Conference Abstracts

Azor, Ileana
Universidad de las Americas, Puebla

Bacchus, Nazreen
CUNY Graduate Center

Young, Brown and Down

This preliminary case study takes Herbert Gans' understanding of symbolic ethnicity a step further by applying this concept to second generation Indo-Guyanese college students to understand how they construct their ethnic identity towards mainstream assimilation in the New York metro area. Analyzing how Guyanese Student Organizations contribute to defining a West Indian identity on college campuses in New York provides a compelling demonstration of the importance of ethnically motivated group membership in a racially diverse college setting. Although the Guyanese student group events are usually a way to promote ethnic affiliation, this ethnographic study uncovers the intricate ways the American mainstream shapes the members’ behaviors. Group membership usually occurs at various levels of participation with regular and sporadic attendance. Outside of the college scene, familial and religious affiliations continue to influence the second generation’s identity construction. Gendered expectations create and augment disparities between men and women in the second generation towards negotiating their ethnicity within the American mainstream. The second-generation college students generally spend most of their time at school. However, inter and intra-generational gendered expectations usually place women in the position of maintaining ethno-religious traditions which may prevent their ability to achieve an assimilation status similar to second-generation Indo-Guyanese men within the American mainstream. Therefore, the college setting provides a space for ethnic navigation and negotiation with gendered constraints.
Buechler, Hans  
Syracuse University  

*Äymara Intellecuals and Foreign Experience: A Life History Approach*  

Border-crossings from Third World into First World countries conjure images of life threatening passage, over-stayed visas and absorption into an underclass. Here I examine a different range of impacts. Based on life histories gathered in 2002-2003, in La Paz, Bolivia, the paper examines the roles that foreign experience in the form of exile and study abroad in other Latin American countries, Europe, the United States, Israel and Japan has had on Aymara intellectuals and artists, all first generation rural-urban migrants. I discuss the sometimes surprising interlinkage of foreign experience of my informants with the activities of foreign NGOs, researchers, and state agencies in Bolivia and the practical consequences of networks formed abroad and with foreigners in Bolivia. I conclude that, in various ways, my informants have endeavored to employ their experiences to critically address the major issues faced by Bolivia in ways that are consonant with their Aymara backgrounds. The narratives shed new light on the complex processes of transnationalism, global flows of information, and relocalization of “the Global”.

Buechler, Simone  
University of Illinois at Chicago  

*The Global Financial Crisis and the Retrenchment of Multiculturalism and Economic Opportunities for Brazilian Immigrants in Newark, N.J.*  

Using a gendered perspective and the concepts of migration fields, transmigration, social networks and globalization, I examine the impacts of immigration policies and the U.S. economic recession on Brazilian immigrants in Newark, N.J. The focus is on return migration, transnational ties and labor. With the current global economic and political crises there has been both the flourishing and retrenchment of multiculturalism and economic opportunities for Brazilian migrants to Newark, New Jersey. The enforcement of employer sanctions, the lack of legalization policies, and difficulties obtaining driver’s licenses, along with the recession affecting construction and services have encouraged return migration. Brazilian immigrants
have had to return to Brazil leaving their foreclosed homes after having transformed the community with their food, music, and ethnic businesses and celebrated neo-liberal ideals of homeownership with sub-prime loans. Neoliberal ideals of growth encouraged Brazilian immigrants to find jobs in construction and housecleaning, just to lose them with employer fear, the crashing housing market, and recession. U.S. citizens in Newark celebrated multiculturalism, only to blame immigrants for taking away jobs. The paper is based on interviews with Brazilian immigrants in Newark, N.J. between November 2008 and May 2009.

Burga, Hector Fernando
UC Berkeley

Cavo, Phil
Syracuse University

Cross-linguistic influence in noun-adjective strings of Spanish-English bilingual first language learners

This paper examines the acquisition of word order in Spanish-English bilingual nominal expressions. More concretely, the study focuses on the emergence of noun-adjective strings of Spanish-English bilingual first language learners. Spanish adjective modifying nouns can show the order noun-adjective or adjective-noun, while English adjective modifying nouns always show the order adjective-noun. The study will address the question of the cross-linguistic influence in noun-adjective strings of Spanish-English bilingual first language learners. Following previous results (cf. Nicoladis (2006) for French-English bilinguals), the hypothesis is that bilingual children will, in general, commit more noun-adjective reversals than their monolingual counterparts and that bilingual children will more often reverse noun-adjective strings in Spanish. Language samples will be obtained from available monolingual and bilingual longitudinal databases (CHILDES, MacWhinney & Snow 1990), and from elicited production experiments with Spanish-English bilingual children in the Syracuse area (ages 2 to 5 years).

de Alcantara, Maria
**University of Sao Paulo**

*The indigenous youth in the cities: a cultural negotiation with the non-indigenous population*

This work has as main goal to present how the youth indigenous people of Dourados’ Reserve, MS (Brazil) , create and recreate places in the city of Dourados. This Reserve is the most populous in Brazil (15,000 people) in an area of 3,560 hectares. The nearest city from Reserve is Dourados far from 10 km and has 180,000 inhabitants, it is the largest exporter of soybeans in the country, located in Mato Grosso do Sul. This state has the second largest indigenous population in Brazil, about 68,000 inhabitants. Although the indigenous population is significant, the city that surround the indigenous reserve ignore their existence. The prejudice of the indigenous population deny them any participation in public spaces turning them into second-class citizens. However, the Dourados’ city is the place where the indigenous go to provide for their basic needs. How the youth indigenous building their space inside the city? How they feel being “in between” the city and the reservation? Such are the questions I want to discuss in this paper.

