**Paper #1: Why did your immigrant group migrate to the US?**

In this assignment, explain why your immigrant group migrated to the United States, using the theories and concepts we read about and explored in class discussions.

**Step 1: Collection of the Data**

Based on the class readings, you should collect the following information about the country of emigration you have chosen.

You should collect this information from reliable, academic sources:

* General histories of the country of origin, probably in the form of academic books
* General histories of your immigrant group, probably in the form of academic books
* Contemporary migrations can use the CIA’s World Factbook for information about politics, demographics, and economics; it is less useful for “the imagined life.”
* Academic journal articles are likely to be too specialized, but may be used to supplement more general work
* For the imagined life, one might use a novel from the period of migration or an oral history interview. You may only use one oral history interview among your sources.

Please come see me if you are having difficulty finding sources.

*General Information about Emigration*

* How many people are emigrating from this country to the US?
* When did this migration start? When were the peak periods of migration for your immigrant group?

*Economy of the Country of Origin*

* During the period of migration, what is/was the economy of this country based on? What products did it produce for export?
* During the period of migration, how was this country’s economy connected to the global economy? (How much US foreign investment is/was there in the country?)
* During the period of migration, how much trade did this country have with the US?
* During the period of migration, how much aid did the US give to this country?
* During the period of migration, what percentage of the government’s budget is dependent on aid? How much of the government’s budget is going to payment on past debts?

*Politics*

* Who was the country colonized by?
* What was the political system in this country during the period of migration?
* During the period of migration, were there wars in this country? Political oppression (in the form of torture, disappearances, imprisonment without trial, assassinations, political violence, lack of press freedoms)?
* During the period of migration, what are the indicators by which you would see if the government is able to provide “a good life” for its citizens (literacy rate, infant mortality rate, average life expectancy, average distance to nearest hospital, ratio of doctors to population, average income, etc)?
* During the period of migration, which countries were the closest political allies of this country?
* During the period of migration, what was the relationship between this country and the US (enemies, allies, close friends, distant but neutral)?
* Has the US ever militarily intervened or occupied this country?

*Urban Migration & Social Inequality*

* During the period of migration, how much of the country’s population lived in urban areas?
* How fast was the urban population growing?
* What was the rate of poverty in this country? How much of a middle class was there?
* What was the condition of life in the rural areas? in the urban areas?
* What was the family and household composition like in this country?

*Imagined Worlds*

* During the period of migration, where does the media (music, film, videos, television) in this country come from?
* During the period of migration, do foreign companies own various media outlets?
* How much are schools affected by colonialism (in terms of its language of instruction, curriculum, or any other factors)?
* How do people feel about goods made in the US or goods associated with the US (jeans, McDonalds, Disney)? Do these things have high-status or low-status?

**Step 2: Making Sense of the Information Collected: An Outline of the Argument**

Here you want to assess which factors have been the most significant in prompting migration from the country of origin to the United States and which theoretical perspective these factors support. Please make an outline of your paper (see last page).

**Step 3: What to Turn in**

**Annotated Bibliography (4%)**This assignment entails the production of an annotated bibliography of the sources you expect to use. Each bibliographic entry should include the full reference in APA citation format, followed by a paragraph of 5-7 sentences describing the kind of information that is available in the source.

At the point at which you turn in the bibliography, you should have collected all of the data that you are going to use to write your paper, so that you can begin writing it. You may include other references after you turn in your initial bibliography, should you find you need them.

The grade for the bibliography will be based primarily on the appropriateness and comprehensiveness of your sources and secondarily on all the references being in APA format (directions on how to cite references properly can be found at: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

**Due: September 26th**

**The Paper (20%)**Based on your research, the paper should answer why your immigrant group has migrated to the United States and which of the theories we have read about are supported, disproven, or need to be modified in light of your research.

*Introduction*  
In your first paragraph, you should lay out the most important factors you think have contributed to this group immigrating to the United States, as indicated on your outline. Here you need to summarize the arguments of Portes & Rumbaut, Marx, Lappé & Collins, Sassen, and Schielke and say whether they are correct in their assessment of why people immigrate to the United States, or whether their theories are disproven or need to be modified in light of your research on your immigrant group.

In the second paragraph of the introduction, you should give a sense of the scale and the timeline of emigration from the country you have chosen.

*Body of the Paper*

In the body of the paper, you should lay out the major factors that contributed to the emigration of your group to the United States, supporting your points with the data you have collected. Refer to the theories, providing quotes or summarizing, where appropriate, to remind us that you are putting your case study within the context of larger ideas and debates.

*Conclusion*

In the conclusion, you should re-state your argument, returning to the issue of the theories.

Include your updated bibliography and a completed outline with your paper.

*Plagiarism:* When you cite from your sources, be careful to attribute those sources. If you are quoting from a source, you need to put quote marks around those words and cite the source. If you are referring to information given to you by a source, you need to cite that source also. For more explanation of how to do this correctly, see http://library.camden.rutgers.edu/EducationalModule/Plagiarism/

which is also linked off the syllabus website.

**Due: October 10th**

**Outline of Argument**

1. Based on your research, which are the most important factors that prompted the emigration of people from this country to the United States?

a.

Evidence:

1.

Source:

2.

Source:

3.

Source:

b.

Evidence:

1.

Source:

2.

Source:

3.

Source:

c.

Evidence:

1.

Source:

2.

Source:

3.

Source:

1. Which theories does this data support? Which theories does this data dispute? How do the theories need to be modified by the data you found?

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Reading** | **What did they say?** | **Evidence for** | **Evidence against** | **Modification of theory needed** |
| Portes and Rumbaut |  |  |  |  |
| Marx |  |  |  |  |
| Lappe and Collins |  |  |  |  |
| Sassen “America’s Immigrant Problem” |  |  |  |  |
| Schielke |  |  |  |  |
| Sassen “Informal Economy” |  |  |  |  |