

About the Marx School

The Austin W. Marx School of Public and International Affairs is New York City's only public graduate school dedicated to public affairs. Since 1994, we have offered an undergraduate degree in public affairs, a graduate-level MPA degree in public administration, and a Master of Science in Education in Higher Education Administration (MSEd-HEA). In the Fall of 2017, we launched a Master of International Affairs (MIA) degree program. We accepted our first cohort of students into the Online Master of Public Administration (OMPA) in the Spring 2024. We also have two certificate programs: the Certificate in Public Communication, and the Certificate in Quantitative Methods for Policy and Equity Analysis. We draw upon one of the largest public affairs faculty in the nation, and we apply an interdisciplinary approach to teaching, research, and professional development.

About the Samuels Center

Housed within the Austin W. Marx School of Public and International Affairs at Baruch College, City University of New York, the Howard J. Samuels State and City Policy Center is dedicated to advancing research and dialogue on public policy issues, with a particular emphasis on state and local governance. Founded in 1984 in honor of Howard J. Samuels, the Center was relocated to Baruch College in 2017 and is supported by a grant from the State of New York and an endowment from the Samuels estate. Serving as a hub for research, policy analysis, and public engagement, the Samuels Center focuses on governance in the New York region and beyond. Through its initiatives, the Center informs policymaking, fosters meaningful discussions, and provides students with opportunities for academic and professional growth in public affairs.

Immigration and Urban Communities: Policy and Pathways

Organized by: **Howard J. Samuels State and
City Policy Center at the Marx School**

Wednesday | March 5, 2025 | 9:30 AM - 4:15 PM

Baruch College Library and Technology Building, 151 E 25th St, New York, NY 10010, Room H-750

Keynote Presentation



Manuel Castro
Commissioner, Mayor's Office
of Immigrant Affairs

Program Schedule

9:30 – 10:00 am **Breakfast and Registration**

10:00 – 10:15 am **Opening and Welcome Remarks**

[Rahul Pathak](#), Director,
Howard J. Samuels State and City Policy Center

[Linda Essig](#), Provost, Baruch College, CUNY

[Sherry Ryan](#), Dean, Marxe School of Public and
International Affairs, Baruch College, CUNY

10:15 – 11:15 am **Keynote Address and Q&A**

[Manuel Castro](#), Commissioner,
Mayor's Office Immigrant Affairs

Moderator: [Robert Smith](#), Professor,
Marxe School of Public and International Affairs,
Baruch College, CUNY

11:15 – 11:30 am **Coffee Break**

11:30 – 12:30 pm **Panel: "Supporting & Engaging Students on
Immigration Issues at Baruch and Beyond"**

[Andrea Gabor](#), Bloomberg Professor of
Business Journalism, Baruch College, CUNY

[Lizbeth De La Cruz Santana](#), Assistant Professor,
Black and Latino Studies, Baruch College, CUNY

[Yohaly Navarrete](#), Interim Director, College Now &
Collaborative Programs | Immigrant Student
Success Initiative

Moderator: [Felicia Arriaga](#), Assistant Professor,
Marxe School of Public and International Affairs,
Baruch College, CUNY

12:30 – 1:00 pm **Lunch**

1:00 – 2:15 pm

Panel 1: Local Immigration Policy and Public Opinion

"Attitudes Toward Asylum Seekers in New York City"

[Phil Kasinitz](#), Presidential Professor of Sociology at the
CUNY Graduate Center

[Liza Steele](#), Associate Professor of Sociology at
John Jay College of Criminal Justice and CUNY
Graduate Center

"NYC Migration Policy Updates and Perspectives"

[Felicia Arriaga](#), Assistant Professor, Marxe School of Public
and International Affairs, Baruch College, CUNY

[Edwin Grimsley](#), Assistant Professor, Marxe School of Public
and International Affairs, Baruch College, CUNY

*"Location, Location, Location! How Place Affected the
Activation of Legal Status and Impacts of the Pandemic for
Immigrant Families in New York City and Upstate NY"*

[Robert Smith](#), Professor, Marxe School of Public and
International Affairs, Baruch College, CUNY

Moderator: [Achilles Kallergis](#), Assistant Professor at the
New School of Social Research and Director of the
Project on Cities and Migration at the Zolberg Institute

2:15 – 3:00 pm

Book Talk

Advancing Immigrant Rights in Houston

[Els de Graauw](#), Professor, Department of Political Science,
Baruch College, CUNY

[Shannon Gleeson](#), Professor, Cornell University

Moderator: [Rahul Pathak](#), Director, Howard J. Samuels State
and City Policy Center

3:00 – 3:15 pm

Coffee Break

3:15 – 4:10 pm

Panel 2: Immigration, Institutions, and Justice

*"Urban Informality and Immigrant Integration: Advancing
a Research Agenda"*

[Andres Sebastian Besserer Rayas](#), PhD Candidate, The
Graduate Center & Doctoral Fellow, The Samuels Center

*"Intergovernmental Criminal History Information Sharing:
Justice on Paper, Violence in Practice for Forced Migrants"*
[Sarah Bishop](#), Professor, Department of Communication
Studies, Baruch College, CUNY

Moderator: [Robin Harper](#), Professor, York College
and The Graduate Center, CUNY

4:10 – 4:15 pm

Closing and Announcements