**DeJesús, Susana C.**
**University of Puerto Rico**

*Resisting the Dominant Culture at Home: Raising Puerto Rican Children in the USA*

This presentation will look at assimilation and cultural identity, focusing on Puerto Rican children born or raised in the US, and the struggle of their parents to maintain their “puertorriquenidad”. Not only is the dominant culture, by definition, ubiquitous, in any country, but many, especially children, idealize life in the US, and often see it as an advancement over their own. With pop culture, consumerism and its sense of superiority, the US way of life is seductive, and children are often drawn to it like moths to a flame. Many families lose their children either to street culture or assimilation. In the special case of Puerto Rico, the struggle to maintain the heritage language and culture is particularly powerful. Part of the colonial dynamic can be a sense of inferiority or willingness to put on a pedestal anything “American”. But some families are successful in helping their children resist the dominant culture. How do they do it? Why do others fail? And what issues hang in the balance? Language, culture, and identity have long term educational, economic and social impact on the lives of their children and the stability
of future generations of their families. Some of these consequences are surprising and counter intuitive. This presentation will be based on interviews and case studies. It will also present some contextual research and background information in order to provide a balanced look at this predicament.

Depetris Chauvin, Irene
Cornell University

Doña-Reveco, Cristián
James Madison College

Changing Patterns of Migration: International Migration from Chile to the United States since the 1950s

In this paper I analyze the changes in the migration flows from Chile to the United States since the 1950s. These migration flows occur in presence of a continuous change in the countries of origin, affected by global policies enacted by the country of destination. As such, the impacts of modernization paradigms, the Cold War, economic neoliberalism and its crisis; among others, influenced political changes in the countries of origin that in turn produced and incremented the migration flows.

Using a world systems perspective as a theoretical framework, I develop a set of historical markers that I contrast with the volume of incoming migrants to the United States. These historical markers are socioeconomic processes—local economic crisis, military coups, etc.—that have occurred in specific moments in Chile and that could have influenced the migration patterns. I use secondary demographic data from statistical yearbooks of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) and its successor under the Department of Homeland Security to analyze the numerical changes in the volume of immigrants. Unlike census data the information contained in these yearbooks allows me to use year by year entry data and compare—within a hypothetical two year difference—with the historical markers described above. This statistical analysis is also complemented with analysis of existing narratives of these migrants.
**Doran, Joanna M.S.W.**  
**UC Berkeley**  

*If they won’t, we will: A case study of Mexican states providing developmental social services to diaspora across national lines*

Migrant sending states have been known to facilitate procurement of employment and to provide a measure of legal protection for their workers. Yet not even the most solicitous states appear to provide services to their diaspora. This leaves undocumented workers with scant opportunity to develop their capacities, especially if their stay abroad acquires permanence. It also leaves this population vulnerable to nativist attacks, fueled by images of states leaving others to take care of their population. It appears, however, that this perception may need to be altered. A recent study has identified a program where a handful of Mexican states are increasing their involvement with their mainly undocumented diaspora residing in the United States. Centro Binacional de Capacitacion para Migrantes Mexicanos (CEBICAMEX) is a relatively unknown and perhaps unique partnership between the ICATS of three migrant sending Mexican states (Hidalgo, Nayarit and Michoacán) and a non-profit organization in Southern California. CEBICAMEX provides migrants with computer literacy, English and business development classes. More than 600 students receive bi-nationally recognized education certificates every year. The purpose of this presentation is to trace the history of the development of this program, outline its current functioning, and discuss the implications of its existence. Is this the next step towards a post-national existence?

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**Doval, Elin C.**  
**University of Delaware**  

*Ecological Perspective on Self-Determination for Students with Disabilities from a Hispanic Background in Transition from School to Higher Education and/or Work*

There is evidence that certain factors outside of the individual have not been widely studied in reference to the extent that educational experiences impact the development of self-determination (Trainor, 2005). The ecological perspective focuses on contextual factors that influence the dynamics of the development and practice of self-determination. This theory takes
into account multiple influences that are acting together in complex ways to impact individual development outcomes (Wachs, 1999). It becomes clear that self-determination can be best understood when taking into consideration both the individual and the various environments in which the individual develops (Abery, 1994; Abery & Stancliffe, 1996; Wehmeyer, Abery, Mithaug, & Stancliffe, 2003).

