

National Science Foundation (NSF) – Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU)
Site Program on Immigration Policy and Border Communities

Summer 2023

Syllabus May 22-July 22, 2023 (final)
Las Cruces, El Paso, and Ciudad Juárez

Principal Investigators:

Dr. Neil Harvey (New Mexico State University) and Dr. Jeremy Slack (University of Texas-El Paso)
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Program Overview

Welcome! We are very excited to host the NSF-REU Site Program on Immigration Policy and Border Communities in Summer 2023. We will work with a variety of community partner organizations in Las Cruces, El Paso and Ciudad Juárez. You will also attend workshops on research methods in the social sciences, discuss assigned readings, and participate in collaborative research projects on migration and asylum at the US-Mexico border.

Assignments

- 1) CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITY PARTNERS: You will all be asked to produce a final product that will contribute to the educational and advocacy work of our community partners. Your final products will be submitted to your community partners and reflect the work that is decided through dialogue with your partners. Draft due on July 14, for oral presentation during the week of July 16-21. Final version due July 21, 2023.
- 2) REFLECTIVE ESSAY: You will also write a reflective essay on your own individual experiences and main insights that you gain this summer (10-12 pages, double-spaced, 12-point font). Due July 21, 2023.
- 3) FIELD NOTES JOURNAL: Finally, you will keep a daily log of activities (use a Word document that you can save each day on your computer). This will be your field note journal in which you can summarize daily work activity as well as your thoughts and ideas about the readings, workshops, project activities and interactions with other members of the team. This journal will be very helpful when writing your final reflection essay and is a good way to make connections and draw out important themes from the wide array of issues that you will engage with during the summer. You will submit an electronic copy of this journal at the end of the program on July 21, 2023.
- 4) READINGS AND DISCUSSIONS: We will assign some useful background readings during the summer session, especially at the start of the program. We will use CANVAS to post discussion prompts on these readings. You will be expected to post a short response to this prompt as well as respond to another student's post. We will use these discussion board posts as the basis for our discussion meetings (see syllabus and calendar in CANVAS for dates, and list of readings in the Files Tab of CANVAS).

The overall learning outcome of this program is students' ability to gain and apply research skills and social scientific knowledge in ways that contribute to greater awareness of the impacts of immigration

policy on migrants and residents of border communities, as well as supporting the ongoing efforts of community partners to advocate for humane immigration and asylum policies.

We look forward to discussing the above details more when we meet on zoom for our first session on Monday, May 22, at 10:00 am – 12:00 pm.

Please send any questions about the program, including logistics, travel, accommodation, stipends, etc. to either Dr. Neil Harvey at nharvey@nmsu.edu or Dr. Jeremy Slack at jmslack@utep.edu

NSF REU Site Program on Immigration Policy and US-Mexico Border Communities

Schedule of Activities for Summer 2023 program

Week	Dates in Summer 2023	Student Activities (during Mon-Fri). *Note: Weekends will be used for debriefings, social gatherings, and relaxing trips to nearby parks, cinemas, and area attractions such as White Sands National Monument. Students will also have daily access to campus pools, gyms, and recreation centers at NMSU and UTEP. List of area attractions and upcoming events will be provided by our graduate assistants.
Week 0 (online)	5/22-26	<p>Online Preparation Workshops (presented on Zoom with the student participants at 10.00 am to 12.00 pm each day).</p> <p>5/22 Introductions & Program Overview from 10.00-11.15 and Pre-Program Survey in which our external evaluator will administer survey for program evaluation purposes (11.15-12.00 noon)</p> <p>5/23 Responsible Conduct of Research and Expectations of Behavior, including policies against discrimination and sexual harassment of NSF, NMSU, UTEP, and this REU. Complete modules in Training Central.</p> <p>5/24 Dr. Slack presentation on Intro History of Immigration Policies and Border Enforcement</p> <p>5/25 Dr. Harvey presentation on Community-Based Participatory Research & Field Notes – why we adopt a CBPR approach (with examples from previous years of our program), qualitative research methods, and the importance of keeping field notes.</p> <p>5/26 Dr. Slack presentation on asylum policy and practice. Discussion of assigned readings</p>

