



## **Summer Intensive English Language Institute (SIELI)**

Columbia College Chicago  
600 South Michigan Avenue  
**ESL Culture and Communication 52-1230**

Professor and SIELI Coordinator: Tone Stockenström  
Days/Times: Mondays and Wednesdays 9:30am-12:15pm  
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### **Required Materials:**

Readings as assigned  
Digital Camera and/or disposable cameras  
Notebook for Ethnographic interviews and observations  
Final book project made on [www.Blurb.com](http://www.Blurb.com) (prices range from \$20-\$40)

### **Culture and Community**

*The Immigrant Experience: Place and Belonging*

### **Course Description and Objectives:**

Welcome to the SIELI Culture and Community Class! This course will explore the intersections of self, community and worldview through the lens of photography, films, documentary projects, museum visits and local artist lecturers. With our visits to community organizations and diverse Chicago neighborhoods we will explore the complexities of intercultural communication and culture. Our guiding theme will be *The Immigrant Experience: Place and Belonging*.

As a framework for this investigation we will use the following questions as our guide:

- **What is identity and how do we define identity?**
- **What is culture and how do we define culture?**
- **What makes up our total worldview?**
- **How do we effectively translate our observations of culture to a wider audience?**

Activities include using ethnographic research methods; including observations, journals, interviews and documentary photography. Much like a photograph can only record a short moment in time, our experiences and reflections can only represent a small insight into the larger whole.

Together we will explore communities while weaving our experiences and interactions with people and cultures to create a final presentation of work should include serious reflection on the issues discussed in class and may include text from interviews, personal reflections, sound from interviews and video. All students will create a final book on blurb to present to the class.

### **Evaluation**

In order to successfully pass the SIELI Culture and Community Course, students must complete all assignments, actively participate in class discussions and attend three required fieldtrips outside of class on June 13<sup>th</sup>, June 27<sup>th</sup> and July 11<sup>th</sup>. The mandatory fieldtrips will be chosen based on student interests. Your participation in this class is particularly important because it will shape your projects and assignments in the three other SIELI courses. Your final project will be to create a book on Blurb. This book will be a culmination of your cultural explorations in this class and in the community. This book will be presented on July 23<sup>rd</sup> in the Listening and Speaking class.

### **Grades**

A passing grade requires a minimum of 70% of the total possible assignment points and no more than 4 absences.

Class participation and discussion	30 points
Assignments/Class presentations	40 points
Final Book Project	30 points

## **IDENTITY**

June 1<sup>st</sup>

### **Welcome and Introductions...**

Syllabus overview

Student ID's

Writing Center Tutoring Sign Up

Define Identity

Assignment: Photo Booth Self Portraits/What does your name mean? Due June 8<sup>th</sup>.

June 3<sup>rd</sup>

### **The Loop Scavenger Hunt with digital cameras.**

Students will participate in a group cultural scavenger hunt in four small groups taking specific photographs. Cultural observations and reflections to be recorded and posted to SIELI Blog.

Assignment: Part-two scavenger hunt for the weekend. Process all film/ Bring in a cd of all scanned images for Monday June 8<sup>th</sup>.

June 8th

**Review and Archive all photographs.** How to post images to the SIELI Blog. Scanning of Self Portraits to be posted on Blogs. Continue class discussion on Identity.

Assignment: Write about your identity and how it connects with your photo booth images.

### **BELIEF AND WORLDVIEW**

June 10<sup>th</sup>

**Class discussion: What is a photo essay? What is American culture?**

View photographs, books and video from current artists: Lauren Greenfield, Joel Sternfeld, Tone Stockenström, Tom Jones, Brian Ulrich, Jane Fulton Alt, Jen Davis, Albert Chong and Larry Clark.

Assignment: Photo Essay on American Culture with a partner.

Create a group presentation with your partner due June 29<sup>th</sup>.

This presentation can include photos, audio, and/or video.

You will interview a minimum of two people for this project.

June 15th

**What is a photo essay continued.**

Introduction to Blurb and book design software.

Assignment: Prepare for our museum visit.

### **THE IMMIGRANT EXPERIENCE: PLACE AND BELONGING**

June 17th

**Visit to the Museum of Contemporary Photography at Columbia College** for a private collection viewing of photographic work with the Museum Education Director Corinne Rose. Some artists we will view include: Jack Bridges, Jen Davis, Priya, Antonio Perez, Paul D'Amato.

