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ARC 386M/ CRP 388/ LAS 388

Graduate Course
Wednesday. 9-12PM
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Migratory Urbanism: The Spaces of Transnational Subjects in American Cities and Migrant Homelands (1890-present)

Migration is an inherently spatial phenomenon; the study of migration is the study of places, people, processes, and the state. This course addresses the history of 20th century international migration—with a focus on US-Mexico migration post WWII—through the lens of the built environment. The aim of this course is to bring migration theories and histories into the realm of architecture and planning to equip spatial practitioners with tools for thinking through how contemporary movement interfaces with the production of space. An interdisciplinary approach to the study of migration will incorporate urban and architectural histories, political economy, urban theory, ethnographies of individuals, families, and communities, material culture, and film to explore how U.S. cities and towns (as well as other countries) and border regions are influenced by the continuous flow of people, ideas, dollars, and desire. We will engage concepts such as assimilation, transnationalism, diaspora, spatial practices, ritual infrastructure, spatial hybridity, and urban design from below. We will investigate international remittance development, multi-scalar migrant neighborhoods, and housing. Students will learn methods for conducting primary research on migration and places, and write short papers on contemporary or historical migration as it relates to/produces Austin's built environment.

Course Goals:

- * reading the city at text / sources for urban narratives
- * relating migration patterns to local constructions of place
- * linking macro policy and large-scale urban trends to immigrant experience
- * unpacking the socio-spatial and place-making
- * historicizing contemporary migration
- * building a people-centered theory about the production of the built environment

Course Requirements:

1. Class Attendance: Students are expected to attend classes regularly and to participate in class discussions of the readings. I expect full attendance at every session. Absences must be explained by email. Unexcused absences will result in a penalty. More than two will automatically lower your final grade but one whole grade. Arriving more than 5 minutes late to class without a valid excuse will count as ½ of an absence.

2. Readings and Reading Questions

Reading response-question (weekly). Please send me a reading question by midnight the day before class. I may or may not bring them up in class, but it is a good way for me to track your particular interests and curiosities. Throughout the semester, some students will lead discussion of weekly readings. TBD.

**Canvas course website for syllabus, handouts, and readings, please find everything under “modules.”*

3. History of a migration group for walking tour: In groups of 2, please identify a migrant group that lives in Austin (or the North Lamar area) and trace the historical reasons/events in their homeland that may have spurred emigration. We will try to dedicate some class time to this search. Be prepared to discuss case informally during tour.

4. Multiple Methods for Understanding North Lamar: In preparation for our walking tour, students will use a particular method (i.e. Google Maps, Street View, Sanborns, Census Data, Directories, Historic Newspapers and/or Websites of local businesses and cultural organizations) to do preliminary analysis of the area. Some students may choose to do formal analysis of building massing and footprints.

5. Original Paper or Visual Document: Students will identify a building, block, or even small neighborhood in Austin that is or has been shaped by the migration of individuals, a group, or a particular cultural aesthetic, either currently or historically. A fine-grain analysis of this one location will utilize the primary sources we explore in class (historic and contemporary maps, city directories, archival newspapers, images, or buildings) as well as interviews and/or oral histories.

The paper should be a minimum of 12 pages, double spaced, 12-point font, not including images and maps, and not exceed 15. Alternatively, if you are more interested in mapping/visual explorations, you will conduct a mapping project that utilizes cognitive mapping, Sanborn mapping, city directory mapping (or another method of your choice) to illustrate patterns in space related to migration.

6. Optional presentation: Students that want to discuss their research and get feedback before they submit their paper will present in class on the last day; we will discuss the case study as a group. While this is optional, I recommend that students who feel that they are involved in a research process take this opportunity to work their ideas out in spoken form. Also, if I am concerned about a student's progress, I will ask the student to take this opportunity.

Grading Structure

Attendance and Participation (weekly questions, discussion): 45%

Short Assignments (North Lamar preparation): 20%

Final paper: 35%

Office Hours: either Wednesday 12-1 p.m. or email to set up appt., Sutton 2.118.
sll@utexas.edu

This course is not only about intellectual exploration, but also creativity. I encourage students to ask open-ended questions about migration, and to pursue their research in an exploratory manner.

