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(May 2016)

This bibliography is a culmination of the **Immigration in the Global Midwest** research project. Organized at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities (UMN-TC) through the Immigration History Research Center (IHRC), the “Immigration in the Global Midwest” Research Collaborative is comprised of faculty and graduate students from a wide range of disciplines based at a number of CIC (Big 10) institutions. We seek to build on existing strengths in immigration studies to critically examine how contemporary immigration is transforming the U.S. Midwest in an era of intensified globalization, and how we might correspondingly rethink the scholarly paradigms of both the Midwest *and* immigration. We propose a multi-disciplinary and interdisciplinary research project exploring new research questions and methodologies for humanities scholarship that will have an impact both inside and outside of the academy.

To help frame project research questions, we first set out to identify existing scholarship and research resources. This bibliography is the culmination of that work. Its aim is to establish a strong foundation for future research and collaborations.

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Global Midwest Project Description

The U.S. Midwest has historically been celebrated as “America’s heartland,” a region that supposedly embodies the “authentic” America (often read as white, middle-class, and heteronormative). Popular understandings of immigration to the United States reinforce a characteristic set of narratives and myths: America is a “nation of nations” that has welcomed immigrants and allowed them to achieve their American dreams. Furthermore, immigration is primarily imagined and confined to either the east or west coasts, with Ellis Island being the primary point of arrival “back then” and JFK and LAX airports or the U.S.-Mexico border as the primary ones today.

The U.S. Midwest is an especially important site to study immigration in local/global contexts. In recent decades, increases in international and secondary migration have transformed the region. From 2000-2010, Latinos accounted for 60.7% of the population growth in the Midwest and 27.8% of growth in Minnesota. The Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul alone are home to some of the country’s largest populations of Hmong and Somali refugees as well as American Indians living in an urban area. But there are many other groups here as well, including Eritreans, Ethiopians, Tibetans, Lao, and Cambodians.

Some of the overarching research questions that we hope to explore include:

- What does it mean for both immigration and the U.S. Midwest when immigrants and refugees (largely Asian, African, and Latino) make homes in “unexpected places” (to borrow American Indian scholar Philip Deloria’s term) like the U.S. Midwest?
- How do immigrant communities make and remake racial formations within Midwestern locales and sites and how do transnational immigrant/migrant/refugee identities help to transnationalize and/or globalize the Midwest?
- How have new communication technologies changed immigration, immigrant and refugee identities, and transnational and diasporic relations?

In addition to fostering broad multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary conversations about immigration in the global Midwest generally, we have identified two research clusters that probe specific sets of questions: Race, Indigeneity, and Diasporas and Local/Global Storytelling, Art, and Performance.

Race, Indigeneity, and Diasporas

The Race, Indigeneity, and Diasporas Research Cluster builds on existing research strengths at the UMN-TC to critically address through interdisciplinary collaborations how settler colonialism, race, indigeneity, migration, refugee resettlement, border crossings and border zones, genocide, transnationalism, and globalization in the U.S. affect diverse communities in the Midwest – with a particular focus on communities of color and structures of inequality. Some critical issues include:

- How have Native peoples and communities been impacted by settler colonialism, global migration and refugee resettlement, and intensified globalization?
- How and why have race relations and racial formations shifted in the U.S. Midwest post-1965, post-1975 and post-1990?
- How and why is the Midwest a place of borders and border crossings?
- How and why is “the local” always connected to “the regional,” “the transnational,” and “the global?” What do these different “scales” of geography and connected places or networks mean for Natives, Migrants, Immigrants, and Refugees?
- What does it mean “to live, survive, and thrive in diaspora” in the context of the Midwest?
- How do people and communities of color living in the Midwest narrate or understand their memories, histories, and notions of identity/community/place/belonging in an era of intensified social inequality and globalization?

By critically addressing the complexities of race, indigeneity, and diasporas together, the research cluster takes seriously settler colonialism as important to the study of migration and diaspora, primarily because most scholarship on migration and diaspora often erases, marginalizes, and/or makes invisible the strong presence of Native communities, histories, and scholarship. Consequently, the Cluster seeks to underscore the importance of Native Studies to studies of migration and diaspora. Just as importantly, we recognize that Natives travel and have transnational and cross-border connections and networks too.

Secondly, the Research Cluster will address race and race relations in the Midwest, *but always in intersectional ways that will also address how race, gender, sexuality, class, citizenship, and location co-constitute one another*. This cluster therefore seeks to understand race and race relations in complex, nuanced ways that simultaneously address other axes of difference and power relations.

