LATIN AMERICAN MIGRATION AND RELIGION IN THE NEW IMMIGRANTS EXPERIENCES
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
SPRING 2013
Syllabus
(REL. 4105)

Professor: Dr. Ana María Bidegain
E-Mail: bidegain@fiu.edu
Class Time: Thursday 5 p.m.
Office: DM 304B
Office Hours: By appointment on Tuesday and Thursday 2:00-4:00 P.M.

Description:
This course has been prepared to be taught in a seminar format for upper-level undergraduate students and graduates students interested in the study of complex phenomenon of migration and religion. This area of study necessarily demands an interdisciplinary approach to the subject. We have identified important relationships that have been developed within the fields of History, Theology, Pastoral Studies, Sociology and Anthropology; our course will present a panorama of these approaches, taking into account a gender perspective. The course will focus on the historical Latin@s migration process in different places and times in the Americas to show their influence in the building of new states in the 19th and 20th century. There will be a balance between conceptual, methodological aspects and a retrospective overview of the reality of migration and religion as it has been experienced historically since the formation of the Americas to the present. The course will also analyze how religions are reconfigured via the immigration process focusing on different religious experiences among immigrants to South Florida. Particular attention will be paid to recent studies on Latin@ immigration to the United State, particularly to the Miami Area.

Goals:
A) Students must develop an understanding of the following:
   1) The history of migration within the project of nation building in the Americas and specifically in the United States.
   2) Theories and concepts presented by the combined study of migration and religion, including: assimilation, the melting pot, transnationalism, and religious reconfiguration.
   3) The feminization of recent migration processes and gender relations among migrants will be analyzed; as well the gender perspectives and perceptions in both: the countries of origin and receiving countries.
B) Students will observe and analyze firsthand various migrants’ religious communities in South Florida, choosing a particular immigrant group to develop an understanding of how theories and concepts learned in class help to interpret, or not, the immigrant religious experience. Their founding will be discussed in class. Focusing on Latinos’ and its interaction with other ethics communities.
Methodology: The course will be taught in a seminar format therefore active student participation is expected.

Requirements:
All students will be asked to do at least one presentation of the assigned readings. This presentation is not a summary of the reading; rather, the students must analyze the author’s perspective and conclude by proposing questions related to the author’s central ideas or assumptions, which will be discussed in the class according to the week’s topic.

Undergraduate students must develop a final paper based on the analysis of a field research with some new Latino/Caribbean immigrant religious group in South Florida.

First paper: Due on January 24th (This paper must present the topic to be developed into a final paper, with main research question, potential bibliography and sources to be analyzed later)

Second paper: Due on February 28th (a continuation of the first, with a deeper analysis of the sources, of the bibliography, and further development toward the final paper)

Final paper: Due on April 24th. Oral Presentation on April 28th.

Requirements for all written work:
All written work must be typed, double-spaced, and in 12 point font (written work submitted in large font will not be acceptable); and any citations should follow MLA format. These papers must be submitted by the deadline. Late work will result in the reduction of half a letter grade per day, unless arrangements with professor were made prior to deadline.

Final course grade
Participation: 2 x 20% = 40% 
3-page paper: 10%
10-page paper: 20%
20-page paper: 30%
Final grade: 100%

Grading criteria
A/A- = Outstanding/Exceptional in terms of content (grasp of concepts, depth of analysis and comprehension) and expression.
B+/B = Above average to Very Good.
B/-C+ = Good to above average.
C/C- = Achieving minimum standards.
D+/D = Passing but barely meeting minimum standards.
F = Not meeting minimum or acceptable standards.

Attendance/participation policy
Attendance and participation are very important to this course. Students are expected to read assignments and participate in class discussions. Attendance will be taken and I expect students to inform me of any prior commitments or emergencies that prevent them from attending. Students may be absent up to three times. A fourth absence will result in a loss of 15% from their attendance grade.