Final Notes, Do's and Don'ts

- *Do not use iPhones or iPads in class, even to access articles, unless we are conducting web searches as a group, or you have discussed this with me.
- *Turn off your cell-phone.
- *The art of writing notes with pen and paper should never be lost. I encourage students to bring in pads of paper, come in with open minds, talk and listen.

- **I reserve the right to change the syllabus according to group discussion/needs. Please look out for e-mails I send or updates regarding any changes to the syllabus.

Week 1: August 29

Theories and Categories: Macro-view of Migration and Space

The contemporary movement of goods, ideas, people, and capital is primarily understood through globalization and transnational discourses. International migration to the U.S. is perceived through the lens of ethnicity and the nation-state. Outlining key frameworks used in globalization literature, urban history, and immigration history reveals the need for historicized and situated research on migration and place.

- 1) Why migration and space/cities, what does migration and urbanization look like today (macro immigration/urban processes)?
- 2) The current moment: discussion of 'Zero Tolerance' and the Trump Administration

Reading:

None

Going Further:

Pierce, Mary and Benton-Short, Lisa, ed. *Migrants to the Metropolis* (1-7, 15-22, 23-47).

Castells, Stephen and Miller, Mark J. eds., *The Age of Migration*

Week 2: September 5

Methodological Approach to Migration and Material Evidence

This week we explore migration in its broadest sense, and couple this exploration with an introduction to cultural landscape and built environment methods. Migration trends directly influence urban and rural environments; migration makes places. What is the work that the built environment does *to and for* us?

- 1) Migration writ large
- 2) Landscapes as evidence, limits to cultural landscape studies, and theorizing migration + architecture.

Reading:

- Christiane Harzig and Dirk Hoerder, with Donna Gabaccia, "Migration in Human History—the Long View," in *What is Migration History* (Cambridge, UK: Polity, 2009): 8-52. (*for reference, glance at 8-34, skim 35-50*)
- Paul Groth and Todd Bressi, "Frameworks for Cultural Landscape Studies" in *Understanding Ordinary Landscapes* (New Haven: Yale University) :1-24.
- Dell Upton, "Architecture and Everyday Life," *New Literary History*, vol. 33, no. 4 (Autumn, 2002): 707-723.
- Mirjana Lozanovska, ed. "Conclusion," in *Ethno-Architecture and the Politics of Migration* (217-233).

Going Further:

Steve Cairns, ed., *Drifting: Architecture and Migrancy*. (Intro to page 8)

Dell Upton, "The Power of Things: Recent Studies in American Vernacular Architecture" *American Quarterly*, vol. 35, no. 3 (1983): 262-279.

Week 3: September 12

Assimilation and Architecture (late 19th and early 20th century)

How have migrant groups used architecture and building practices to influence social cohesion and social life? How have they used architecture to project certain public images and representations of their "ethnicity?" What role does architecture and material culture play in assimilation, if any?

Session 1: The Material Culture of Assimilation.

Reading:

- Thomas Hubka, "The Worker's Cottage in Milwaukee's Polish Community: Housing and the Process of Americanization, 1870-1920," *Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture*, 33-52.
- Steven Moffson, "Identity and Assimilation in Synagogue Architecture in Georgia, 1870-1920," *Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture*, 151-165.
- Spickard, "Immigration, Race, Ethnicity, Colonialism," *Almost All Aliens*, 2007, 13-33.

Going Further:

Edward Chappell, "Acculturation in the Shenandoah Valley: Rhenish Houses of the Massanutten Settlement," in *Common Places* (University of Georgia Press, 1986): 27-57.

Ralph S. Bourne, Trans-national America, *The Atlantic*, 1916.

Lizabeth Cohen, "Embellishing a Life of Labor," in *Common Places* (261-280)

Arjun Appadurai, *The Social Life of Things*

*spend time discussing built environment methods, and "what is in a plan?"

Week 4: September 19

Assimilation and Cities: Mexican migration in Los Angeles and Chicago during the first half of the 20th century

What did migration look like pre-WWII in America's industrializing cities? What urban features shaped and where shaped by migration? This week we approach the question of migrant assimilation through Mexican immigrants' incorporation into two of America's largest and most Latino cities, Los Angeles and Chicago. We will focus on: 1) economic and political factors shaping migration, spatial integration into Anglo America, inter-ethnic conflict, and the "Mexican problem" and 2) railroads, industry, agriculture,

streetcars, and city-building to understand how early migrant neighborhoods relate to city form. We will also examine “assimilation” as a sociological concept.