To better understand the concept of self-determination for students with disabilities in transition within a Hispanic culture, this study is grounded in the Ecological Theory. This theory seeks to explain how the structure provided by society influences and shapes cognitive development and skills competencies in an individual. This theory also helps explain how the interaction of the various social systems where individuals live can influence how they learn to make their choices (Berger, 2000; Bronfenbrenner, 1979).

Dudley, Mary Jo
Cornell University

*Hidden Pain: Voices and Images of Immigrant Farmworkers*

This paper examines the experience of farmworkers as they make their journey from rural Mexico and Guatemala to farms scattered throughout rural New York State. Drawing from personal accounts of farmworkers, the author will share accounts of what motivates migrants to leave their homes to pursue farmworker in New York State, and how they maintain close personal and economic relationships with family and friends at home. The presentation will include observation of how immigrant farmworkers experience their lives in the state’s rural areas, and their hopes for the future. This paper will highlight the influence of social isolation and increased immigration enforcement on farmworkers’ mental and physical well being.

Gerhard, Timothy
SUNY Cortland

*Jorge Ramos and the Immigration Debate*

Jorge Ramos, news anchor of the Spanish-language channel Univisión, has been ranked as one of the most important Latinos in the United States. In addition to his work in television, Ramos has authored nearly a dozen books, several of which treat specifically the theme of
immigration in the United States. Such books include *Morir en el inento* and his newest book, *Tierra de todos*, in which he writes passionately about the need to reform the immigration system in the United States. Analyzing the unique contributions of Ramos to the immigration debate at a time when immigration reform has been newly introduced in Congress will allow us to reflect upon the expanding influence of Spanish-language media as well as the influence of Latino lawmakers in this debate.

**Gil-García, Óscar F.**  
**UC at Santa Barbara**

*Women’s Rights, Human Rights and Reproductive Rights: Disciplining Gender in Refugee Populations in the Americas*

My paper will examine the response by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Mexican state in furthering poverty alleviation and health programs for Guatemalan forced migrants living in La Gloria, a former refugee camp in Chiapas, Mexico. The humanitarian response by UNHCR to Guatemalan exiles was the first case in which gender discourse was incorporated in its humanitarian projects. As the dominant multilateral agency, recognized for providing aid to displaced populations, UNHCR’s gender-based approach focused primarily on the development of reproductive health programs in Guatemalan refugee settlements. I analyze gender equality policies and the underpinning political ideology used to institutionalize reproductive health provision to women, and the systemic exclusion of men from health provision.

I also study the Mexican state’s national Oportunidades program – a conditional cash transfer antipoverty program – that provides grant subsidies on the basis of meeting periodic health check-ups and minimum school attendance requirements. The program diminishes the value of health care among men, who are increasingly susceptible to the transmission of sexually transmitted infections, including HIV. The reinforcement of carework responsibilities to women by the Oportunidades program has delayed the emigration of women, allowing a greater number to graduate with a high school degree, but a majority continues to lack available grant money to support post-secondary education. As scholars have linked increased education levels of women to a corresponding decrease in fertility-rates, these findings raise questions on the underlying
reasons for promoting conditional cash transfer programs as a means of furthering population control. I argue that reproductive health projects in La Gloria further the sexual regulation of women’s bodies, while male participation in reproductive health projects is overlooked.

Gillam, Reighan
Cornell University

Law 10.639 and Contemporary Racial Politics in Riberão Preto, Brazil

On January 9, 2003 Brazilian President Lula da Silva signed law 10.639, which mandated that elementary and middle schools include African and Afro-Brazilian history and culture in their curriculum. Historically, educational textbooks provided very limited content or excluded Afro-Brazilians from the material. This Afro-Brazilian educational exclusion follows the precepts of Brazil’s national ideology of racial democracy, which centers racial mixture as the heritage of each citizen, yet many scholars contend as an ideology of whitening. Many cities around the country initiated training programs to educate schoolteachers on the necessary information to present in the classroom to be in compliance with Law 10.639. This paper will ethnographically examine some of the teacher training classes in the city of Riberão Preto, Brazil. These training sessions not only taught the richness of African and Afro-Brazilian history and culture, but they served as critical spaces for participants to discuss, rethink and confront the racial democracy ideology, the invisibility of Afro-Brazilians in Brazilian society and the integration of multicultural material in the elementary and middle school classroom.