Lastly, by focusing on diverse, overlapping, and competing diasporas, the cluster takes seriously issues of borders and border crossings, translocalities and transnationalism, and global community networks, histories, memories, and imaginaries. The cluster is interested in the Midwest and beyond the Midwest, precisely to problematize isolated, provincial, and hyperlocal notions of the Midwest.

Local/Global Storytelling, Art, and Performance

Stories and histories are often the way we locate ourselves in worlds. This cluster considers how immigrant, indigenous, and minority communities imagine, map, and reshape the terrain of the Midwest and its global connections through writing, memoir and autobiography, storytelling, history making, performance, and other kinds of social and cultural production. Individual subjectivities and communities are formed through and reflected in stories of self, relationship, and place. We will look at how ideas of self and community are located and dislocated to ask:

- How do people imagine themselves as being at home?
- How do they remember, resurrect, and preserve their histories from one place to another?
- How do their stories render visible the complexities and contradictions that are part and parcel of the varied diasporic, indigenous, and migrant spaces within the global Midwest?

The form and function of stories can reveal much about the global Midwest. Some critical questions include:

- How might hip-hop and spoken word performances illuminate the multiple and sometimes contradictory meanings of blackness within the African diaspora?
- How might the oral histories of Asian Americans challenge the stereotypes of the “model minority?”
- What do testimonials given by Latinos in the Midwest show about the “browning of America?”

We are not only interested in the content of these communities’ histories and experiences, but also in the varied ways in which they are telling them. We might therefore ask:

- How does live and recorded performance invite comparison, connection, and public dialogue?
- How do multi-media digital stories created and narrated by immigrant and refugees themselves, for example, create alternatives to the clichés of the American dream and the immigrant paradigm?
- How does open-access digital technology with its worldwide reach affect content, presentation, and audience reception?

How does a publicly-accessible digital archive allow for the creation of a community from dispersed peoples? Documentation of historical and contemporary experiences? Public dialogue?

Bibliography

The Global Midwest bibliography lists available primary and secondary sources concerning the past and present mobility of groups beyond the European, Christian, and heteronormative immigrants popularly associated with the U.S. Midwest.

The Global Midwest projects defines the U.S. Midwest as eight states: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin. Only sources that focus (entirely or in large part) on a community in this geographic area are included. Therefore, this bibliography does not include works that address the entire U.S. or a diaspora as a whole.

The bibliography is broken down into nine individual bibliographies: *American Indians, African Americans, Gender and Sexuality, Multiple Communities, Religion, Asian Americans, African Immigrants and Refugees, Middle Eastern and Arab Americans, Latino/a and Caribbean Americans*. Categorization is, unsurprisingly, challenging and imperfect. The categories have changed and the number of bibliographies has expanded since the project's initial conception in 2014. When a source fits multiple bibliographies, it is listed in all applicable bibliographies so that it may be more easily discovered.

The bibliographies contain a broad range of materials useful for interdisciplinary teaching and research. Items are listed under subheadings that indicate the type of resource. These are: *Archives, Fiction, Museums and Research Centers, Published Primary Sources, Reports, Secondary Sources*. The fictional and primary sources include sources produced within and outside the communities represented.

The bibliographies are inclusive rather than an indicator of a source's quality or importance. Each item was verified in WorldCat to ensure that it could be accessed in at least one library or archive somewhere in the world. The bibliographies include published materials as well as unpublished master's theses and Ph.D. dissertation, but not bachelor's theses. Dissertations are not included when they were later published as peer-reviewed books. Directories of businesses and ethnic organizations are not included, nor are books published by Arcadia Publishing or similar presses. Due to the project's time constraints, the bibliographies do not include works in languages other than English or periodicals. The archives and reports in each bibliography are intended to facilitate and encourage additional research, not to serve as a comprehensive lists.

Initial Project Parameters

The Project: Annotated bibliography of resources related to race, indigeneity, and diaspora in the Global Midwest. Sources may include books, articles, government, NGO, and community

organization reports, archival, digital, oral history, documentary films, museums, etc. related to the demographics, movement, identities, community formation, and historical and contemporary issues related of the following groups in the Midwest: (1) *African Refugees*, (2) *African Americans*, (3) *Asian Immigrants, Refugees, and Asian Americans*; (4) *Latino Immigrants and Latino Americans*, (5) *American Indians*

Geographic Area: 8 states: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin

Resources should address the following questions:

