

Immigration Cluster 2008-2009

Overview

International migration is a burgeoning field in sociology, and the UCI's immigration program in sociology ranks among the best in the world. Renowned faculty members work with graduate students on a variety of funded projects, focusing in particular on how immigrants are incorporated into the United States. Through brown-bag seminars at the [Center for Research in Immigration, Population, and Public Policy](#), faculty and students throughout the social sciences share their research. Research is wide-ranging, multi-method, and interdisciplinary. Among the [full listing](#) of funded projects are studies of:

- Intergenerational mobility in metropolitan Los Angeles. This is a three-year, mixed-methods project involving a large-scale survey, in-depth oral histories, and targeted ethnographies. The study examines how the adult offspring of immigrants are faring in terms of education, jobs, living arrangements, ethnic identity, political participation and a host of other indicators of social and economic mobility.
- Racial and ethnic diversity, intermarriage, and multiracial identification, based on interviews with multiracial families and census data.
- Ways that 9/11 has affected the incorporation of Arab-Americans.
- Naturalization and immigrant public assistance.
- The children of immigrants. This longitudinal survey, now in its third wave, is following respondents through early adulthood.

Research interests of faculty members specializing in immigration

Stan Bailey – Latin America, race and ethnicity in Brazil and the United States, religion, U.S.-Mexico border

Frank D. Bean – Demography, welfare use, racial and ethnic identity, fertility, unauthorized population.

Susan K. Brown (cluster coordinator) – Spatial and socioeconomic incorporation, education, urban sociology, immigrants' social networks

Cynthia Feliciano – Education, race and ethnicity, the 2nd generation, Latino studies

Lin Freeman – Social networks, quantitative methods

Jennifer Lee – Race and ethnicity, intergroup relations, Asian-American studies

John Liu – Race and ethnicity, social theory

Jen'nan G. Read (on leave at Duke University) – Gender, religion, Arab-Americans, health, U.S. Muslims

Rubén G. Rumbaut – The “1.5” generation, comparative racial and ethnic relations, structural inequality, identity, health and mental health

Field exams and graduate courses

To take the field exam in immigration, students must take three of the courses offered in migration. These courses include:

- *Immigrant America* (Rumbaut). Focuses on why international migration occurs, the contexts of reception at the destination, the development of ethnic identity and historical immigration policy in the U.S.
- *Immigrant Incorporation* (Bean/Brown) Examines theories of immigrant group incorporation in the U.S., the meaning of citizenship and current migration policy.
- *Comparative International Migration* (Liu). Examines international migration from a comparative perspective, with special emphasis on Asia.
- *Immigration and the New Second Generation* (Lee/Feliciano). Focuses on case studies of the sociocultural and economic incorporation of immigrants and the new second generation.
- *Race/Ethnicity and Immigration* (Lee). Emphasizes the intersection of race/ethnicity, class, and immigration and they affect opportunity structures and life chances.
- *Mexican Migration and U.S. Policy* (Bean). Examines the historical context of migration from Mexico to the United States and its implications.
- *Community and Immigration* (Brown). Discusses the meaning of community in urban sociology, the role of ethnic enclaves and residential integration of immigrants and their descendants.

In addition, we recommend that majors take at least one class in a related area, such as race/ethnicity or population.

Students wishing to meet the requirements of a second field exam with immigration must submit substantial papers on discrete topics from three courses on immigration or related fields (as approved by the cluster coordinator).

Immigration courses scheduled for 2008-2009:

Fall – (1) *Immigrant America* (Rumbaut); (2) *Immigration, Race, and the American Dream* (Lee)

Winter – See related courses on race and ethnicity.

Spring – (1) *Immigrant Incorporation* (Brown); (2) *Comparative International Migration* (Liu).

Please bear in mind that this listing is subject to change.