



THE PUERTO RICAN DIASPORA IN TIMES OF CRISIS

Prof. Dr. Jorge Duany

Cuban Research Institute, Florida International University



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Romanisches Seminar
Seminarstr. 3
69117 Heidelberg

This lecture will focus on contemporary Puerto Rican migration to the United States, which has broken historical records established in the 1950s. To begin, the lecture will identify the basic causes of the rising exodus from the Island, including growing public debt, chronic unemployment, and poverty. Second, it will underline the multiple impacts of recent population losses on Puerto Rico, such as an aging population and the export of skilled labor. Third, it will analyze the changing socioeconomic profile of contemporary migrants from the Island. Finally, it will assess the socioeconomic repercussions of the diaspora for a country experiencing an economic recession since 2006.

Prof. Dr. Jorge Duany, is Director of the Cuban Research Institute and Professor of Anthropology in the Department of Global & Sociocultural Studies at Florida International University. A renowned scholar of the Hispanic Caribbean and the USA, he has published extensively on migration, ethnicity, race, nationalism, and transnationalism in Cuba, the Caribbean, and the United States. He has also written about Cuban cultural identity on the island and in the diaspora, especially as expressed in literature, music, and religion.

Amongst his most recent publications count *Un pueblo disperso: Dimensiones sociales y culturales de la diáspora cubana* (2014) and *Blurred Borders: Transnational Migration between the Hispanic Caribbean and the United States* (2011); *La nación en vaivén: Identidad, migración y cultura popular en Puerto Rico* (2010). Since February 2003, he writes a monthly editorial column for the Puerto Rican newspaper *El Nuevo Día*.

Organizer:

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