrant.**
* **NYTimes Magazine, June 25**

**Week 4: October 1**

**Immigrant cultures and culinary histories**

Readings: Jane Ziegelman, *97 Orchard*

Small group presentations of chapters from 97 Orchard.

**Week 5: October 8**

**Media Narratives and Voice**

Interaction with Reel Lives

Readings

**Final Paper Project Idea – one or two paragraphs to be handed this week.**
Week 6 October 15  FALL BREAK NO CLASS

Week 7: October 22

Negotiating the City

Readings
*Dorothea Lobbermann, (2003), Productions of Ethnic Space
*Mathew, Biju, *Taxi: Cabs and Capitalism in NYC*. Chapter 5
Week 8: October 29

**Identities and Global Mobility**
Group presentation of chapters from *East Main Street: Asian American Popular Culture*
Paired chapters
1 & 2; 4 & 10; 5 & 9; 3 & 16;

Week 9: November 5

**Identities and Global Mobility**
Group presentation of chapters from *East Main Street: Asian American Popular Culture*
Paired chapters
15 & 17; 12 & 14; 7 & 8; 11 & 13

Week 10: November 12

**Difference as Interruption**
Screening
Readings
*Maggie Jones (2012) Postville, Iowa is up for grabs. NYT Magazine July 11*
*Alex Kotlowitz (2007) Our Town. NYT magazine, August 5 (suggested)*

Week 11: November 19

**Urban life and Transnational Fields**
Readings
*Stoller, Paul, Money has no smell, Chicago: University of Chicago Press Chapter 4*

Week 12: November 26

**Digital Spaces and Consumption**
*Steven Stern (2011) Based on an old family recipe. June 7, NYT*
Week 13: December 3

Media, Affect & Securitization

Week 14: December 10 & December 12

Wrap up and Presentations
SAMPLE SYLLABUS