- 1: Americanizing Mexicans in a once-Mexican town: LA and assimilation
- 2: Chicago’s Mexicans, the Chicago School (spatial assimilation as a sociological concept)

Reading:

- Kelly Lytle Hernandez, Mexican Immigration to the U.S.,” 25-29. (*for reference*)
- George Sanchez. 1993. *Becoming Mexican American, Ethnicity, Culture, and Identity in Los Angeles, 1900-1945* (Chapter 3: 63-83).
- Gabriela Arredondo. *Mexican Chicago: Race, Identity, and Nation 1916-39*. (Chapter 2: 37-79)
- Louis Wirth, “Urbanism as a Way of Life,” *Journal of American Sociology*, 1-24 (**only half are assigned this reading*)
- George Simmel, *The Mental Life and the Metropolis*, 23-31 (**only half are assigned this reading*)

Going Further:

George Sanchez, “Economic Development and Immigration, 1890-1920,” *Walls and Mirrors: Mexican Americans, Mexican Immigrants, and the Politics of Ethnicity*, 39-68.

Perea Juan, ed., *Immigrants Out! The New Nativism and the Anti-Immigrant Impulse in the United States*, Intro (1-12), Part 1 (13-43, 44-60 Statue of Liberty)

Thomas Guglielmo and Cybelle Fox, “Defining America’s Racial Boundaries: Blacks, Mexicans, and European Immigrants, 1890-1945” *American Journal of Sociology*, vol. 118, no. 2 (2012): 327-379.

Assignment: half the class will read **Urbanism as a Way of Life, the other half will read **The Mental Life and the Metropolis**. Two students from each group will launch a discussion of the reading to the other group. We will discuss urbanism as a concept, and how urbanism relates to solidarity at the turn of the century.*

Week 5: September 26

Post WWII Urban Decline, Latino Urbanism, and Contested Public Spaces

What have been the dominant narratives that explain Mexicans and Mexican-Americans roles in U.S. cities and urbanism? How are those narratives changing and why does it matter?

- 1: Overview of distinct phases of Mexican migration and settlement and related sociological categories
- 2: The Power of Place

Reading:

- Ramon Gutierrez, "What is in a Name? The History and Politics of Hispanic and Latino Panethnicities," *Latino Studies Reader*, 2016, 19-20 and 27-49 (*skim*).
- Dolores Hayden. 1997. *The Power of Place: Urban Landscapes as Public History*. (Chapters 1 and 2: 2-43)
- James Rojas, "Enacted Environment: The Creation of Place by Mexicans and Mexican Americans in East Los Angeles," in *Everyday America*, 1999, 275-292.

Going Further:

Andrew Sandoval Strausz, "Latino Landscapes: Postwar Cities and the Transnational Origins of a New Urban America," *Journal of American History*, Dec. 2014: 804-831.

Mike Davis, *Magical Urbanism*

Doug Saunders, *Arrival City*, "Arriving at the Top of the Pyramid: Los Angeles" (76-100).

John Chase, Margaret Crawford, Kaliski John, *Everyday Urbanism* (Monacelli Press, 1999).

Nancy Fraser, "Rethinking the Public Sphere"

*potential USGS on-line map exploration

Week 6: October 3

Transnational Activism and the Remittance Landscapes in Mexico

Migration changes the landscape, the politics, and the cultural worlds of migrant hometowns. A major material outcome of this is the rise of the remittance house. Migrants have also collectively initiated community projects. What is the remittance landscape according to Lopez, and dissimilation according to Fitzgerald? Why do we need to address other nations to understand the U.S.?

1: Migrant Hometown Associations and migrant activism. (HTAs)

Short film: *The Sixth Section*.

