B512 - LEGISLATION AND THE FORMULATION OF PUBLIC POLICY

Assigned Readings Subject To Change

Prof. Angélica Cházaro
chazar1@uw.edu,
Office: Room 407
Winter Quarter 2015
Office Hours: Tuesdays, 2 – 3 p.m., and by appointment.
Course Assistant: Suman Chhabra schhabra@uw.edu; William H. Gates Hall, Room 422

Course Description and Learning Objectives

This seminar explores contemporary immigration laws and policies through the lens of the detention and removal of unauthorized migrants. We will examine how immigration laws and policies relating to immigration enforcement are established and implemented. We will study the use of the criminal justice system as an immigration enforcement tool, and the legal, policy, and theoretical implications of this trend. Finally, we will critically assess immigration reform efforts related to the expulsion of unauthorized migrants.

This course aims to:

- Introduce students to historical aspects of modern immigration law and policy related to detention and deportation
- Provide students with an overview of the contemporary mechanisms of immigration control
- Ensure students know the key actors and stakeholders in immigration law and policymaking and key immigration vocabulary/terminology.
- Familiarize students with key writings in the field of immigration law and policy relating to enforcement
- Provide students with basic understanding of theories of migration and expulsion of migrants and different approaches to using law as a tool to manage migration
- Teach students to think critically about immigration enforcement reform efforts, including the political participation of unauthorized migrants in these efforts
Requirements

Attendance and Participation

You are expected to attend all sessions of the class, read all the assigned material for the assigned class in advance of the class session, and participate actively in discussion. This is a discussion-based course where learning is a collective enterprise. For that reason, 35% of your grade will be based upon attendance and class participation. Though my presumption is that everyone will be prepared to discuss the material, I understand that unexpected events can arise in life, and I will honor one-time special requests not to actively participate in class discussion so long as the request is made in advance of class.

Participation includes both in-class discussion and participation on Canvas discussion forums. You are expected to post on Canvas every week at the minimum.

Significant Response

You will sign up to provide a more in-depth response on Canvas twice during the semester. On those days, you will be expected to provide a response of 600 words or more responding to the week’s readings, connecting them to themes or concepts from previous discussions, and raising questions they bring up for you. This is not a place to summarize the readings, but rather to engage with them. On the weeks for which you are signed up to provide a significant response, it must be posted by 3pm on the Monday before class. Your significant responses are worth 20% of your grade. On the weeks when you are not signed up to provide a significant response, you are expected to participate in one or more of the threads of conversation happening on Canvas; you may choose the time and length of these postings.

Discussion Questions

Beginning the second week of class, you will be required to generate two discussion questions about the class readings by 10 p.m. the night before the class meeting. Your questions should refer to at least one specific passage in the text that we can turn to during class. 5% of your grade will be based on your discussion questions. You may choose one week during the semester to skip providing discussion questions. You do not need to inform me in advance of the week you will be skipping.
Final Paper

40% of your grade will be based on a longer (10-12 typed pages excluding footnotes) research paper on a topic of your choice, to be chosen in consultation with me. You are expected to propose a discrete original argument and support the argument with analysis, narrative, or some other methodological approach. This paper should incorporate some of the reading from the course, as well as outside research. It should also incorporate i) policy analysis and ii) theoretical or historical analysis. Your papers should use formal Bluebook citation for any texts referenced. Papers are due by the end of exam period. No extensions will be granted. You must meet with me to discuss the topic of your final paper by February 20th.

Required Readings

All required readings will be posted on Canvas. You are required to print out the readings and bring hard copies to each class session.

UNIT I: The Politics of Exclusion and Deportation

Week 1 - Introduction

- Joseph Nevins, The Ideological Roots of the Illegal as Threat and the Boundary as Protector
- Joan Olsson, Detour Spotting for White Anti-Racists
- Thrive Social Justice, Internalizing Oppressive Detours

Week 2 – Theoretical Perspectives on Unauthorized Migrations

- David Bacon, Illegal People, Excerpts available on CANVAS
- Harsha Walia, Undoing Border Imperialism, Excerpts available on CANVAS

Week 3 – Historical Perspectives on the Current Enforcement Regime
UNIT 2: The Mechanisms of Immigration Control

Week 4 – Border enforcement and the politics of border control

- Aviva Chomsky, "America’s Continuing Border Crisis: The Real Story Behind the ‘Invasion’ of the Children," available on Canvas

Week 5 – Interior enforcement and criminal justice pathways to removal

- Juliet Stumpf, “The Crimmigration Crisis,” available on Canvas read pages 396 - 419
- Lisa Marie Cacho, "The Rights of Respectability," available on Canvas

Week 6 – Immigration Detention - Guest Lecturer, Silky Shah, Co-Director, Detention Watch Network

Thoroughly explore the Detention Watch Network website, including:

- http://www.detentionwatchnetwork.org/node/2383
- http://www.detentionwatchnetwork.org/EndTheQuotaNarrative
- http://www.detentionwatchnetwork.org/ExposeAndClose (read at least one of the “Expose and Close” reports)
- http://www.detentionwatchnetwork.org/policypriorities

**UNIT 3: Deportation and Detention Policy Reform and Immigrant Activism**

**Week 7 – Anti-deportation advocacy - Family-Based organizing and policy making**


**Week 8 – Anti-enforcement activism and policymaking on the State Level**

- Jennifer Chacon, *Overcriminalizing Immigration*, available on CANVAS. Please read pages 617-630.

**Week 9 – Comprehensive immigration reform**


**Week 10 - TBA**