Green, Cecilia
Syracuse University

‘Abandoned Lower Class of Females’: Migration and the Regime of Female Imprisonment in Barbados, 1875-1925

This paper looks at the role of large-scale, predominantly male migration in providing the grounds for the increased “criminalization” of Afro-Barbadian women in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. During the “Panama exodus” in particular, the relative feminization of the ranks of those receiving and serving prison sentences attained new heights. Between 1905 and 1914, twenty thousand Barbadian men were recruited by the U.S. Isthmian Canal
Commission to work on the construction of the Panama Canal, triggering an exodus that dwarfed previous migration streams. At the height of this migration, nearly two-thirds of all persons committed to prison in Barbados were women, despite a general decline in imprisonment. In this paper I argue that this unusual level of routine female incarceration for petty offenses bespeaks a penal policy shaped by the imperative of controlling an under-employed, “superabundant” and entrapped labor force with few of the non-wage, non-plantation options available elsewhere. In Barbados’ “pure” plantation economy, women comprised over half of the working population. Their prominence in the labor force and the related publics of field and street exposed them even more acutely to the forces of law and order after the ruling class was induced to withdraw its longstanding opposition to labor migration. In the face of a “mass” male exodus, the state “stepped in” to exercise strict patriarchal/ruling-class oversight of black working class women.

Hechler, Ryan
Virginia Commonwealth University
The Otherized Personhood of East Indians in the Colonial British West Indies

Conceptions of race, as implemented by European colonial regimes throughout the world, developed and were implemented differently based upon both the colonial encounter of the respective colonized territory and the varying levels of indentured and enslaved worker importation. While the British Empire’s emancipation of slaves was effective as of August 1, 1834, the mass importation of indentured workers did not cease by any means. In response to the absence of enslaved workforces throughout the British Empire, in 1838 the British started a process of East Indian relocation to the British West Indies in which the newly arrived immigrants were forced into indentured servitude. The East Indian presence in the Caribbean came to operate as a new mode of slavery, i.e. an indirect slavery.

In less than a century more than 500,000 East Indians had been relocated to British Guiana, Guadeloupe, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago and some Indo-Caribbeans eventually were relocated to even Belize and Panama. My goals of this work are to examine the impact of the Indo-Caribbean Diaspora on notions of race in the British Caribbean and how the indentured servants operated as the then neo-enslaved person, whose status of presence became an immediate subaltern existence in which no expiration of indentured servitude was clearly defined
upon relocation. While the previous slave systems of British colonialism had clearly defined the status of enslaved persons, the indentured rank of East Indians trapped those in diaspora between the very cogs of colonialism, rendering their futures continuously uncertain.

Hernandez, Andreas
Ithaca College

Hiemstra, Nancy Ann
Syracuse University

U.S. Migrant Detention and Deportation in the Contemporary Security Context: The view from Ecuador

The rapidly expanding system of migrant detention and deportation is a central piece in the United States’ intensifying security regime. This paper sketches the networks of private, county, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)-run facilities that detain migrants. I draw on recent field work in the southern highlands of Ecuador with family members trying to locate and obtain information about relatives detained in the U.S., as well as with migrants deported from the U.S. to Ecuador. Both family members’ attempts to search for detained migrants, and the experiences of detained migrants, reveal the often impenetrable, complicated nature of the ICE system. Migrants’ individual experiences of detention and deportation vary widely, according to where they are apprehended and by whom, as do family members’ success in accessing information about detained migrants. I argue that the rapid growth in the practices and economies of migrant detention has led to a system marked by uneven, inconsistent, and unpredictable practices, a system in which migrants – and migrants’ rights – often get lost in the cracks. I conclude by questioning the efficacy of migrant detention and deportation; research in Ecuador suggests that deported migrants frequently return to the U.S., and that the policy may actually create conditions in migrants’ origin countries that contribute to additional migration.

Kattau, Colleen
SUNY Cortland
Voiced Resistance: Re-imagining the Americas in Song

This presentation will focus on immigration and diasporic concerns as expressed in song throughout the Americas, with particular attention to notions of work, rural existence, and affective and environmental consequences of global capital. I will make connections among the lyric and thematic content of the sorrow songs of slavery, twentieth century U.S. labor movement music (especially songs of the Wobblies or industrial Workers of the World), the movement to close the US Army School of the Americas (WHINSEC), and contemporary compositions by social change artists such as Lila Downs, Holly Near, Charlie King, and other musicians who draw on the past to reconceptualize alternate paradigms to globalization and multinational incursion through artistic production. I will examine specifically their many compositions that address and critique transnational border issues with individual stories and calls to collective action.

LaFevers, Cory L.
Syracuse University

Africanidade vs Pernambucanidade: Musical Affordance and Identity in Recife’s Black Movements

Afro-Brazilian cultural manifestations have played a fundamental role in the rise and expansion of a diverse Black consciousness and sociopolitical movement in Brazil since the 1970s. The various musical expressions of Brazil’s Northeastern region present a unique aspect of this phenomenon. This paper utilizes ethnographic interviews and observations to map “musical affordance” within notions of identity and Black sociopolitical activism in Recife, Pernambuco. Although musical aesthetics and stylistic consumption cannot be used to bound specific populations of people or identities in essentialist terms, it is clear that music is being connected to identities; various actors have stakes in what music “affords” in terms of both identity and black sociopolitical activism. This paper provides a discussion of the theoretical debate that attempts to define music regionally as “Pernambucan” or “non-Pernambucan,” and the subsequent tensions that have emerged regarding theory and quotidian musical practice. Additionally, I investigate that possibility that music considered Afro-Bahian, such as afoxé, is more frequently utilized as a means of identity articulation and resource mobilization by Recife’s Black sociopolitical movements than music identified as Afro-Pernambucan, such as maracatu.
de nação. This paper is part of a larger Master’s thesis that contributes to a more nuanced understanding of how music functions in efforts to navigate regional, national, and racial collective identities that fuel Black sociopolitical movements in Brazil.

