CHIC 3311:
Societal & Cultural Issues
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The University of Texas - El Paso

CRN #14911, Fall 2022:
August 22, 2022 - December 1, 2022

Instructor: Adrian Aragones
Office: Graham Hall # 200

- Office Hrs: T/Th 10.30-11.20 or by appointment.
- Contact via Blackboard email
- My phone: 915-867-3311

➔ If you do not get a response within 24 hours of sending a message, then send a text that must include the following:
  ○ full name, class, and a 1 sentence or less message
  ○ Without the above info - I do not respond to texts

- Emails:
  ○ Blackboard email (priority)
  ○ aaragones@utep.edu (secondary)

Course Description
This course is designed to provide the student with a general understanding of past and present Mexican American culture and society; our interdisciplinary course examines education, labor, politics, immigration, and film to better understand how ethnic Mexicans create distinct cultures and identities in the United States. Issues such as citizenship, class, gender, and sexuality are also interrogated to increase awareness of the way that Mexican American culture and society constantly redefines itself. Students will develop a number of skills to include critical thinking, reasoning, analysis, and maintaining a point of view, verbally and in writing.

Additionally, this course will help students develop computer & electronic communication skills, critical thinking, and overall writing skill too.

In-class exercises size are a means to provide a comfortable, manageable, and positive environment where you will not only create networks but also friendships that will last beyond UTEP! Chicanismo = family, friendship, and allies.
The concepts and skills will prepare you for not only for the points mentioned earlier concerning critical thinking and writing but also familiarize you with university resources and programs, both on and off campus as well as in the world at large.

**Required Texts:**
- Additional readings, movies, videos, and such will be made available via Blackboard

**Grading:**
- A = 90-100%; B = 80-89%; C = 70-79%; D = 60-69%; F = 0-59%
- A writing guide for this course is found on our Blackboard “HOME PAGE” alongside the course syllabus.

**General Format of Assignments:**
- In-class assignments; Discussion-board assignments; Reflection essays; Quizzes; No mid-term; Final Exam (TBA).

**Attendance:**
- There are no make-ups for any assignments, quizzes, tests, presentations and so forth.
- In case you missed it - there are no make-ups for any assignments, quizzes, tests, presentations and so forth.
- And, just to be sure - there are no make-ups for any assignments, quizzes, tests, presentations and so forth.
- Scholarship & military duty that requires travel - you are still responsible for due dates - no exceptions.
- If you must use an electronic device - pls sit in one of the first two rows.
  - If you use a device in any other part of the class - you will be asked to leave, and a full letter-grade will be deducted from your final grade.
  - The 2nd time - you are dropped from the course.
- You can only miss 3 days.
  - Any person with excused missed days needs to have the documentation submitted before any due dates - no exception.
• If you miss 3 assignments - you will be dropped.

**Dropping the Class:** October 28, 2022 = last day to drop!
- It is the student's responsibility to drop/withdraw from the class.

**Format of Written Work:**
- Black font
- Times New Roman 12 pt. font
- 1-inch margins, double-spaced
- Paragraph = 3-5 or 4-7 sentences
- Paragraph = main idea and supporting sentences
- In-text citations = (author's last name, p. #).!? No cover pages.
- No cover sheets or graphics of any kind - unless it's a chart or graphic specific to your topic.

**Technical issues with Blackboard**
- If you cannot submit your work because of a technical issue: you must contact UTEP Blackboard Support before you contact me.
- Please know that once a deadline closes, Blackboard will not let you submit any work because links for submissions will not be available. Consequently, this is not a technical issue.
- Any problems or issues with submitting/downloading/viewing anything on or related to Blackboard, students need to contact Tech Support before contacting the instructor.
- After contacting tech support, students should then notify the instructor.

**Academic Dishonesty:**
Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. **Cheating** may involve copying from or providing information to another student, processing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports. **Plagiarism** occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another person as one’s own. **Collusion** involves collaborating with another
person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Violations will be taken seriously and will be referred to the Dean of Students Office for disciplinary action. Students may be suspended or expelled from the University for such actions.

**Students with Disabilities:**

If you have a documented disability and require specific accommodations you will need to contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106 within the first two weeks for classes. For additional information please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/cass

**Student Conduct:**

From the Handbook of Operating Procedures: Student Affairs]: Each student is responsible for notice of and compliance with the provisions of the Regents Rules and Regulations, which are available for inspection electronically at http://www.utsystem.edu/bor/rules/homepage.htm. We will have frequent discussions and students are expected to tolerate and respect the opinions of others. All students are expected to behave as responsible adults.

**VPN Connection:**

In this class you will access a number of videos that are housed at the UTEP library. The easiest strategy for you to access these videos is to create a VPN (Virtual Private Network) Connection. I have provided a VPN Connection link on the home page, which will assist you in creating your VPN account. The purpose of the VPN is to provide you with easy access to library sources when you are off campus. Click on the VPN Connection link, choose your operating system and follow the detailed instructions for creating your account.