2: Remittance Landscapes

Reading:

- Casa Michoacán declaration of intent (2)
- David Fitzgerald, "Stranger of Prodigal Son?" in *A Nation of Emigrants*, (125-152)
- Lopez, "The Remittance House" (35-70) OR "El Jaripeo" (97-133) in *The Remittance Landscape: Spaces of Migration in Rural Mexico and Urban USA*. (*note, half will read "Remittance House" and half will read "El Jaripeo" to cross-discuss)

Going Further:

Websites:

World Bank

Inter-American Development Bank

Arquitectura de Remesas

Sam Quinones. 2007. *Antonio's Gun And Delfino's Dream: True Tales of Mexican Migration*.

NYT- Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala and Dilip Ratha, "To Help Africa: Sell diaspora bonds/ Homeward Bond"

Sanchez, "Where is Home? The Dilemma of Repatriation," *Becoming Mexican-American*.

Pierre Bourdieu, "Structures, Habitus, and Practices," in *The Logic of Practice*.

Pierre Bourdieu, *Distinction*.

Ellen Pader, "Spatiality and Social Change: Domestic Space in Mexico and the U.S."

*Potential in class exploration of Digital Immigrant Stories, primary source, on line:

<http://ihrc.dash.umn.edu/dil/>. Similar sources:

<http://immigrants.mndigital.org/exhibits/show/immigrantstories-exhibit/classroom>

Week 7: October 10

Transnationalism: Chinese and Italian Migration and Place-Making (late 19th and early 20th century) This week we expand discussions of transnational or remittance landscapes in Mexico the US by looking at the influence of migration in China and Italy. We ask: who is doing this kind of research? Why is this important?

1: Chinese Migration

2: Italian Migration

Readings:

- Donna Gabaccia, Intro (xv-xxi), Ch. 2 (11-34), Ch. 5 (65-85), in *From Sicily to Elizabeth Street: Housing and Social Change Among Italian Immigrants, 1880-1930* (State University of New York Press, 1984). (*only half read Gabaccia)
- Donna Gabaccia, "Is Everywhere Nowhere? Nomads, Nations, and the Immigrant Paradigm of United States History," *Journal of American History*, vol. 86, no. 3 (1999). (*only half read Gabaccia)
- Madeline Hsu, Intro (1-15), Ch. 2 (16-54), Ch. 6 (156-175), in *Dreaming of Gold, Dreaming of Home: Transnationalism and Migration Between the United States and South China, 1882-1943*. (*only half read Hsu)
- Paul Kramer, Geopolitics of Mobility: Immigration Policy and American Global Power in the Long Twentieth Century," *American Historical Association*, 2018: 393-438. (*everybody)

Going Further:

Donna Gabbacia, *Foreign Relations*

Denis Byrne, "The Need for a Transnational Approach to the Material Heritage of Migration: The China-Australia Corridor," *Journal of Social Archaeology* 0 (0), 2016, 1-25.

Mark Choate, *Emigration Nation: The Making of Italy Abroad*, 2008.

Yong Chen, *Chinese San Francisco, 1850-1943: A Trans-Pacific Community*, 2000.

*website on Chinese remittance landscapes: <http://www.cangdongproject.org>

*website on southeast Asian stories:

<http://immigrants.mndigital.org/exhibits/show/immigrantstories1975/stories>

***Note: We are splitting up readings. Choose: Italian or Chinese? Everybody read Paul Kramer, but only half read Gabbacia, and the other half read Hsu.** We will also do Google Earth exploration in class together and discuss North Lamar. Research some aspect of North Lamar this week, TBD, due October 17th.)

Week 8: October 17

Spatial Practices: Ritual Infrastructure and Hybridity in Sweden and Chicago And Urban Design From Below

Today's immigrant populations may or may not have opportunities to build architectural monuments. Yet, they are shaping the built environment in important ways. What is the relationship between spatial practices, built space, and planning? How have migrants exerted agency over their built environment past and present? How—and do they—migrant communities build solidarity into place? What is the relationship between planning from below and above?