Lefranc, Josef
California State University, Fullerton

Defeating Anti-Immigrantism: How California Undocumented Students Overcome Inherent Inequality Towards Higher Education.

This paper examines how Latino undocumented college-level students not only take advantage of helpful California in-state tuition policy to gain access to a university education, but also how these students create social support structures when in-state tuition policy is not enough to make a university education financially accessible. Current research on the struggle for equal rights to education for undocumented students, many from Latin American countries, focuses on the legislative and institutional aspect of access to higher education for these students (Abrego 2006; Frum 2007; Gonzales 2008; Perez 2007; Rincon 2008). However, legislation that facilitates access to higher education for undocumented students oftentimes merely gives these students the opportunity to pay in-state tuition rates without giving them access to federal or state financial aid. This is why it is important to understand what it is that students do to overcome legislative, institutional, and most importantly, economic, obstacles to higher education in the here and now. I use in-depth interviews with undocumented students to learn more about the limits of California in-state tuition policy and the strategies that undocumented students develop and use to fill the gaps in the same policies that are implemented to help make a college education more affordable for them. My research reveals that the development and establishment of social support structures, like on-campus organizations that raise scholarship money for undocumented students, flourish under a number of factors, in-state tuition policy being one of them.

Macia-Vergara, Laura
University of Pittsburgh

Staying when asked to leave: A case study on racial profiling
This paper explores ongoing events in Pittsburgh, PA, where the Latino community has begun an active campaign against what they perceive as racial profiling against them by the police. The incidents that triggered the current situation refer to events in which police officers have asked Latinos for proof of their immigration status without any justification. Immigration documents have been asked for after stopping Latino immigrants in their cars for no apparent reason, after common traffic violations, or even when police officers have been called due to a crime or accident in which Latinos were victims. In what seems to be a paradoxical turn of events, these actions rather than reducing the Latino presence in the city have actually made the community more visible. This practice has prompted the Latino community, and most importantly the undocumented one, to willingly decide to speak up against it. While this racial profiling can be interpreted as a sign of existing underlying racial prejudices and inequalities, and therefore as clear un-welcoming signs for the new immigrants, it has strengthened the presence of this minority in the region. Not only are now Latinos more visible, but also local authorities have been prompted to speak up against this discriminatory practices and to, at least formally, pledge to change them.

**Malpica, Daniel Melero**
Sonoma State University

**Marcus, Alan Patrick**
Towson University

*(Re)creating places and spaces in two countries: Brazilian transnational migration processes*

Brazilian immigration to the United States is a relatively recent phenomenon that gained momentum in the 1980s in unprecedented numbers. Today an estimated 1.2 million Brazilians live in the United States. Brazilians (re)create transnational places and spaces through social, cultural, and economic practices, within the immigrant receiving communities of Marietta, Georgia, and Framingham, Massachusetts, in the United States. They also incorporate and add new elements to their livelihoods in the respective sending communities of Piracanjuba, in the state of Goias, and Governador Valadares, in the state of Minas Gerais, in Brazil. How are these Portuguese-speaking Brazilian immigrants shaping and (re)creating new places and spaces? In
what ways and spheres do transnational exchanges affect two places of destination in the United States and two places of origin in Brazil after migration occurs? Using multiple methods, which include in-depth interviews and participant observation, this paper addresses these questions by evaluating the changes incurred by migration. I use a framework perspective that is largely from outside the Latino/Hispanic context. Migration processes are just as much about those who leave Brazil for the United States as it is about those who return to Brazil (i.e. returnees) and what happens to those respective receiving and sending communities in both countries.

Keywords: Brazilian immigration; Brazil; transnationalism; cultural geography; ethnic geography

Martinez, Victoria
Union College

_The Other Side of Immigration: The Deportation Process_

Recent discussions of immigration are beginning to focus on detention centers holding undocumented foreigners, but little has been written about the deportation, or “repatriation” process. In the last year I have obtained information from migrants who were returned to Mexico, and they describe treatment that is tantamount to human-rights abuse. This presentation will address the effect of deportation on people who have been living and working in the United States. This is an ongoing research effort of collecting data and interviewing deportees concerning their family situation, their lack of understanding of their legal rights, and their treatment in the detention centers.

The paper will first present some background information and then move to the process, then to specific stories of the recently deported, and finally to statistics currently gathered concerning the detention centers. After the introduction the presentation will address Operation Streamline and the process of deporting more than 100 people in one hour. Although this is not a legal presentation, I will attempt to explain some of the laws involving the process of deporting undocumented foreigners. The paper will then review histories of recent deportees who end up at a shelter in Naco, Mexico. These individuals talk about how they were caught by Border Patrol, what they were doing in the United States, and their families and where they are. There are also statistics that cover more than a year of the treatment received in the deportation centers.
near the border. Questions on the statistic form ask the ages and genders of the deportees and determine what food and drink was given to the detainees as they awaited deportation.