- How do immigrant communities make and remake racial formations within Midwestern locales and sites and how do transnational immigrant/migrant/refugee identities help to transnationalize and/or globalize the Midwest?
- How have new communication technologies changed immigration, immigrant and refugee identities, and transnational and diasporic relations?
- How and why is “the local” always connected to “the regional,” “the transnational,” and “the global?” What do these different “scales” of geography and connected places or networks mean for Natives, Migrants, Immigrants, and Refugees?
- What does it mean “to live, survive, and thrive in diaspora” in the context of the Midwest? How do people and communities of color living in the Midwest narrate or understand their memories, histories, and notions of identity/community/place/belonging in an era of intensified social inequality and globalization?
- How race do gender, sexuality, class, citizenship, and location co-constitute one another?
- Issues of borders and border crossings, translocalities and transnationalism
- How do people imagine themselves as being at home?
- How do they remember, resurrect, and preserve their histories from one place to another?
- How do their stories render visible the complexities and contradictions that are part and parcel of the varied diasporic, indigenous, and migrant spaces within the global Midwest?
- The project seeks to underscore the importance of Native Studies to studies of migration and diaspora because most scholarship on migration and diaspora often erases, marginalizes, and/or makes invisible the strong presence of Native communities, histories, and scholarship. It recognizes that Natives travel and have transnational and cross-border connections and networks too.

Articles that Shaped the Initial Grant Proposal

Advocates for Human Rights. *Moving from Exclusion to Belonging: Immigrant Rights in Minnesota Today*. March 2014

<http://www.theadvocatesforhumanrights.org/uploads/ahr_exclusion_to_belonging_exec_summary.pdf> Accessed March 26, 2015.

Asian American Center for Advancing Justice. *A Community of Contrasts: Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders in the Midwest*. 2012.

<http://www.advancingjustice.org/publication/community-contrasts-asian-americans-native-hawaiians-and-pacific-islanders-midwest-2012>

Hansen, Karen V. *Encounter on the Great Plains: Scandinavian Settlers and the Dispossession of Dakota Indians, 1890-1930*. 2013.

Lee, Erika. 2009. "Asian American Studies in the Midwest: New Questions, Approaches, and Communities". *Journal of Asian American Studies*. 12 (3): 247-273.

Manalansan, M. F., C. Nadeau, R. T. Rodriguez, and S. B. Somerville. *Queering the middle: race, region, and a queer midwest*. 2014. Durham: Duke University Press.

A special issue of *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies*. (Volume 20, Issue 1-2) that contained the following issues articles that shaped the initial proposal.

Fajardo, K. B. 2014. "Queering and Transing the Great Lakes: Filipino/a Tomboy Masculinities and Manhoods across Waters". *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies*. 20 (1-2): 115-140.

Herring, S. 2014. "Hixploitation" Cinema, Regional Drive-ins, and the Cultural Emergence of a Queer New Right". *GLQ -NEW YORK-*. 20 (1/2): 95-114.

Johnson Gonzalez, B. 2014. "The Limits of Desire: On the Downlow and Queer Chicago Film". *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies*. 20 (1-2): 13-39.

Manalansan, M. F., C. Nadeau, R. T. Rodriguez, and S. B. Somerville. 2014. "Queering the Middle: Race, Region, and a Queer Midwest". *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies*. 20 (1-2): 1-12.

Skidmore, E. 2014. "Ralph Kerwineo's Queer Body: Narrating the Scales of Social Membership in the Early Twentieth Century". *GLQ -NEW YORK-*. 20 (1/2): 141-166.

Syrett, N. L. 2014. "Mobility, Circulation, and Correspondence: Queer White Men in the Midcentury Midwest". *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies*. 20 (1-2): 75-94.

Torres, L. 2014. "Companeras in the Middle: Toward a History of Latina Lesbian Organizing in Chicago". *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies*. 20 (1-2): 41-74.

Bibliography Project Team

Lead Researcher: Elizabeth O. Venditto

Elizabeth Venditto is the Project Manager for *Immigrant Stories*, the Immigration History Research Center's groundbreaking digital storytelling and archiving project. She received her Ph.D. in immigration history from the University of Minnesota and is an experienced public historian, oral historian, and translator.

Contributor: Saengmany Ratsabout

Saengmany Ratsabout is the Program Coordinator at the Immigration History Research Center (IHRC). He has over 15 years of experience working with immigrant and refugee communities at

the local and national levels on projects ranging from civic engagement to chemical health. Saengmany holds a Master of Arts in Southeast Asian Studies and a Master of Arts in Liberal Studies.

Contributor: Anduin Wilhide

Anduin (Andy) Wilhide is a PhD Candidate in the Department of History at the University of Minnesota. Her research explores the Somali experience of refugee resettlement in Minnesota. Wilhide is a public historian who uses digital technologies to engage immigrant and refugee communities in documenting their history and sharing their stories with public audiences.