Assignment: Handout to be completed. Post museum reflections on to your Blog.

June 22nd

**Self Guided Tour to Chicago Cultural Center to view Dave Jordano's exhibit:**

Articles of Faith: Photographs by Dave Jordano

This exhibition presents images from Dave Jordano's recent book documenting African-American storefront churches in Chicago.

Assignment: Handout with reflection questions to post on SIELI Blog.

*\*\*Student Mentor to accompany this visit \*\*Tone is in Sweden this week*

June 24th

**NO CLASS**

Open day to work independently on your class presentations due on June 29<sup>th</sup>.

June 29th

**Group Presentations Due**

Students will present their essay on American Culture.

Assignment: Peer review of class presentations.

Prepare questions for Anni Holm's visit by viewing her website and Blog.

July 1st

**Anni Holm - Guest Visiting Artist Lecturer**

Anni Holm is a conceptual artist working with photography, installation, performance, and collaborative art. Born in Randers, Denmark, Anni holds a Studenter Eksamen in math from Randers Statsskole, Denmark and attended here after Krabbesholm Art College. She graduated with a BFA in photography from Columbia College Chicago 2004, where she received the Albert P. Weisman Memorial Scholarship twice. In 2005, she received an artist residency at the Atlantic Center for the Arts in Florida, was a Featured Artist during the Chicago Artists Month in 2006, and was named a Break Out Artist in Newcity Chicago in 2007.

Introduction of Final Projects

Assignment: Proposals for Final Book Project due on July 8th

July 6<sup>th</sup>

**El Norte Film Screening and Discussion**

The American Dream, The Border and current issues facing various immigrant groups. Handout with more links to websites and films.

Assignment: Post reflection of film and discussion on SIELI Blog.

**TRANSLATING CULTURE**  
**THE IMMIGRANT EXPERIENCE:**  
**PLACE AND BELONGING CONTINUED**

July 8<sup>th</sup>

**Review Final Project Proposals and review of Blurb.**

The Mural Movement as a form of communication and activism.

View Heriberto Quiroz's Blurb Project on Pilsen.

Assignment: Prepare for Pilsen walking tour.

Prepare questions for Itzel and Heriberto.

July 13<sup>th</sup>

**Pilsen Mural Walking Fieldtrip with Heriberto Quiroz and Itzel Guadarrama**

Walking tour of Murals in Neighborhood that reflect local and world Immigrant issues

**\*\* BRING CAMERAS AND NOTEBOOKS**

*Heriberto and Itzel will show you some of their images made in the Juarez Photo Program. We will visit the National Museum of Mexican Art. Free Admission.*

*Lunch Optional at Nuevo Leon.*

July 15<sup>h</sup>

**America Beyond the Color Line, Henry Louis Gates**

Film and Discussion

View photographs from Reflections in Black by Deborah Willis

Assignment: Post Reflections about the Film on SIELI Blog.

Prepare questions for Kari Lydersen's visit by viewing her website and Blog.

July 20<sup>th</sup>

**Kari Lydersen Visiting Artist**

Kari has covered immigration among other issues as a staff writer at The Washington Post out of the midwest bureau and for other publications including In These Times, Alternet, The Progressive and ColorLines. She is the author of "**Out of the Sea and Into the Fire: Latin American-US Immigration in the Global Age**" (Common Courage Press, 2005); "**Shoot an Iraqi: Art, Life and Resistance Under the Gun**" (co-author with Wafaa Bilal, City Lights, 2008) and "**Revolt on Goose Island**" (Melville House, 2009), about immigrant workers' occupation of the Republic Windows and Doors factory. [www.karilydersen.com](http://www.karilydersen.com).

July 22<sup>nd</sup>

**Connecting to Columbia College Resources and Student Organizations**

Prepare for final presentations and wrap up  
Final Course Evaluations

July 23<sup>rd</sup> **Final Presentation of Books in the Listening and Speaking Class.**

**END OF SIELI PARTY**  
**Thursday, July 23, 6:30 pm**  
**Millenium Park**

**NOVALIMA and ISSA BAGAYOGO** Novalima's pioneering blend of soulful Afro-Peruvian melodies with reggae, electronica and a Latin beat creates an irresistible match of old school traditions and modern trends. The night opens with West African artist Issa Bagayogo, nicknamed "Techno Issa" for his blending of native Mali sounds with electronic technique.

**\*\*\*\*PLEASE BRING FOOD OR DRINK TO SHARE WITH EVERYONE.**