I intend to show that there are clear examples of human rights abuses in the process, and that the governmental zeal for deporting people who have established lives here in the U.S. is causing more harm than good. This paper should also show the need for more active involvement in questions of immigration and human rights and the need for shelters on the Mexican side for those who find themselves literally “dumped” in a town or city they do not know, without food, clothing, shelter, or a means to get home.

McKinley, Lyn  
The University of Texas at El Paso

*Binational Students' Experiences on the U.S./Mexico border: Crossing borders at the University Level*

This research project is implemented in a university setting in El Paso, Texas, on the U.S./Mexico border. In its preliminary stages, the study examines the sociocultural barriers faced by four adult Mexican students who are enrolled in doctoral programs in education at the University of Texas at El Paso. As border crossers (Giroux, 2005), these individuals face a myriad of complex issues every day. The work of Brazilian scholar/philosopher Paulo Freire (e.g., 1970; 1978; 1990) forms the theoretical framework for this research, which relies on the life history method to inquire into the lived realities of these four students. If possible, one or two informants may be present, as funds allow. As daily border crossers between the warlike city of Ciudad Juárez, México, and El Paso, Texas, these students face binational dynamics on a daily basis. The presentation presents an overview of the qualitative research plan, with discussion of initial phases—gaining entry and access into the community and obtaining full approval from the informants. The researcher describes the action research approach, with information about the researcher’s role as tutor, mentor, and learner. Data collection presents unique challenges in the case of these students. For Freire, the real task they face is finding voice, their *conscientizacao* (1970; Ozmon & Kraver, 2008), their critical consciousnesses of what they experience in their multi-textured lives. The students share the goal of returning to Mexico to educate other educators, and this study probes their values and beliefs expressed as social responsibility and
Montes, Veronica  
UC Santa Barbara  

Transnational Mexican Families and the Construction of their Household Economic Strategies:  
A Preliminary Multi-Sited Ethnographic Study in California and Guerrero, Mexico.

This is the preliminary stage of a proposed project which will examine the household economic strategies developed by transnational Mexican families in their sending and receiving communities. The project will analyze how these strategies are simultaneously developed, despite the challenges facing all household members as families stretch across national borders. This project involves a multi-sited, interview-based ethnography, lasting thirteen months, between both field sites: Guerrero, Mexico and Santa Barbara, California. Here I will present the preliminary ethnographic work done in Santa Barbara where the socio-demographic data of the transnational migrant communities will be gathered. This research is innovative because it brings together analysis of the role of globalization within transnational migration patterns and its effects on the micro level of household units, with an emphasis on the gender role transformations that all members of these household units face as they become transnational.

Nezirevic, Erma  
University of Oregon  

Vieja y loca: Género y envejecimiento en Saving the World de Julia Álvarez

The issues of gender and aging are clearly represented in Saving the World, a novel by Dominican author Julia Álvarez. Saving the World deals with these issues from an immigrant’s perspective. Álvarez writes distinct stories about two women living in different times separated by two hundred years. One is of an upper middle class Latina author living in the US, and the other of a woman making a voyage to the Americas during the Conquista. The chapters alternate between Alma (narrated in third person) in the present and Isabel (narrated in first person) two hundred years ago. Alma is detached from herself and her creativity, however while researching Isabel’s journey for her next book, she finds a way to cope with her depression. Narratological elements of time and focalization are used to explain the relationship between personal identity...
and the need one has to relate to another human being. Álvarez creates the character of Alma to portray the difficulties that come with a “midlife crisis” and how it affects the female existence, proving it is not a uniquely male experience. She uses this semi-autobiographical character to expose the very important issues of our time: gender and aging. This paper analyzes Saving the World in terms of reevaluating the personal identity of a Latina already assimilated in the US culture, and the experience of an identity crisis and female aging by reflecting her life with that of the woman who she is writing about within the story.

Pérez-Armendáriz, Clarisa
Bates College

Reid, Samantha Eyler
London School of Economics

Out of the Shadows, Into the Streets:
Re-Thinking Undocumented Immigration in the United States

What is the source of undocumented immigrants’ claims to legitimacy? This paper seeks to theorize the phenomenon of undocumented residency in developed states, using the U.S. as a case study. Justifying restrictive immigration policies proves difficult for liberal democratic states, and theories that manage to do so—especially Walzer’s influential communitarian justification for limiting membership—bequeath a vocabulary that meshes poorly with liberal norms of inclusion and protection of basic rights. The public, policymakers, and even pro-migrant activists find themselves bereft of conceptual tools to understand, articulate, and address immigration reality, since illegal residents seem by definition to lack the moral credibility to make claims of the state. Political paralysis prevails, allowing problems associated with undocumented residency to fester.