- You can access instructions for how to set up the UTEP VPN on your personal computer here: http://libguides.utep.edu/howdoi/vpn

**COVID-19 Precautions**

- (all classes) You must STAY AT HOME and REPORT if you (1) have been diagnosed with COVID-19
- (2) are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or
- (3) have had recent contact with a person who has received a positive coronavirus test. Reports should be made at screening.utep.edu. If you know anyone who should report any of these three criteria, encourage them to report.
- If the individual cannot report, you can report on their behalf by sending an email to COVIDaction@utep.edu. (all classes) For each day that you attend campus—for any reason—you must complete the questions on the UTEP screening website (screening.utep.edu) prior to arriving on campus. The website will verify if you are permitted to come to campus. Under no circumstances should anyone come to class when feeling ill or exhibiting any of the known COVID-19 symptoms.
- If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, and alternative instruction will be provided. Students are advised to minimize the number of encounters with others to avoid infection. 10 (all classes).
- Wear face coverings when in common areas of campus or when others are present. You must wear a face covering over your nose and mouth at all times in this class. If you choose not to wear a face covering, you may not enter the classroom. If you remove your face covering, you will be asked to put it on or leave the classroom. Students who refuse to wear a face covering and follow preventive COVID-19 guidelines will be dismissed from the class and will be subject to disciplinary action according to Section 1.2.3 Health and Safety and Section 1.2.2.5 Disruptions in the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. (classes with on-campus meetings) Please note that if COVID-19 conditions deteriorate in the City of El Paso, all course and lab activities may be transitioned to remote delivery.
Course Calendar

- Please know that if necessary, I will make changes for the benefit of the class at any time during the semester. Notice will be provided as needed.

- If you are absent, you are responsible for finding out about any changes. As a college-level course, you are expected to ably work independently and within groups as needed.

- If you miss work, score poorly on a quiz or assignment - DO NOT ask for extra-credit opportunities to make up for low scores or missed assignments.

- If you use an electronic device for note-taking - you must sit in one of the first two rows - no exceptions. Phones do not count as a note-taking device.

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MODULE 1: Aug 22 - Aug 28

Week 1:
- What Chicano/a Studies is & is not.

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MODULE 2: Aug 29 - Sept 11: Historical Perspective & Perception

Week 2: Aug 29 - Sept 4
- PDF:
  - (Th) Stannard Article

Week 3: Sept. 5 - Sept. 11
- (T/Th) Fumigations on the US Border.

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 MODULE 3: Sept 12 - Sept 25: Racializing Mexican Ethnicity

Week 4: Sept. 12 - Sept. 18


- (Th) Reflection #1 assigned Hard-copy due Tuesday for in-class peer-review.

Week 5: Sept. 19 - Sept. 25

- (T)
  - In-class peer-review; hard-copy, no exceptions.

- (Th)
  - Final draft due today.
  - No class meeting
  - 1 on 1 meeting available in the classroom.

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 MODULE 4: Sept 26 - Oct 9: Economics / Labor

Week 6: Sept. 26 - Oct. 2

- (T)

- (Th)
  - Ruiz, V. "Confronting America," pp. 33-42
  - Discussion Board & Reflection opens
    - Due Sun. Oct. 2 @ 11pm.

Week 7: Oct. 3 - Oct. 9

- (M)

- (W)
  - Reflection assignment given.
    - In-class peer-review on Tuesday.

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MODULE 5: Oct. 10 - Oct. 23: Peer Review & Reflection

Week 8: Oct. 10 - Oct. 16
- (T) In-class peer-review; hard-copy needed - no Exceptions.
- (Th) Submit final draft online @ 12pm/ Noon via Blackboard link.

Week 9: Oct. 17 - Oct. 23
- (T) Project proposals I
- (Th) Project proposals II
  - Proposal Due Sun 11pm, Blackboard.

MODULE 6: Oct. 24 - Nov. 6: Research: Data/Sources

Week 10: Oct. 24 - Oct 30:
Library Visit = RefWorks: Credible Academic Articles
- (T)
  - Group I
    - Library
  - Group II
    - Proposal Assignment given
    - Details available on Blackboard
      - Proposal Due Tuesday - In-class review
- (Th)
  - Group II
    - Library
  - Group I
    - Proposal Assignment given
    - Details available on Blackboard
      - Proposal Due Tuesday - In-class review

Week 10: Education
- (T)
  - In-class peer review
  - Delgado Bernal, D. “Chicana/o Education from the Civil Rights Era to the Present,” pp. 311-327
- (Th)
○ Vaca, N. "Who's the Leader of the Civil Rights Band?" pp. 333-342

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**MODULE 7:** Nov. 7 - Nov. 20: Final Project Prep

**Week 12:**

- **(T)**
  - Final Project: explained
    - TBA
  - Final Project assigned
    - TBA

**Week 13:**

- **(T)**
  - In-class peer review; hard-copy needed - no exceptions.
  - Final draft due Sunday, Apr. 17 @ 11pm.

- **(Th)**
  - TBA

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**MODULE 8:** Nov. 21 - 27 - Turkey Break; No classes

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**MODULE 9:** Nov. 28 - Dec 9: Final Project

**Week 15**

- **(T)**
  - Project: 1st draft assigned
    - 2 outside sources needed
    - Due Tuesday, Apr. 26th; in-class peer review
  - Annotated Bibliography

**Week 16:**

- **(T)**
  - In-class peer review; hard-copy - no exceptions
  - Final draft due Sunday, May 1 @ 11pm.

- **(Th)**
  - Full project reflection assigned
  - Due Tues. May 2

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**Final Exam:** Dec 5 - Dec 9
Week 17
• Final Project due Friday, Dec 9 @ 5pm