Political Science 150A: The Politics of Immigration

The purpose of this class is to provide a broad understanding of immigration and immigration policy in the United States. This course is divided into three sections: a historical perspective of immigration, an understanding of the economic impact of immigration, and a discussion of current US immigration policy, with an emphasis on Mexico.

Texts
Three books are required for this class. Any other readings will be provided for you on TED.
Daniel J. Tichenor, Dividing Lines: The Politics of Immigration Control in America
George J. Borjas, Heaven's Door: Immigration Policy and the American Economy
Douglas S. Massey, Jorge Durand, and Nolan J. Malone, Beyond Smoke and Mirrors: Mexican Immigration in an Era of Economic Integration

Assignments
You will have three assignments due, one at the end of each section. Each assignment will be a 3-5 page paper on a topic relevant to that section. You can choose to explore one of the topics in greater depth or find a topic that is related to the subject matter. We will discuss the papers in greater detail as the due dates approach. Late papers will be reduced by a half grade per day.

As stated below, part of your participation grade is to post and discuss relevant articles about immigration on the TED discussion board. “Articles” are defined as newspaper articles from a reputable newspaper (New York Times, Washington Post, etc) or news outlet (AP, Reuters, etc.). If you are unsure whether your article is acceptable, email me. All students are required to post at least one article AND comment at least once on someone else's article. Please keep your comments intelligent, academic in nature, and show that you've given the topic some scholarly thought.

In order to post, you have to do the following:
1) log into TED
2) click on Discussions
3) post your article (by clicking on “CREATE FORUM”) with a thoughtful introduction or brief comment about the piece

Academic Integrity and Classroom Citizenship
You will be expected to participate fully in this course. This means that to strengthen the class room community, you should (a) constructively engage in discussions and other classroom activities and (b) contribute your fair share to any group projects but (c) will not present as your own another person’s work, either directly (word for word) or indirectly (using their ideas, images, etc.).

Although you will not be expected to submit your work to Turnitin.com, I reserve the right to use the service in cases of suspected plagiarism. Changes in policy give instructors little choice but to report plagiarism to the Academic Integrity Coordinator. You should know the university’s policies on
academic misconduct by now (http://www-senate.ucsd.edu/manual/appendices/app2.htm). If you have any questions about the applicability of them to your particular case, consult with the instructor before you submit the paper.

**Grading**

Your grade will be based on the following rubric:

1) Assignments – 30% each
2) Participation – 10%

Your participation grade will be at the instructor's discretion and based on the following: attendance in class, intelligent contribution to classroom and online discussion, and the initiation of (and participation in) discussion on the class Discussion Board as outlined above.

**SECTION I: History of Immigration**

*Tuesday, August 6. Theoretical Foundations of Immigration Policy Reform*
Tichenor Chapter 2, 3, 4

*Thursday, August 8. Restrictionist Immigration Policies*
Tichenor Chapters 5, 6, 7

*Tuesday, August 13. Postwar Immigration Politics*
Tichenor Chapters 8, 9


**SECTION II: Immigration and Economy**

*Thursday, August 15. Economic “Winners” and “Losers”*
Borjas, Chapters 4, 5, 6

ASSIGNMENT 1 DUE

*Tuesday, August 20. Empirical Evidence of Immigrant Economic Impact*
Executive Office of the President, Council of Economic Advisers, *Immigration's Economic Impact*
Ira Gang and Ann Piehl, Program on Immigrant and Democracy, *Destination New Jersey: How Immigrants Benefit The State Economy*

*Thursday, August 22. The Case of California*
McCarthy, Kevin F. and Georges Vernez, *Immigration in a Changing Economy: California’s*
SECTION III: Immigration and Mexico

Tuesday, August 27. History of Mexican Immigration to America
Massey, Chapters 1-5
ASSIGNMENT 2 DUE

Thursday, August 29. Mexican Migration
Massey, Chapters 6 and 7
Jeanne Batalova and Michelle Mittelstadt. Migration Policy Institute. Relief from Deportation: Demographic Profile of the DREAMers Potentially Eligible under the Deferred Action Policy

Tuesday, August 3. Public Sentiment

Thursday, August 5. The Other Side of Immigration
Film: The Other Side of Immigration
http://www.theothersideofimmigration.com/HOME.html
ASSIGNMENT 3 DUE