Intellectual and academic behavior
As members of the academic community, students are expected to recognize and uphold standards of intellectual and academy integrity. Plagiarism is presenting another person’s work as one’s own. Plagiarism includes submitting another student’s work as one’s own.
REQUIRED TEXTS


Articles and materials to be downloaded (some of these sources can also be found in the library)

  “Latinos and Religion in 2008 Presidential Election” in *Hemisphere* Volume19, Spring 2010  
  [HTTP://LACC.FIU.EDU](http://LACC.FIU.EDU)

- FRIEDMANN MARQUARDT MARIE, WILLIAMS PH. STEIGENGA T. VASQUEZ M. Living “Illegal”


- MADURO OTTO. *Religion under imperial duress: Postcolonial Reflections and Proposals.*


- Pontifical Council For The Pastoral Care Of Migrants And Itinerant People *The love of Christ towards migrants* – Vatican, 2004

- [www.justiceforimmigrants.org](http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org)

- Pastoral Letter Concerning Migration from the Catholic Bishops of Mexico and the United
Strangers No Longer: Together on Journey of hope.  
http://www.usccb.org/mrs/stranger.shtml

http://programs.ssrc.org/intmigration/working_groups/religion_and_migration/

http://www.thearda.com/Archive/browse.asp

- UNFPA 2011 Report, chapter on Migration.
Foweb.unfa.org/reports/EN-SWOP2011-FINAL.Pdf

Recommended books

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<th>Dates</th>
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<th>Readings for Undergraduates &amp; Graduates</th>
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<td>Week 1 01/10</td>
<td>Origins &amp; development of multiethnic societies in the Americas and the Caribbean</td>
<td>Pellegrino A. “Trends in the international migration in Latin America and the Caribbean”, Colin Woodard Introduction pp. 1-19</td>
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| Week 2 01/17 | The formation of new states, migrations, migration policies and the role of religions in the formation of the Americas societies. | Colin Woodard Part I Origins: 1590-1769 pp.23-111  
David Badillo pp. 1-22 | First Paper DUE |
| Week 3 01/24 | Transnational religions, migration and intercultural dialogue.       | Colin Woodard Part II Unlikely Allies; Pp.115-170  
Colin Woodard Pp173-23 |                               |
| Week 4 01/31 | Amerindian Religious Legacy and the role of religion building an immigrant community | Colin Woodard Pp243-322  
Badillo Chap 2 – pp23-44 |                               |
| Week 5 02/7  | Religions among Caribbean Latinos in the History of US: Puerto Rican, Cuban, Dominican, | Badillo pp. 45-65  
Gutierrez pp 87-145  
Gutierrez pp145—186  
Badillo pp92-119  
Gutiérrez pp 87-228 |                               |
| Week 6 02/14 | Catholic Diversity, and the rise of Latino Community.                | David Badillo, pp. 66-91 - pp. 120 -154-181  
Gutierrez pp146-185 Pp229-255. |                               |
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<th>Week 7 02/21</th>
<th>Latinos in the U.S; traditional and new religious role of Christianity</th>
<th>Gutierrez pp302-354</th>
<th>Badillo, pp. 182-220</th>
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<td>Week 8 02/28</td>
<td>MIDTERM</td>
<td>Sources and bibliographies presentations</td>
<td>2nd Paper Due</td>
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<td>Week 9 03/07</td>
<td>African Diaspora Religions in the Americas and the Caribbean</td>
<td>Stepick, Rey and Mahler; Refugee Catholicism in Little Haiti pp72-92</td>
<td>PP151-168</td>
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<td>Week10 03/14</td>
<td>SPRING BREAK</td>
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<td>Week 11 03/28</td>
<td>Involvement of the Churches in the integral human promotion of migrants and Civic Engagement</td>
<td>Blume M. pp 62- 75 and Batistella G. pp 76-102 in Campese G.&amp; Cialella -Stepick, Rey, Mahler pp1-38</td>
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<td>Week13 04/04</td>
<td>Jewish immigration to South America and from South America to South Florida</td>
<td>Calvin Goldsheider: “Immigration and the Transformation of the American Jews” Chap 7 in Alba, Raboteau&amp;Wind</td>
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<td>Week 14 04/11</td>
<td>Migrant women and Gender relationships</td>
<td>Gutierrez chap 7 pp281 -302</td>
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<td>Week15 04/18</td>
<td>Political and Academic controversial positions</td>
<td>Maduro Otto. Religion under imperial duress: Postcolonial Reflections and Proposals</td>
<td>FINAL DUE</td>
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<td>WEEK 04/25</td>
<td>Final Papers Presentations</td>
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