# The Settling of America II: Immigration and Ethnicity, 1820-1924

**Syllabus**

**Instructor**
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**Course Code and Section**
HUAS9039 24W1

**Quarter**
Winter

**Start – end date**
January 9th – February 27th

**Session day/time**
Tuesdays, 1:30 – 4:00 pm CT

**Course Overview**

There is no history of America without its immigrants; indeed the immigrant story is American history, for we are all immigrants or descendants of immigrants. In this three-quarter sequence, we will examine migration and immigration to the lands that become the United States, from the Colonial period to the present. We will learn of how early settlement shaped patterns and mores, as well as how later waves of peoples enriched what some have called “trans-national America.”

Ethnicity is one key part of our identities, and class participants will be invited (but not required) to explore and share their own family stories of migration, both to and within this country, as the internal shifting of peoples are also part of our story.

The Autumn Quarter examined the Colonial period, focusing primarily on British North America from 1492 to around 1820. This Winter we will concentrate on the great century of migration, from 1820 to 1924, when immigration was dramatically curtailed by legislation. Spring Quarter will focus on the last century, from 1924 to 2024, with the new immigration post-1965, along with current political debates over immigration policy.

There are no prerequisites, and students can take one, two, or all three courses.

**Note to students**

This course is non-credit; there are no papers, no exams, no grades! (Education in its essence!)

**Required texts**


[These two texts we will use all three quarters]


**Recommended:**


Plus primary source readings, emailed to students each week.

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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading Assignment</th>
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<td><strong>Week 1</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Week 3</strong></td>
<td>Daniells, c6 “Pioneers of the Century of Immigration: Irish . . .” O. Handlin, cv, “Religion as a Way of Life” Immigrant Narratives, TBD</td>
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| Week 4 | Manifest Destiny and the Wars for America | Woodard, c17, “Appalachia Spreads West”  
Woodard, c18 “The Deep South Spreads West”  
J. Webb, *Born Fighting*, Part Five: Heart of the South”  
Woodard, c19 “Conquering El Norte”  
Woodard, c20, “Founding the Left Coast”  
Woodard, c21, “The War for the West” ACW  
Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*, (selection on Indian Removal)  
Tenskwatawa, Speech, 1807  
Tecumseh, Address to the Osage, 1811  
Petitions of Cherokee Women, 1817-1831  
J. O’Sullivan, “Manifest Destiny” 1839  
J. O’Sullivan, On Annexation of Texas, 1845 |
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| Week 5 | The New Immigration: South and Eastern Europeans | Daniels, c7 “From the Mediterranean: Italians, Greeks, Arabs, and Armenians”  
Daniels, c8 “Eastern Europeans: Poles, . . . Hungarians”  
Daniels c9 “Minorities from Other Regions: Chinese, Japanese, and French Canadians”  
Woodard, c22 “The Far West”  
U. Sinclair, *The Jungle*, excerpts  
J. Addams, *Twenty Years at Hull House*, (selections)  
O. Handlin, “The Ghettos” |
| Week 6 | Case Study: Jewish Migration | Daniels, c8 “Eastern Europeans: . . . Jews”  
A. Cahan, *The Rise of David Levinsky*, excerpt  
I. Zangwill, *The Melting Pot*, 1909  
H. Kallen, on Cultural Pluralism: “Democracy vs. the Melting Pot,” 1915 |
| Week 7 | From Emancipation to The Great Migration: African Americans Move North 1914-1930 | Woodard, c23 “Immigration and Identity”  
Documents on the Great Migration  
B. Washington, Atlanta Address, 1896  
Webb, Part 6, “Reconstruction, Diaspora, Reeducation?  
C1, “The Mess the Yankees Made, others TBD |
| Week 8 | Closing the Door? The End of the Great Century of Immigration | Daniels c10 “The Triumph of Nativism”  
Woodard, c24 “Gods and Missions”  
O. Handlin, cXI, Restriction, cXII, Promises  
R. Bourne, “Transnational America”  
Congress: Documents on Immigration Restriction Acts, 1921, 1924 |

**Accessing remote courses**
Remote courses are taught through our Canvas platform. Approximately two weeks before your class begins, we will add you to your canvas site using the email address you provided at the time of registration. An invitation will then be sent to that email. Click the “Get Started” button in the email to begin the Canvas login process. For step-by-step instructions, please visit https://grahamschool.uchicago.edu/academic-programs/online/learning-resources/liberal-arts. Once you’ve created your Canvas account, you can access any Graham School canvas course for which you are registered at: https://canvas.uchicago.edu.

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For more information, please see this handout for students as well as the University’s Policy on Harassment, Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct and Policy on Title IX Sexual Harassment. You can also reach out directly for services and support from the Office for Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Support by emailing titleix@uchicago.edu.

If you, or another student you know, wishes to speak to a confidential resource who does not have this reporting responsibility, please contact the Sexual Assault Dean on Call through the UChicago Safe App or at 773.834-HELP.

Questions? Contact Zoë Eisenman at zm1@uchicago.edu.