

City University of New York (CUNY)

CUNY Academic Works

Open Educational Resources

City College of New York

2023

Collaborative Book Assignment: New York and the World - What Migration Stories Teach Us

Maritsa Poros
CUNY City College

[How does access to this work benefit you? Let us know!](#)

More information about this work at: https://academicworks.cuny.edu/cc_oers/456

Discover additional works at: <https://academicworks.cuny.edu>

This work is made publicly available by the City University of New York (CUNY).
Contact: AcademicWorks@cuny.edu

SOC 31140: Human Mobility and Social Change

Prof. Maritsa Poros
City College of New York
Department of Sociology
Fall 2023

ASSIGNMENT - New York and the World: What Migration Stories Teach Us

Summary: As a class, we will create an open educational resource (in this case a collaborative book!) using Manifold. Each student will write their own chapter based on a short interview with an immigrant (assigned earlier in the course). The chapter should use concepts covered in the course so far to analyze the field notes from the interview.

Details: Use your field notes from your interview with an immigrant to identify 4-5 relevant migration concepts, e.g. diaspora, transnationalism, gendered migration, borders and bordering, refugees, labor migration, smuggling and trafficking, etc. Use these concepts as a basis for thinking about the interview you did and the field notes you wrote up about the person's story. Write a short essay or chapter (4-5 double spaced pages) that:

1. Analyzes the migration experiences or story of the person you interviewed. You should discuss the concepts that are relevant to their story. Make sure you define the concepts using definitions from external scholarly sources we have discussed in class. Explain them thoroughly with appropriate citations. And you should link their story to the concepts. Explain how they relate to each other.
2. Incorporates quotes or descriptions from your interview that help the reader understand how the concepts are related to the person's migration experiences. If there are areas in which you don't have enough information about the person's life, include what questions you would ask them in a follow up interview. What's missing can be just as important as what is present.

3. Follows APA styles for in-text citations and references in the bibliography. This website may help you to organize how to go about writing a short essay piece as well as provide guidelines for citations and bibliographies: <https://writing.wisc.edu/handbook/>

Roles: Students may also take on various roles in the production of the book: Compiling and organizing chapters, editing, working with student authors to add visual representations of their analysis, researching an extended bibliography for further reference, translating, designing and editing the layout of the book, etc.

As course instructor, I will serve as the “general editor.” I will also advise students on preserving anonymity and confidentiality of their interviewees in the written chapters, licensing issues, and training to use open educational resources. Training also exists through CUNY.

We will work together to make this book a collaborative course project. It will focus on what migration stories can teach us and how we can understand people’s migration stories through the conceptual and analytical tools of migration studies as a field. I encourage students to also incorporate visual material such as artwork, photography, video, etc. that represent aspects of the migration stories we are trying to understand. These can come from individual artists, neighborhoods, organizations, or internet sources that are in the creative commons.

Due dates: There will be various production deadlines throughout the semester to keep us on target.