

**Master Syllabus**  
***Department of Geography***

**GEOG 320: Ethnic Geographies**

**Course Description**

A systematic upper division course which introduces the geographical aspects of United States ethnicity, particularly with regard to the post-1965 ethnic groups from Latin America and Asia. Specific attention is given to concepts of immigration theory, identity, race, transnationality, and community formation within the larger context of human geography. (3 credit hours).

**Course Objectives**

To introduce students to the complex mosaic of ethnic groups in the United States from a geographic perspective. This includes settlement distributions and community formation at both the macro and micro geographical scales, the manner in which ethnic identity is constructed and expressed in the landscape, the role of globalization and transnationalism in ethnic identity formation, and the important role of ethnic economies in the larger U.S. economy.

**Course Rationale**

The United States has experienced a dramatic shift in its global immigrant source regions to become an increasingly multicultural society since the 1970s. First, students must cultivate a greater appreciation for new Americans in an increasingly diverse and multicultural society. Second, GEOG 320 is one of a handful of upper division systematic electives the department offers to all its majors. This course is important because all of the department's upper division human geography systematic courses are strongly oriented to economic geography.

**Course Content and Format**

Students are presented material in a lecture style format part which also includes multimedia presentations and case study discussions.

**Text**

Miyares, I. and Airriess, C.A. 2007. *Contemporary Ethnic Geographies in America*. Lanham, MD: Rowman Littlefield.

## Methods for Evaluating Student Performance

Students are evaluated on the basis of five multiple choice exams worth 70% of the final grade, plus three essay assignments based on scholarly journal articles worth 30% of the final grade.

### Lecture Topics, Readings, and Exams

#### Introduction

1. Chp. 1-Introduction to Concepts
  2. Chp. 2-Immigration History and Law
- EXAM 1

#### Major pre-1965 and non-European Communities

3. Chp. 3- Native Americans
  4. Chp. 3- African Americans
  5. Chp. 5- Mexican Americans
- EXAM 2

#### Western Hemisphere Immigrant Communities

6. Chp. 6- Cubans, Puerto Ricans and Dominicans
  7. Chp. 7- Haitians and British West Indians
  8. Chp. 8- Central Americans
  9. Chp. 9- South Americans
- EXAM 3

#### Asian Immigrant Communities

10. Chp. 10- Chinese Americans
  11. Chp. 11- Korean Americans
  12. Chp. 12- South Asian Americans
  14. Chp. 13- Southeast Asian Americans
- EXAM 4

#### Impacts of New Ethnicity on American Culture

15. Chp. 16- New Urban Ethnic Landscapes
  16. Chp. 17- Immigrant Labor Markets
  17. Chp. 18- Immigrant Festivals and Tourism
- EXAM 5

## Evaluation of the Course

Student evaluation of the course using university and department course evaluation forms.