

Government 312L: Issues and Policies in American Government (#38560)
COMPARATIVE IMMIGRATION POLITICS
JES A121A, MWF 9-10

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Recent positions taken by presidential candidates 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.

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 5 quizzes.** SI sections are voluntary but will help with the readings and quizzes.

The overall grading breakdown is as follows:

Exam 1	30%
Exam 2	40%
Attendance	20%
Quizzes	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.

Students will also be offered the opportunity to receive up to 2 points of extra credit which will be added to the final grade at the end of the semester. There is the option to watch a movie and

write up a report, or attend lectures that will be announced during class. If you hear of a talk or lecture which would be appropriate for this class, please contact the professor.

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.

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

1/18/12 Class Introduction - facts and figures

1/20/12 Immigration Issues in the U.S.

Week 2 Immigration Law and Policy in the U.S.

1/23/12 Immigration Policy Changes in the U.S. since 9/11
*Migration Policy Institute, [Major Immigration Policy and Program Changes since 9/11](#)

1/25/12 Immigration Policy Changes in the U.S. since 9/11

1/27/12 Immigration Institutions
[Link to DHS Executive Summary of Strategic Plan](#)

Week 3 The Politics of Immigration Control

1/30/12 Introduction
Tichenor, Chapter 1

2/1/12 The Politics of Immigration Control
Tichenor, Chapter 2

2/3/12 Movie: Ellis Island

Week 4 The Politics of Immigration Control (continued)

2/6/12 Immigrants, Nativists and Parties
Tichenor, Chapter 3

2/8/12 Chinese Immigration
Tichenor, Chapter 4

2/10/12 National Origins
Tichenor, Chapter 5

Week 5 The Politics of Immigration Control (continued)

2/13/12 Two-tiered Implementation
Tichenor, Chapter 6

2/15/12 Postwar Immigration Politics
Tichenor, Chapter 7

2/17/12 The Rights Revolution
Tichenor, Chapter 8

Week 6 The Politics of Immigration Control (continued)

2/20/12 Contemporary Immigration Reform
Tichenor, Chapter 9

2/22/12 Conclusion
Tichenor, Chapter 10

2/24/12 Review of Tichenor

Week 7 Immigration Policy and Security, Part 1: United States

2/27/12 Introduction
Givens, Freeman and Leal, Introduction

2/29/12 Immigration and U.S. National Interests
Givens, Freeman and Leal, Chapter 1

3/2/12 Immigration Policy and the Latino Community
Givens, Freeman and Leal, Chapter 2

Week 8 Immigration Policy and Security, Part 1: United States

3/5/12 U.S. Asylum and Refugee Policy Towards Muslim Nations Since 9/11
Givens, Freeman and Leal, Chapter 3

3/7/12 Exam 1 Review

3/9/12 Exam 1

Spring Break: March 12-16

Week 9 Immigration Policy and Security, Part 2: Europe

3/19/12 Latest Immigration Policy Developments in the U.S. and Europe

3/21/12 EU Immigration Policy
*Givens, Leudtke, et. al, Introduction

3/23/12 Migration, Security, and Legitimacy: Some Reflections
Givens, Freeman and Leal, Chapter 5

Week 10 Immigration Policy and Security, Part 2: Europe

3/26/12 Disembedding Liberalism? Immigration Politics and Security in Britain since 9/11
Givens, Freeman and Leal, Chapter 6

3/28/12 Fortifying Fortress Europe? The Effect of September 11 on EU Immigration Policy
Givens, Freeman and Leal, Chapter 7

3/30/12 Borders, Security and Transatlantic Cooperation in the Twenty-First Century
Givens, Freeman and Leal, Chapter 8

Week 11 Immigration Policy and Security, Part 2: Europe

4/2/12 Towards a Common European Asylum Policy
Givens, Freeman and Leal, Chapter 9

4/4/12 Immigration, the War against Terror, and the British Commonwealth
Givens, Freeman and Leal, Chapter 10

4/6/12 Review of Immigration and Security: Current Events

Week 12 Immigration Policy – Case Studies

4/9/12 Immigration Policy in Germany
*Givens and Martin, Immigration Policy in Germany

4/11/12 Refugees and Asylum Seekers
Movie: Well-Founded Fear, Part 1

4/13/12 Refugees and Asylum Seekers
Movie: Well-Founded Fear, Part 2

Week 13 Radical Right Politics and Immigrant Incorporation

4/16/12 Xenophobia and Anti-Immigrant movements
*Terri Givens “The Radical Right” in *Voting Radical Right in Western Europe*, Cambridge University Press, 2005.

4/18/12 Muslims in Europe
*Tariq Modood, “Muslims and the Politics of Difference”

4/20/12 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 14 **Immigrant Incorporation and State Level Issues**

4/23/12 Arizona SB 1070 and State Level Legislation
*Arizona SB 1070

4/25/12 Latest Developments in State Level Legislation
*Latest news

4/27/12 Latest Developments in State Level Legislation
*Latest news

Week 15 **Conclusion and Review**

4/30/12 The Future of Immigration Reform in the U.S.
* ["Prospects for Comprehensive Immigration Reform" - Testimony by Doris Meisner before Congress, 4/30/09](#)

5/2/12 Final Review

5/4/12 Exam #2