Existing political economy literature offers a promising theoretical tool to remedy this conceptual gap. The concept of informality encompasses more than the particular characteristics
of unprotected or precarious employment—it describes a power relationship, a mode of engagement with state regulation. The marriage of migration theory with extant theories of the urban informal sector, particularly as developed with regards to Latin American states, produces the concept of “informal immigration” and proffers a promising paradigm for analyzing the causes and consequences of undocumented residency, and, crucially, provides a vocabulary to reformulate immigrants’ claims for membership. It also helps pinpoint the location of systemic failures that prevented effective immigration control in the first place.

Keywords: Illegal Immigration, Migration Policy, Informal sector

Rivera Montes, Zorimar
University of Puerto Rico

*El (zoo)lógico de Urayoán Noel: Tradition and Identity in* Las flores del mall

Multi-lingual, meta-textual, scathing and hilarious, Urayoán Noel’s debut poetry work *Las flores del mall* (2000) is a seminal text that comments on the contemporary experiences of the Puerto Rican diaspora, at both sides of the cultural and geographic spectrum. This essay explores the ways in which, through the appropriation of canonical texts, Urayoán Noel’s work destabilizes the literary conventions that have been inscribed as unchangeable monoliths in order to produce new meaning: the verse liberated from its canonical straightjacket and used to describe a contemporary Puerto Rican diaspora experience. The appropriation is simultaneously satire and homage, as tradition is invoked and infused with new signification, filled with an ironic edge but without dismissing the canonical pre-eminence of his referent. A master heist artist, Urayoán Noel revisits some of the most important Puerto Rican literature of the 20th century, and through an acerbic teardown of the canon, produces a revision pertinent to the experiences of the contemporary island and stateside Puerto Ricans. A Stanford graduate raised in the San Juan suburbs, Noel himself transcends the (stereo)typical Puerto Rican immigrant and subverts the boundaries of Puerto Rican and Nuyorican identity. His work reflects this transgression, both in form, trying to free itself from linguistic and poetic restrictions, and in content, freeing itself from the boundaries of a fixed island, stateside or diasporic Puerto Rican identity.
Rozanova, Marya  
Admiral Makarov State Maritime Academy (St. Petersburg, Russia)  
Woodrow Wilson International Center Scholar (Washington, DC)

U.S. Immigration Policy and its Importance to Latin American Migrants

This paper examines the unprecedented scale of Latin American migration into the US as a phenomenon capable of shaping the U.S. political, economic, and social spheres.

The contemporary U.S. immigration concept can be described as a combination of elements of the “immigration as contract” model and the “immigration as affiliation” model, as presented by Hiroshi Motomura. The dominance of these models, together with the Hart-Celer Act of 1965, has led to the presence of approximately 12 million people in the US (mainly Latin American migrants) without legal documentation. The U.S. immigration system does not promote or guarantee the successful economic, social, and political incorporation (as presented by Elliott R. Barkan) of migrants, or prevent their exclusion. Without comprehensive changes, the result could be the further isolation, marginalization, and gettoization of the Latin communities.

The complex experiences with migration in some European countries, like France and Germany, and the unpredictable migrant integration situation in Russia, could serve as examples to the US as it strives to improve its policy towards Latin American migrants.

The improvement of the U.S. immigration system could result from a new model - “immigration as transition.” This model can be defined as an inclusive concept of citizenship that would legalize those undocumented migrants who have already settled permanently in the US. Also, by providing national citizenship, the new strategy of inclusion could promote social cooperation and political participation, as well as create incentives for civic engagement.

Silva, Jorge Alberto  
Cornell University

Suárez Avila, Paola  
CIESAS, México
Immigrant rights, community development and international migration. Mexican-American, Latino and Latin-American organizations of San Francisco’s Mission District in the Migratory Reform debate in the US

This paper’s objective is to summarize the fieldwork notes of the doctoral research “Immigrant rights, community development and international migration. Mexican-American, Latino and Latin-American organizations of Mission District, San Francisco in the Migratory Reform debate in US and Solidarity with Latin American People”.

The paper analyzes how a multiethnic Coalition with participation from Latino and Mexican-American organizations in the Bay Area of San Francisco have debated and constructed an Alternative Migratory Reform that discusses the access to justice and the equality of minority communities’ rights in the US.

Furthermore, it analyzes who has expressed the social action of this Coalition in a specific and local collective action’s repertory that expresses certain mobilization and local participation in a long durée political movement of Latinos in California, which argues for the recognition and equality of rights to immigrants and Latino low-wage workers who live in the San Francisco Bay Area.

This research analyzes the political, civic and cultural participation of Latino, Mexican-American and Latin-American organizations in the Migratory Reform Debate and Solidarity with Latin-American people in relation with the local political agencies, the immigrant community of San Francisco’s Mission District and other contemporary social movements, such as LGTB, in San Francisco.