1: Ritual Infrastructure

2: Urban Design From Below

Readings:

- De Certeau, "Spatial Practices: Walking the City," in *Practice of Everyday Life*, 91-110.
- Arijit Sen. *Transcultural Placemaking: Intertwined Spaces of Sacred and Secular on Devon Avenue, Chicago*. (31-62)
- Mack, "Urban Design From Below: Immigration and the Spatial Practice of Urbanism" *Public Culture* 26, no. 1 (2014): 153-85.
- Domenic Vitello, *Migrant Metropolis and American Planning*, (245-255)

Going Further:

Simone, "People as Infrastructure"

Mack, *The Construction of Equality: Syriac Migration to the Swedish City* (Minnesota: University of Minnesota Press, 2017, Intro, Ch. 4 (135-170), Ch. 5 (171-210)

Rubén Hernandez-León. *Metropolitan Migrants: The Migration of Urban Mexicans to the United States*. (Chapter 5: 154-183)

Christian Zolniski. 2006. *Janitors, Street Vendors, and Activists: The Lives of Mexican Immigrants in Silicon Valley* (Chapters 3: 73-105)

*Time in class to discuss and present about North Lamar Tour, and potential exploration of “first days” in the U.S. primary source on-line (<http://www.firstdaysproject.org>).

Week 9: October 24

“Mapping North Lamar”: Urban Tour (time and place to meet TBA)

To what extent is this a social landscape? To what extent is this a commercial landscape? Can we separate the two?

Readings:

- Stewart Brand, *How Buildings Learn* (1-23, mostly photos)
- Singer, *The Rise of 21st Century Gateways*, (Intro. 3-25)
- Fiscal Policy Institute: Bringing Vitality to the Main Street (*for reference only*)

*Come to tour having researched the history of one migrant group represented in the area, be prepared to informally discuss.

Week 10: October 31

Migrant Suburbs: From “Chinatown” to Ethnoburb

From working the land, to ethnic clusters, to fragmented living, migrants have been remaking U.S. suburbs throughout the second half of the twentieth century. We return to the idea of assimilation and acculturation but in a new context. How can we compare the migrant laborer to the migrant resident in the context of suburbanization? First, we address migrant visibility and invisibility as it relates to their occupation, and their location in U.S. cities and suburbs. Next we explore how migrants are remaking entire metropolitan regions by tracing the evolution from “Chinatowns” at the turn of the 20th century to the emergent “ethno-burbs” in the 21st.

- 1: As Labor (networks, informality, invisibility)
- 2: As Residents

Readings:

- James Duncan and Nancy Duncan. 2004. *Landscapes of Privilege: The Politics of the Aesthetic in an American Suburb* (Chapter 8: 203-250)
- NYT, “Ailing Midwestern Cities Extend a Welcoming Hand to Immigrants”
- Becky Nicolades and James Zarsadiaz, *Design Assimilation in Suburbia: Asian Americans, Built Landscapes, and Suburban Advantage in Los Angeles’s San Gabriel Valley since 1970* (332-371)

Going Further:

Willow Aman, *Trespassers? Asian Americans and the Search for Suburbia*.

Josi Ward, "Dream Oriental Romance: Reinventing Chinatown in 1930s Los Angeles"

Fong, *First Suburban Chinatown*.

Michelle, *Global Diasporas and Traditional Towns: Chinese Transnational Migration and the Development of Vancouver's Chinatown*.

*discussion about paper topics, digest tour

Week 11: November 7

Designing for Displacement, Deportation, Detention (Economic Migrant, Refugee, Asylum Seeker)

Migratory urbanism is also about how we think about migrants and their relationship and right to be in U.S. cities. Despite migrants' pivotal role in building American (U.S.) cities, many migrants do not have a "right to the city." How does the production of migrant illegality shape their access and right to space? How can we think this through by addressing the spaces of incarceration and detention that are used to quarantine migrants?

1: Encountering Ellis Island

2: Displacement

3: Immigrant Detention Centers and Immigration Prisons

Reading:

- David Harvey, "Right to the City?" (1-15)
- Jenna Loyd and Alison Mountz, Intro (1-30), *Militarizing Migration* (54-86), "Not a Prison," (87-116), *Boats, Borders, and Bases: Race, the Cold War, and the Rise of Migration Detention in the United States* (2018)
- Should Designers Try to Reform Immigrant Detention? *City Lab*, 2018, 1-13.
- Migration Policy Institute, *Unauthorized Migrants by Country of Birth*, 2015 (for reference only)

Going Further:

Lauren Martin and Matthew Mitchelson, "Geographies of Detention and Imprisonment: Interrogating Spatial Practices of Confinement, Discipline, Law and State Power," *Geography Compass*, 459-477.

