



UPCOMING SEMINARS FOR FALL QUARTER 2017

The Students We Share: A Cross-Border Workforce Development Priority

Wednesday, October 4 at 3:30 pm | Dean's Conference Room, School of Global Policy and Strategy

Speaker: Melissa Floca, USMEX Associate Director

As a result of intense migration, Southern California is home to the highest concentration of Mexican-born immigrants in the U.S., and Baja California is home to the highest concentration of U.S.-born youth in Mexico. While the U.S. has decades of experience working to integrate immigrants into its education system, this is a new concern for schools in Mexico. In recent years, record numbers of deportations have resulted in tens of thousands of young people leaving California classrooms and relocating with their families to Tijuana. The challenges for schools and communities are compounded by new waves of Central American migrants and the potential that deportations from the U.S. will ramp up significantly in the coming years. These dynamics have created a sizeable cohort of students in the San Diego-Tijuana metropolis whose education takes place on both sides of the border. These young people are especially well-suited to participate in the binational economy given their cross-border cultural fluency, and supporting their educational success should be a major regional workforce development priority.

Organized Crime, Violence and the Drug War in Mexico

Wednesday, October 18 at 3:30 pm | Dean's Conference Room, School of Global Policy and Strategy

Speaker: David Shirk, Professor, University of San Diego

David Shirk is a professor and director of the University of San Diego Master of Arts in International Relations program in the Department of Political Science and International Relations. He conducts research on Mexican politics, U.S.-Mexican relations, and law enforcement and security along the U.S.-Mexican border. He is also the director of "Justice in Mexico," a research and policy initiative on criminal justice and the rule of law in Mexico with over \$6 million in support from the Hewlett, MacArthur, and Tinker Foundations, the U.S. Agency for International Development and the U.S. State Department.

Día de los Muertos Celebration

Wednesday, November 1 at 3:30 pm | USMEX

Per annual tradition, the Center will be celebrating Día de los Muertos. Join us for altars, pan de muerto and Mexican hot chocolate!

"Tanto de aquí como de allá": Legal incorporation of immigrants as a means of enhancing assimilation in host and home countries

Wednesday, November 8 at 3:30 pm | Dean's Conference Room, School of Global Policy and Strategy

Speaker: Jane Lily Lopez, USMEX Fellow

Jane Lilly López is a Ph.D. candidate in sociology at UC San Diego. She received a master's in evidence-based social work from the University of Oxford and has experience working in the nonprofit sector. Her dissertation examines citizenship, immigration and family law through the lens of mixed-citizenship couples living within and outside the U.S.



Energy integration in North America: perspectives for Mexico in the light of the energy reforms and NAFTA renegotiation

Wednesday, November 29 at 3:30 pm | Dean's Conference Room, School of Global Policy and Strategy

Speaker: Angel de la Vega Navarro, USMEX Fellow

The energy reforms of 2013/2014 focus on market and free trade, at the very moment when a discourse and new policies emerge that promote economic nationalism in the dominant partner of NAFTA. At the same time, the United States has reached a new dimension in the global energy field, especially in oil and gas, which has changed its relationship with its partners, Canada and especially Mexico. The renegotiation of NAFTA raises questions about Mexico's future role in energy integration and transition in North America. What will be its main connection? A "fossil energy connection", mainly conducted by political mechanisms and big energy actors? What future for renewables and environment?

Papers, Places, and Familias: Tracing the Social Mobility of Mexicans in New York

Wednesday, December 6 at 3:30 pm | Dean's Conference Room, School of Global Policy and Strategy

Speaker: Guillermo Yrizar Barbosa, USMEX Fellow

Why and how do some undocumented immigrants do better than others? Immigrant illegality is associated with limited life chances. But important variation is observed in fieldwork and research in New York conducted since 2014. This dissertation seeks to understand divergent socioeconomic and educational outcomes for Mexican families by examining the effects of immigrant legal status, local institutional contexts, and intra-family-household dynamics. The data comes from ethnographic cases of undocumented immigrants identified through four points of access to the Mexican community –in three New York counties– with dissimilar institutional support: from 'upward mobility' for those with higher education and valuable networks in Queens or Long Island, to 'precarious immobility' in the Bronx for those not fluent in English but frequently participating in local organizations. While theories suggest that all the undocumented people will experience poor socioeconomic outcomes, differences in immigrant social mobilities are partially explained by interactions with supportive community based organizations, but more importantly by dynamics within the immigrant family-household combining progressive forms of human and social capitals.