Ticio Quesada, Maria Emma
Syracuse University

Noun drop in early Spanish-English bilinguals

Spanish allows omission of nouns (noun-drop) in nominal constructions, while English does not. Two theories compete to explain this different linguistic behavior. First, the Agreement analysis postulates that Spanish-type languages allow noun-drop due to the richness of their morphological system, which enables them to retrieve the noun information from the context.
However, previous research in Romance language acquisition has shown that there is no direct link between agreement and noun drop emergence age (cf. Snyder et al. (2001) for Spanish and Valois (2009) for French). Second, the Focus analysis claims that noun-drop is the result of the information structure, according to which nouns that are contextually given can be deleted. Nevertheless, this analysis raises important questions to maturation accounts (cf. Roeper (2003), Radford (2004), among others) that have proposed that some categories emerge later in early child languages due to pragmatic factors. This study examines noun-drop in Spanish-English bilinguals via elicited production experiments and longitudinal database (CHILDES, MacWhinney & Snow 1990) data to test these current analyses on noun-drop.

Tovar Restrepo, Marcela
CUNY Queens College

*Colombian Armed Conflict: Indigenous Women and Territoriality*

The internal conflict experienced in Colombia throughout the last decades, has had a differentiated impact on diverse social groups. Based on anthropological research, this presentation seeks to illustrate the way cultural and gender identity markers determine how indigenous women are disproportionally affected by armed conflict. Focused on the Arhuaco People from Sierra Nevada (North East) and Pastos People (South West), this paper reflects on under looked issues within conflict literature: indigenous women’s testimonies and ethnographic accounts on violence. When analyzing issues of territoriality-locality linked to the Colombian armed confrontation, indigenous women’s voices identify as a key factor the existing relation between conflict, gender/ethnicity and territoriality. The satisfaction of their needs and interests is directly related to their restricted and unequal access, use, control of their territory/natural resources. This fact substantially affects women’s agency, cultural autonomy and the way they mitigate and manage violence and conflict conditions. International/national policies to alleviate conflict being implemented in Colombia are also addressed as sites where the voice of indigenous women is absent.

Ward, Francis
Syracuse University
Are Hugo Chavez and Evo Morales Enemies of the United States?

Evo Morales and Hugo Chavez are not enemies of the American people, but are vociferous critics of global capitalism. This, however, does not make them enemies of the U.S., as has been projected in much of the news media coverage of both men. Such coverage does not serve the American people because it is based on an old and outdated Cold War frame of reference that divides other countries and their leaders into "friends and enemies" or "good guys and bad guys" without adequately explaining each country's relationship to the U.S. The news coverage has also failed to explain the meaning of Chavez's Bolivarian Revolution, or the significance of Morales' election as the first indigenous president of a South American Andean nation.

Wise, Nicholas, with John Harris
Kent State University

The Changing Sporting Landscape of Rugby: Northern Hemisphere to the Southern Hemisphere Migrations of Argentine Athletes

In 2007, the Argentina National Rugby team placed third in the Rugby World Cup hosted by France. This placement was not only a success for the Pumas—this victory altered the international rugby landscape. Argentina became the first national team outside the core eight rugby nations to place among the top four in Rugby World Cup competition. Initially, there was talk of incorporating Argentina into the Six-Nations competition in Europe where the majority of Argentina’s top rugby playing athletes earn their professional salaries. In September 2009, the International Rugby Board decided to incorporate Argentina into the Tri-Nations competition in the southern hemisphere with Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa. The Four-Nations championship incorporating Argentina is expected to commence in 2012, pending stipulations. One condition is the athletes whom represent the Pumas will likely have to commit their professional careers towards Argentina where the competition is amateur. However, a logistical clause in the works may allow for the representatives of the Argentine national team to play professionally in the Super 14 (soon to be Super 15) competition. This study not only identifies the altering sporting landscape and the (re)shifting of international competitions, we expect to see the movement of professional (rugby) athletes from the financial core of the rugby world.
(England and France), positioned in the northern hemisphere—to the powerhouse core of the southern hemisphere, featuring Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa.

Wintermantel, Gretchen
Syracuse University

*Acquisition of possessive constructions in Spanish-English bilingual children*

Adult English speakers have two possible structures available to express possession within the nominal structure: an analytical construction (‘the book of John’) and the Saxon genitive (‘John’s book’). Spanish speakers can only make use of the first type of construction. Previous research in Child English (Johnson et al. (1996) has shown that monolingual children acquiring English can use analytical possessives in more contexts than adult English speakers. In addition, previous studies have shown examples of bidirectional cross-linguistic influence on possessive constructions in bilinguals (cf. van der Linden and Blok-Boas (2005) for Dutch/French and Dutch/Italian, and Boumans (2006) for Dutch/Arabic. The current study examines possessive constructions in Spanish-English bilingual first language acquisition, and tests the hypothesis that early Spanish-English bilingual children will produce the analytic possessive construction when speaking English more often than English monolinguals, due to the bilinguals’ exposure to Spanish possessive constructions.