Loinel Beehner, "Are Syria's Do-It-Yourself Refugees Outliers or Examples of a New Norm?"

DeGenova, "The legal production of Mexican/migrant 'illegality,'" *Latino Studies*, 2 (2), 160-185.

New York Times Magazine, "Deported"

Loic Waquant, "Prison as a Surrogate Ghetto"

Cervantes-Gautschi, "Wall Street and the Criminalization of Immigrants"
Feltz and Baksh, "Business of Detention" in *Beyond Walls and Cages*
Chak, *Architecture of Detention*
Saskia Sassen, *Expulsions*
Raphael Sperry, "Is Justice Architecture Just?"
James Scott, *Seeing Like a State*
Wong Wing vs. United States
Kelly Greenhill, *Weapons of Mass Migration: Forced Displacement, Coercion, and Foreign Policy* (Cornell University Press, 2010)
Saskia Sassen, *Expulsions*
Dan Canon, "A System Designed to Make People Disappear," Slate, 1-4.
"Office of Inspector General: Immigration and Customs Information Did not follow Federal Procurement Guidelines When Contracting for Detention Services"
Repatriation and Deportation of Mexicans:
<https://teachbocolatinohistory.colorado.edu/primary-source-sets/repatriation-and-deportation-of-mexicans-1932-1936/>

*Discuss 1951 UN Convention, 1967 Protocol, 1980 Refugee Act, and paper topics.

Week 12: November 14

Designing for Refugee Urbanism and Sanctuary

Bring Questions to Class, Closing Discussion

What do we learn from this exploration of migrants and city-place building? What roles should cities play in creating a space for migrants and refugees?

Readings:

- Legal Resource Center, "The Rise of Sanctuary: Getting Local Officers out of the Business of Deportation in the Trump Era"
- Nancy Fraser, *Scales of Justice: Reimagining Political Space in a Globalizing World*, 2009 (Intro, 1-11, Ch. 2 12-29) (Ch. 5 Transnationalizing the Public Sphere, 76-99, *for reference only*)
- UN Declaration of Human Rights

Going Further:

Agamben, *Homo Sacer*

Jonathan Darling, "Cities of Sanctuary" (7)

*discuss paper topics

Week 13: November 21 (THANKSGIVING)

Week 14: November 28

Student Presentations

Students are asked to give very informal presentations of their paper topics as a way of closing the course with a discussion of change in Austin, past and present, due to migration. What surprises did explorations of Austin unearth and what do they tell us about the role of migrants in building, inhabiting, and envisioning the city? How does this relate to the professional world of space-makers?

Week 15: December 5

NO CLASS

Source List:

Throughout the course we will read texts that use a myriad of sources. We will also take an urban tour to situate our study of migration and cities in Austin's built environment. This source list is divided into *built environment* and *migration* sources. Throughout the semester we will review some of these sources so that you can develop your writing and researching toolkit.

Built Environment Sources:

- city maps
- fire insurance maps/ Sanborns
- plat maps
- cognitive maps
- demographic maps
- zoning maps
- architectural plans
- building history
- city directories
- institutions (ethnic associations, schools, churches, labor unions)
- historic newspapers
- city planning and redevelopment municipal documents
- real estate records, deeds
- wandering / drift
- photographs (aerial and grounded)

Migration Sources:

- census data
- immigrant organization archives (ex. Mexican Community Committee of South Chicago)
- diaries, letters, journals
- oral history
- ethnic associations
- religious institutions

- policy debates
 - non for profits
 - participant observation and interviews (ethnography)
 - Immigration Statistics Yearbook: <https://www.dhs.gov/immigration-statistics/yearbook>
- Immigration Syllabus: <http://editions.lib.umn.edu/immigrationsyllabus/>

ICE Raid List Locations

Austin Sanctuary Network Members

Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Texas State Archives

AT UTexas Libraries:

<https://guides.lib.utexas.edu/c.php?g=629103> (guide to immigration, including “encyclopedia of American immigration, how the U.S. immigration system works, the immigrant visa process, U.S. department of State visa glossary)