<p>Week 1</p>	<p>5/28-6/2</p>	<p>Week 1</p> <p>5/28 and 5/29 El Paso-Las Cruces.</p> <p>Arrival of students coming from outside the area; pick up from El Paso airport and settling into dorms at NMSU campus (Chamisa Village)</p> <p>5/29 Las Cruces.</p> <p>Late afternoon (once all have arrived to Chamisa), 4 pm approximately. Welcome dinner for all student participants.</p> <p>5/30 10.00 am – 3.00 pm. Las Cruces.</p> <p>Orientation at NMSU: Meeting on the goals of the NSF REU and opportunities for presenting research from our program, history of past activities. Campus tour. Reiteration of expectations of behavior and policies against discrimination and sexual harassment.</p> <p>5/31 8.00 am – 6.00 pm. Las Cruces-El Paso-Las Cruces:</p> <p>Border tour organized by Border Servant Corps, Las Cruces (8.30 am-5.00 pm). See Files Tab for program itinerary.</p> <p>6/1 10.00 am – 12.00 pm. Las Cruces.</p> <p>Meeting with NMSU faculty mentors, Dr. Bertha Bermudez Tapia (Sociology) and Dr. Nathan Craig (Anthropology) (Breland Hall, room 179). See video recording of Dr. Bermudez Tapia’s presentation on migrant camps, plus the report “Pains and Profits of Immigrant Imprisonment” (in Announcements, and the Files Tab of CANVAS).</p> <p>6/2 10.00 am – 12.00 pm. Las Cruces.</p> <p>Presentation by Dr. Neil Harvey (Government) on root causes of migration (Breland 179) – read the recent report by Hope Border Institute in the Files Tab.</p>
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<p>Week 2</p>	<p>6/5-6/9</p>	<p>Mon. 6/5 8.30 am – 5.00 pm: El Paso:</p> <p>Workshop on root causes of forced migration (with staff of Hope Border Institute). Please read their report beforehand and come with comments and questions for the authors of this report (see Files Tab in CANVAS for a copy of their report). Meeting starts at 10.00 am at Hope Border Institute, El Paso. Leaving NMSU campus at 8.30 am.</p> <p>Lunch in El Paso: 12.00-1.30 pm</p> <p>UTEP campus: 2.00-4.00 pm meeting with faculty mentor Dr. Joe Heyman (Sociology & Anthropology, and Director of the Center for Interamerican and Border Studies, UTEP).</p> <p>Arrive back at NMSU campus by 5.00 pm.</p> <p>Tues. 6/6: 12.00 pm – 5.00 pm: Las Cruces</p> <p>Meeting with faculty mentor Dr. Carina Heckert (Sociology & Anthropology, UTEP) and presentation by Dr. Jeremy Slack on experiences of conducting survey research with migrants. Breland Hall, room 179, NMSU.</p> <p>Weds. 6/7: 10 am – 3.00 pm. Las Cruces Volunteering at Border Servant Corps. Debriefing and logistics: 5.30-6.30 pm, Breland 179.</p> <p>Thurs. 6/8: 10.00 am- 4.00 pm: Las Cruces. Border tour to El Paso, led by Border Servant Corps (various locations)</p> <p>Fri. 6/9: 8.00 am – 6.00 pm: Ciudad Juárez. (various locations)</p> <p>Leave NMSU campus at 8.00 am. Arrive back by 6.00 pm.</p>
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Week 3	6/12-6/16	<p>Monday 6/12: Las Cruces</p> <p>9.00 am – 12.00 pm:</p> <p>Workshop: Introduction to data analysis and coding using NVIVO by Dr. Mary Alice Scott (Anthropology Dept, NMSU). In room Breland 175, NMSU campus. See website beforehand: www.qualres.org</p> <p>12.00-2.00 pm lunch</p> <p>2.00-4.00 pm</p> <p>Presentation by Dr. Cynthia Bejarano (Gender and Sexuality Studies, NMSU) on the topic of local responses to negative portrayals of border life and ethical issues in community-based participatory research (Breland 179, NMSU). See articles in Files Tab beforehand.</p> <p>Tues. 6/13 Prep for Weds workshop on survey instrument and 3.00 pm meeting with Leo Castaneda, ACLU Regional Center for Border Rights, Las Cruces. Location: Breland Hall, room 179, NMSU</p> <p>Weds. 6/14 9.00am -12.00 pm El Paso: (depart Chamisa at 8.30 am) Workshop to develop survey instrument. UTEP, Dept of Sociology and Anthropology seminar room, Old Main.</p> <p>Thurs. 6/15 : 10.00 am-3.00 pm - volunteering and research prep, Border Servant Corps, Las Cruces</p> <p>Fri. 6/16: 10.00 am-2.30 pm - volunteering and research, BSC, Las Cruces.</p> <p>3.00pm Zoom meeting to discuss research progress</p>
Week 4	6/19-6/23	<p>Students work with their community partners on their projects (regular meetings with PIs and faculty mentors, in addition to a Friday afternoon meeting and weekend social gathering of all the cohort to debrief, exchange experiences and enjoy local area).</p> <p>6/21</p> <p>Weds. 6/21: BSC organized meeting with Border Patrol, El Paso, 10 am (Participation is optional)</p>

