

FIELD RESEARCH METHODS FOR MIGRATION STUDIES

Sociology 122B – Winter Quarter 2010

Thursdays, 2-4:45 pm, Seminar Room 115,
Center for Comparative Immigration Studies (CCIS)
(ground floor, ERC - Eleanor Roosevelt College Academic Administration Building)
MAP TO CCIS: <http://ccis.ucsd.edu/about/directions/>

Prof. David FitzGerald

Dept. of Sociology and Associate Director, CCIS
ERC 106; dfitzgerald@ucsd.edu; 858-822-4447

Prof. Jorge Hernández Díaz

Professor of Sociology, Universidad Autónoma Benito Juárez de Oaxaca
jorgehd00@yahoo.com.mx

David Keyes

Field Research Coordinator, CCIS, and Doctoral Student, Department of Anthropology
ERC 116; dgkeyes@ucsd.edu; 858-945-6175

This course is the second of a three-course sequence, Sociology 122A-B-C. Please note that to continue in the field research program in Spring 2011, you must earn at least a B+ in the Winter Quarter segment.

+ SOC 122B. Field Research Methods for Migration Studies: Practicum (12 units, Winter 2011)
Students will interview a “snowball sample” of migrants originating in the same community studied in Mexico who are now living primarily in the United States. They will organize the data collected in Mexico and the U.S. for statistical analysis, and submit a detailed outline of a book chapter to be based on data from the fieldwork, which will be written in the following quarter (in SOC 122C).

These courses form the core of the “field research track” of the Minor in International Migration Studies at UCSD (see <http://ccis.ucsd.edu/programs/academic-programs/>) but may be taken independently of the minor. However, all undergraduate students taking the field research methods sequence are strongly encouraged to declare the Minor, which requires only two additional courses.

Requirements for Sociology 122B

1. You will be expected to participate in several group projects. The class will be divided into 6 “chapter groups,” which will specialize in a subject matter area to be addressed in the book that will result from the course. The group projects will include applying standardized survey and semi-structured interviews in Mexico and the United States to returned migrants, non-migrants, and active migrants. Data will be collected during the field research in Mexico (January 3-16) and in San Diego County from mid-January through mid-February.

2. There will be 4 written assignments: The transcriptions of qualitative interviews and field note assignments in Oaxaca will be graded on an individual basis, and a 2-3 page progress report and 5-page detailed outline and 1-page narrative summarizing the argument of the chapter will be graded on the chapter group's collective effort. **There is no mid-term or final**
3. At the end of the quarter, your chapter group will make an oral presentation to the rest of the class on your arguments as they have developed to that point.
4. Since SOC 122B is taught as a seminar rather than a lecture course, you should come to class prepared to participate actively in seminar discussions, having done all of the required readings carefully, and thought about questions that should be discussed in class. Expect to be called on if you do not initiate your participation.
5. Due to the small size of our field research team and the complexity of the project, attendance at all class meetings is absolutely essential, both to your success in the program and to the success of the program itself. We ask that you do not schedule any conflicting activities during the academic year. Any unavoidable absence (e.g., due to medical or family problems, out-of-town job interviews) must be cleared with the instructors by e-mail in advance of the class meeting. Please arrive on time.

Grading

- 10% chapter group final oral presentation
- 35% chapter group outline
- 10% chapter group progress report
- 5% field notes assignments
- 10% transcribed interviews
- 20% fieldwork participation
- 10% in-class participation

Staff Contacts

- Ana Minvielle, CCIS Management Services Officer, aminvielle@ucsd.edu, (858) 822-4447
- Geoffrey Fojtasek, Graduate Student Researcher and Data Analyst, gfojtase@ucsd.edu
- Shannon Goodison, Sociology Undergraduate Coordinator, sgoodison@ucsd.edu
- Melanie Davidson, International Migration Minor Coordinator, mbdavidson@ucsd.edu
- Melissa Calderon will be filling in as IMS minor advisor Melanie's maternity leave (10/15/10-3/21/11). macalderon@ucsd.edu

Office Hours

Office hours for Prof. FitzGerald will be Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM in ERC 106. Office hours for David Keyes will be by appointment.

Required Reading

Booth, W., et al., *The Craft of Research* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2nd ed., 2003).

ASSIGNMENTS

Week 1-2 (January 3-16): Fieldwork in Oaxaca

Turn in field note assignments #1 on Jan. 7 and #2 on Jan. 12th to FitzGerald

Week 3 (January 20): Oaxaca Debriefing, Preparation for Vista Fieldwork, and Transcription Instructions

Week 4 (January 27): Report from Vista I

*Chapter Group Progress Report due
Read Booth et al, pp. 90-288.*

Week 5 (February 3): En Vivo en Directo de Washington and Report from Vista II

2-2:45: Guest discussant via satellite, MMFRP alumna and National Council of La Raza immigration policy coordinator, Laura Vasquez

2:45-3:15 Report from Vista

3:30-4:45: How to write your chapter

Week 6 (February 10): Report from Vista III

2:00-3:00 Report from Vista

3:30-4:45: Concurrent chapter group meetings

Week 7 (February 17):

All qualitative transcriptions due. See instructions.

Chapter group meetings with profes. NO PLENARY SESSION.

2:00-2:25	Cross-Border Connections
2:25-2:50	Border Enforcement
2:50-3:15	Interior Enforcement
3:30-3:55	Mental Health
3:55-4:20	Ecology
4:20-4:45	Education

Week 8 (February 24): Quantitative Analysis

REREAD: Babbie, Earl. *The Practice of Social Research*. 8th Edition. (Wadsworth, 1998), Chapters 15, 16, and 17.

Discussion leader: Geoffrey Fojtasek

Week 9 (March 3):

Chapter group meetings with editors. NO PLENARY SESSION.

2:00-2:25	Cross-Border Connections
2:25-2:50	Border Enforcement
2:50-3:15	Interior Enforcement
3:30-3:55	Mental Health
3:55-4:20	Ecology
4:20-4:45	Education

Week 10 (March 10): Student Oral Presentations

Chapter groups will orally present the main argument of their chapter, the sources of evidence, and why they believe alternative explanations to be less compelling. How has your argument changed following data collection in the field?

FINALS WEEK (March 17)

***** 5-page chapter outline and 1-page narrative due on Thursday, March 17, at 2pm *****

(make 1 chapter submission electronically to FitzGerald and Keyes; no class meeting)

Happy St. Patrick's Day.