GEOG 371 Martin reading questions Mexico-US Migration

(see online folder for a PDF of the document)

Describe the other Bracero Program that we did not cover in class.

What was the eventual association between bracero programs and illegal (undocumented) migration?

Compare the size of the Mexican-born population in the US in 1930 compared with 1940, and why the change.

Compare changes through time of the share of Mexican workers in agriculture, construction and retail.

What is the relationship between low labor costs and land values in agriculture? What actions did agricultural interest groups take in WWII regarding farm labor?

Summarize the tomato story of the 1960s and its significance. What happened to total production of tomatoes-for-catsup, before and after mechanization? What were the "causes" of the move to mechanization?

What was an effect on small farmers of the mechanization, according to one lawsuit (and following the data of the number of farmers growing tomatoes through time)?

Did the mechanization trend of tomatoes follow into other horticultural crops?

What happened to farm wages in the late 1960s and early 1970s, and why?

What were “green card commuters”?

What happened with their numbers through time, and who gradually replaced them? What was the legal status typically of the replacements?

Explain what led to the rise of labor contractors, by the 1970s and early 1980s.

What was the expected continued occupational behavior of the SAWs, and what actually happened? What share of Mexican immigrants were undocumented between 1995 and 2000?

What was the perception that led to Proposition 187 in California?

In the decades before the 1990s, what share of Mexican immigrants settled in Texas and California, and how did this change by the 1990s? Which two cities in the PNW were mentioned as key destinations?

Contrast the concepts of negative selection and positive selection, and then state when each concept was applicable in Mexico-US immigration history. (as suggested by the more recent studies)

What was the effect of mass migration from Mexico on wages in Mexico, according to studies on the subject?

Describe Martin's Mexico emigration hump, and its believed causes? Have other countries experienced a similar hump?

Describe the Mexican shoe industry relocation story, and what can be learned from it.

Describe the original stated goal of the maquiladoras. Was that goal reached?

What caused the decline in maquiladora employment 2001-2003?

Describe the geographic origins and gender of most workers in the border maquiladoras.

Martin does not see smoking gun evidence of stepping stone migration facilitated by border maquiladoras, but describes another step migration process from some more indigenous areas of Mexico. Summarize.

Martin wrote this article in 2005, and makes a bit of a prediction for 2010 and beyond at the end of the first paragraph on page 455. Was he correct, as per the New York Times article that we covered in class?

Serious immigration policy reform discussions began with Presidents Bush and Fox in early 2001. What two related factors led to the demise of these dialogues?

What are H-2A and H-2B visas?

Summarize the ideas presented about how an agricultural guest worker program could work, as per table grape example on page 462.