Latinos constitute the largest ethnic minority group in the United States. The United States Latino population is immensely diverse, with members originating from over twenty countries. Latino sub-populations tend to reside in different areas of the United States, have different cultural practices/norms, immigration experiences, and varying levels of economic attainment. These sources of internal variation are important, as they have implications for many social outcomes and social work practice with Latino families. This mini course focuses on the theoretical, empirical and practice literature on Latino families in the United States. The mini course will allow for students to become familiar with demographic trends, health disparities, acculturation and acculturative stress, and the current debates surrounding the immigrant health paradox. Additionally, this mini course will cover key methodological approaches aimed at engaging Latino families in mental health and health care services, as well as barriers and facilitators to mental health and health care utilization. Furthermore, the course focuses on clinical aspects of working with Latino families, including but not limited to, culturally-based assessment, prevention and treatment models. Students in this course will acquire a general understanding of (1) the demographic, social and political background of Latino families in the United States, (2) key theoretical frameworks to consider (e.g., acculturative stress) when working with Latino families, (3) culturally-specific assessment, prevention and treatment approaches for health and well-being, and (3) acquire a general understanding of clinical aspects when working with Latino families in the United States.

Course Objectives:

Students will:

- Develop a fuller understanding of implicit biases that may create challenges to working with Latino families
- Identify demographic and sociopolitical trends among Latino populations
- Develop a fuller understanding of Latino health disparities
- Identify culturally-specific screening and assessment tools when working with Latino families
Describe prevention and treatment approaches when working with Latino families.
Identify and describe the political landscape of Latinos in the United States.
Demonstrate skills to conceptualize a treatment plan when working with Latino families

**Requirement for Academic Credit:**

1. Students are expected to attend and participate in class.
2. Students will also turn in a 1-2 pages self-reflection based on the film, “Harvest of Empire” or Harvard’s Project Implicit Test. Potential topics to discuss include, but not limited to, aspects of the film or the test that resonate with personal and/or professional experiences, applying the film or the test to a current case, critiques with regard to film or the test, and current policy as it applies to the film or the test.

*ASSIGNMENT IS DUE BY MIDNIGHT JULY 25, 2015*

**Grading:**
The course is graded on an S (Satisfactory) / U(Unsatisfactory) dichotomy.

**Overview of Course**

**Day 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:10-9:25</td>
<td>Introductions</td>
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| 9:25-10:30 | Project Implicit            
|          | Understanding Hidden Biases                                          |
|          | Class Exercise: [https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html](https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html) |
| 10:30-10:45 | Break                                                                  |
| 10:45-12:00 | The Latino Political Landscape in the United States       
|          | Dr. John Garcia            
|          | Faculty Associate, Center for Political Studies                |
| 12:00-1:00 | Lunch                                                                   |
| 1:00-3:00 | The Effects of Immigration Policy and Deportations on Health     
|          | Dr. Edward Vargas           
|          | University of Wisconsin                                             |
| 3:00-3:15 | Break                                                                   |
| 3:15-5:00 | Film: Harvest of Empire (2012)                                       |
Day 2

9:10-10:00  Discuss Film
10:00-10:30  Latinos Demographics: Nationally, State-wide, and in Washtenaw County
10:30-10:45  Break
10:45-12:00  Acculturation and Migration
12:00-1:00  Lunch-Available for Consultation
1:00-2:30  Unnatural Causes: Becoming American
2:30-2:45  Break
2:45-3:30  Case Study
3:30-4:00  Summary of Working with Latino Families
4:00-5:00  Individual Consultation

Resources

Annual Estimates of the Resident Population by Sex, Age, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States and States: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2013
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division


http://doi.org/10.1177/1473325012468478


