History 404 offers an extensive examination of immigration and ethnicity in the twentieth century history of the United States. The lectures include a narrative of the events relevant to the topic, but they emphasize the analysis of evidence. Students in the course will be expected to go beyond the reporting of generalizations to the discussion of the processes by which conclusions are reached and defended.

History 404 is divided into three blocks. The first, from lectures 1 through 10, begins with an overview of immigration to the United States in the nineteenth century and then examines the phenomenon of the "New Immigration" of the first decades of the twentieth. The second, from lectures 11 through 20, concentrates on the successful movement to restrict immigration and on the adjustment through the middle of the century of foreign-stock Americans to the host society. The third, from lectures 21 through 30, focusses on the recent period and analyzes both the extent to which ethnicity remains a force in American life and the reappearance of immigration as a political issue.

Each of the three blocks also incorporates a methodological segment necessary for understanding the readings and participating in classroom discussions. The first discusses the kinds of data and the principal methods used by historians and other social scientists in the analysis of immigration and ethnicity. The second shows how computers help historians exploit those data and methods. Finally, the third will include some exercises in which the students supplement their readings with their own manipulation of available survey data.

Students taking the course for three credits will take two mid-term examinations and a final. The examinations will not be cumulative in their coverage, and each will, therefore, be of equal weight with the others. Because the students' prompt completion of the reading assignments is necessary to the smooth running of the course, I retain the right to give "pop quizzes."

Students taking the course for four credits will be subject to the same requirements as those enrolled for three. In addition, the former will attend a discussion session to be held each Friday at 11 AM in 4013 Vilas Hall. Those meetings will focus on recent issues in immigration and refugee policy and on current efforts to reshape American immigration law. Students participating in the meetings will prepare a series of brief, graded reports on assigned readings.
Schedule of Lectures and Assignments

Lecture 1 January 21

Lecture 2 January 23
Immigration to America before 1890
Thomas Archdeacon, Becoming American, chs. 2-4

Lecture 3 January 28
The "New Immigration"
Archdeacon, BA, ch. 5

Lecture 4 January 30
Data and Historical Analysis

Lecture 5 February 4
Correlation and Cause

Lecture 6 February 6
The Analysis of Categorical Information

Lecture 7 February 11
Migration and Remigration
J.D. Gould, "European Inter-Continental Migration, The Road Home: Return Migration from the United States"

Lecture 8 February 13
Foreign-Stock Americans: Demography & Geography, 1910
David Ward, Cities and Immigrants, ch. 2

Lecture 9 February 18
Foreign-Stock Americans: Socioeconomic Conditions, 1910
Robert Higgs, "Race, Skills, and Earnings: American Immigrants in 1909"

Lecture 10 February 20
Examination 1

Lecture 11 February 25
Nativism and the Movement to Restrict Immigration
Archdeacon, BA, ch. 6

Lecture 12 February 27
Scientific Racism and the Restriction of Immigration
Lecture 13  March 4  
American Immigration Policy in the 1920s and the 1930s  
Helen F. Eckerson, "Immigration and National Origins"

Lecture 14  March 8  
The Emergence of Ethnic Politics  
John Allswang, A House for All Peoples, ch. 4

Lecture 15  March 11  
World War II and American Ethnic Groups  
Archdeacon, Ba, ch. 7

Lecture 16  March 13  
Communicating with the Sperry Univac 1100

March 16-24  Spring Break

Lecture 17  March 25  
SPSS: The Statistical Package for the Social Sciences

Lecture 18  March 27  
SPSS -- Continued

Lecture 19  April 1  
Survey Data and the Study of Ethnicity

Lecture 20  April 3  
Examination 2

Lecture 21  April 8  
Religion and the Melting Pot in the 1950s  
Philip E. Converse et al., "Stability and Change in 1960: A Reinstating Election"

Lecture 22  April 10  
The Rediscovery of Ethnicity in the 1960s  
Archdeacon, Ba, ch. 8

Lecture 23  April 15  
Economic Mobility as a Criterion of Assimilation  
David L. Featherman, "The Socioeconomic Achievement of White Religio-Ethnic Subgroups"

Lecture 24  April 17  
Residence as a Criterion of Assimilation  

Lecture 25  April 22  
Social Distance as a Criterion of Assimilation  
Emory Bogardus, "A Social Distance Scale"
Lecture 26  April 24
Ethnic Identity in the 1980s
Archdeacon, BA, epilogue

Lecture 27  April 29
Ethnic Identity in the 1990s
Archdeacon, BA, epilogue

Lecture 28  May 1
Contemporary Immigration
Alejandro Portes, "Toward a Structural Analysis of
Illegal (Undocumented) Immigration"

Lecture 29  May 6
The Impacts of Contemporary Immigration
Charles B. Keely & Ellen Percy Kraly, "Recent Net
Alien Immigration to the United States"

Lecture 30  May 8
The Future of American Immigration Policy