<p>Week 5</p>	<p>6/26-6/30 6/28</p>	<p>As above - Plus, on Weds. June 28:</p> <p>Weds. 6/28 10.00-11.00 am Mid-point focus group for the purpose of program evaluation (Breland 179, NMSU. Please make sure to attend.)</p> <p>Weds. 6/28 3.00-5.00 pm Feminist Border Arts Film Festival at NMSU University Art Museum (UAM), Las Cruces. Program on Transnational Cinemas of Protest and Gender Justice. See Files Tab for the complete festival program.</p> <p>Thurs. 6/29 10 am – 1.30 pm Research & Volunteering at Border Servant Corps</p> <p>Thurs. 6/29 3.00-4.00 pm Discussion of survey instrument with Mica de la Rose, BSC. Breland 179 & Zoom.</p> <p>Fri. 6/30. 12.00-1.30 pm Discussion of survey and edits. UTEP, Sociology & Anthropology Dept, seminar room</p> <p>Fri. 6/30. 2.00-6.00 pm Subgroup conducting survey research, Kiki Romero Municipal Migrant Shelter, Ciudad Juarez.</p>
<p>Week 6</p>	<p>7/3-7/7</p> <p>Weds 7/5</p> <p>Thurs. 7/6</p> <p>Fri. 7/7</p> <p>Sun. 7/9</p>	<p>Students continue to work with their community partners on their projects (regular meetings with PIs and faculty mentors, in addition to a Friday afternoon meeting and weekend social gathering of all the cohort to debrief, exchange experiences, and enjoy local area).</p> <p>Weds. 7/5: 9.00 am – 1.00 pm. Las Cruces. (Meet at 8.30 am at Courthouse, 100 Church Street, Las Cruces):</p> <p>Court observation with Federal Public Defender, Amanda Skinner; Fed Court, Las Cruces</p> <p>Weds. 7/5: 3-4 pm. Presentation by Dr. Ana Lopez, Chicano Programs Director, NMSU (optional)</p> <p>Weds. 7/5: completion of 5-page draft papers (double-spaced) by 10 pm</p> <p>Survey at Border Servant Corps, Las Cruces. 10 am – 3 pm</p> <p>Transcribing interviews; reading; subgroup conducting surveys at Kiki Romero Municipal Migrant Shelter, Ciudad Juarez.</p> <p>Survey at Border Servant Corps, Las Cruces, 10 am – 12 noon.</p>

Week 7	7/10-7/14	<p>Completion of transcriptions of interviews conducted so far, by 3.00 pm on Monday 7/10. Upload to DropBox folder "REU 2023 Transcriptions"</p> <p>Tues. 7/11 – 9.00-2.00 pm. Las Cruces.</p> <p>Workshop on using NVIVO for coding and data analysis of students' research findings - by Dr. Mary Alice Scott (Anthropology Dept, NMSU). Breland 175, NMSU campus.</p> <p>Weds. 7/12 – 10.00 am – 2.00 pm. El Paso</p> <p>Working on data analysis for next week's presentations and final papers.</p> <p>Thurs. 7/13 – 10.00-2.00 pm. Las Cruces.</p> <p>Workshop on applying to graduate school, with invited speakers from previous cohorts of our REU (2018-21) who are in graduate programs or have completed graduate degrees. Meet with Dr. Huiping Cao and her students for the NMSU REU summer program in Computer Science, and the staff of NMSU Student Success Center. Breland 179, NMSU campus.</p> <p>Fri. 7/14</p> <p>Working on data analysis for next week's presentations and final papers.</p>
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<p>Week 8</p>	<p>7/17-7/22</p>	<p>Mon. 7/17 10.00-2.00 pm. Las Cruces.</p> <p>Time for debriefing, discussion of main findings, writing and sharing drafts, completion of products. Breland 179, NMSU campus.</p> <p>Tues. 7/18 10.00 am - 2.00 pm. El Paso.</p> <p>Final presentations to REU team and community partners (students with Drs. Heyman and Bermúdez Tapia as their faculty mentors will present at UTEP Dept of Sociology & Anthropology Seminar Room, Old Main, at 10 am – 12.00 pm). Followed by lunch at 12.00 pm – 2.00 pm. Leave NMSU campus at 8.30 am. Arrive back by 3.00 pm.</p> <p>Weds. 7/19 10.00 am – 3.00 pm. Las Cruces.</p> <p>Final presentations to REU team and community partners (students with Drs. Craig and Heckert as their faculty mentors will present at NMSU Dept of Government, Breland 179); followed by application of final post-student survey for program evaluation purposes (at 12.00-1.00 pm). Followed by lunch at 1.00 – 3.00 pm.</p> <p>Thurs. 7/20 – Finishing up final papers</p> <p>Fri. 7/21 – 6.00 pm. Social event to close the program. Las Cruces.</p> <p>Saturday 7/22 – Travel day, returning home.</p>
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