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Research Master's Program

Sociology and Social Research

Economic incorporation of immigrants

In this week we take a look immigrants' economic incorporation. It is well known that immigrants have a disadvantaged position in the labour market: they have lower activity rates, higher unemployment levels, and lower paid-jobs than natives. The literature shows that differences in human capital (e.g., education, language proficiency) is important for explaining the immigrant-native gap. In addition, systematic differences have been found between national origin groups, destination countries and immigrant communities. The aim of this week is to gain a comprehensive theoretical and empirical perspective on the economic attainment of immigrants.

Empirical

Chiswick, B.R. and P.W. Miller. 2002. "Immigrant Earnings: Language Skills, Linguistic Concentration and the Business Cycle." *Journal of Population Economics* 15: 31-57 [27p.]

Van Tubergen, F., I. Maas, and H. Flap. 2004. "The Economic Incorporation of Immigrants in 18 Western Societies: Origin, Destination, and Community Effects." *American Sociological Review* 69:701-24. [24p.]

To be presented by student

Model, S. 1997. "An Occupational Tale of Two Cities: Minorities in London and New York." *Demography* 34:539-550. [12p.]

Optional

Borjas, G.J. 1988. *International Differences in the Labor Market Performance of Immigrants*. Kalamazoo: W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research.

Model, S., G. Fisher, and R. Silberman. 1999. "Black Carribeans in Comparative Perspective." *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* 25:187-212.

Model, S. and D. Lapido. 1996. "Context and Opportunity: Minorities in London and New York." *Social Forces* 75:485-510.

Reitz, J.G. 1998. *Warmth of the Welcome: The Social Causes of Economic Success for Immigrants in Different Nations and Cities*. Boulder: Westview Press.

Number of pages: 51

Ethnic Intermarriage: who marries whom? (Van Tubergen)

In this week we discuss ethnic intermarriage. Basically, two questions are central to our discussion: to what extent do immigrants marry outside their own ethnic group, and if they do, whom do they marry? For various reasons, ethnic intermarriage is important to study. One reason is that marriages between members of different groups indicate frequent social interaction and strong social acceptance between these groups (i.e., social integration). Another reason is that immigrants who marry outside their own group have a better economic position. Finally, children of mixed marriages have less negative attitudes towards other groups, speak the language of the host country better and attain a higher socioeconomic status.

General

Kalmijn, M. 1998. "Intermarriage and Homogamy: Causes, Patterns, Trends." *Annual Review of Sociology* 24:395-421. [27p.]

Empirical

Rosenfeld, M.J. 2002. "Measures of Assimilation in the Marriage Market: Mexican Americans 1970-1990." *Journal of Marriage and the Family* 64:152-162. [11p.]

Van Tubergen, F. and I. Maas. 2005. "Migration and Intermarriage in the Netherlands: An Analysis of Census Data." *Paper*, presented at the Spring meeting of the International Sociological Association Research Committee 28, Oslo, Norway, May 6-8. [15p.]

To be presented by student

Hwang, S., R. Saenz, and B. Aguirre. 1997. "Structural and Assimilationist Explanations of Asian American Intermarriage." *Journal of Marriage and the Family* 59:758-772. [15p.]

Optional

Bean, F.D. and G. Stevens. 2003. *America's Newcomers and the Dynamics of Diversity*: Chapter 8. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.

Lieberson, S. and M. Waters. 1990. *From Many Strands: Ethnic and Racial Groups in Contemporary America*: p.162-198, p.204-246. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.

Number of pages: 53