

Fall 2022

Latinx Theatre

(THEA 3335)

Tuesday 12:00p.m.-1:20p.m.

TENTATIVE SYLLABUS

If you need a hard copy of the syllabus please print it; the syllabus will always be available on Blackboard.

This class is a hybrid course; it is defined as 50-85% online instruction. This means that we will meet in person once a week (on Tuesday) and you will have work to complete online through Blackboard. Please make sure that you complete the assignments by the deadline listed. We want to use the time we are in class together to engage in meaningful and constructive conversations; this can only occur if you complete the work prior to coming to class. The module for each week will open at 10a.m. on the Sunday of that week; once a module is open it will stay open for the rest of the semester; all assignments will close at their assigned deadline.

Course Instructor: Adriana Dominguez (she/ella)

Mailbox: Department of Theatre and Dance, FOX FINE ARTS 371D

Communication:

E-mail: adrianad@utep.edu (best method of communication)

Office: 126 Prospect Hall

Office Hours: Tuesday:10a.m.-11:30a.m. (please make an appointment so that I can make sure to set time aside just for you)

Office Phone: 915-747-5231

Text number: 575-265-0687

Phone: You can TEXT me any immediate questions about the course Monday-Friday 9a.m.-4p.m. (MST). Do note that I may be in other meetings, rehearsals, events, and/or class sessions when you text; I will respond as soon as I am able.

VIOLATIONS of these time restrictions will result in reduced use of text.

Please note that all deadlines are in Mountain Standard Time (MST).

*I ask that you look over the syllabus and all the module instructions before asking a question.

Content Description

An examination of the Latinx theatrical experience through the works of historical Latin American and Latinx playwrights. Through the analysis of these texts and their productions, students will gain an understanding of common themes and distinct styles of Latinx performance as literature, political statements, and validation of identity.

Learning Objectives

- 1) Students will gain the skills to discuss and analyze written plays.

- 2) Students will gain an understanding of how Latin American and Latinx playwrights have contributed to the development and evolution of theatre.
- 3) Students will gather, understand, and present pertinent information about Latinx theatre.
- 4) Students will participate in critical discussions about elements of Latinx identity that inform the creation of theatre.

****We are all here to learn; this course is not designed to trick you, overwhelm you, or pick at incidentals.**

Important dates

Classes Begin: 8/22
 Census Date: 9/7
 Last Day for W: 10/28
 University Closed: 11/24-11/25 (I will be unavailable)
 Last Day of Classes: 12/1
 Final Exam: 12/6
 Final grades officially available to students: 12/15

Required Text/Materials: NO need to purchase a textbook-YAY!

Active UTEP Blackboard Shell for this class

A UTEP e-mail account; if you don't have one, GET ONE IMMEDIATELY.

- Go to <http://getmail.utep.edu>
- You may also call the HELP desk at (915) 747-4357 (on campus) or (915) 747-5257 (off-campus)

Reliable internet access and word processing software (more information below)

Adobe Reader – Here is the link: <http://get.adobe.com/reader/> (more information below)

- All readings and videos are posted on the Blackboard site located in the Learning Module for any particular week.

If the scanned copy is difficult to read connect with Adriana immediately so that arrangements can be made.

Required Software

You will need the following software on your computer to efficiently work in this course. If you are using a lab on campus, they already have the necessary software. All the needed programs are free downloads and can be downloaded from the URLs I have provided here and on Blackboard, which are located in the Getting Started tab.

- **Adobe Acrobat Reader:** You can get the program by going to www.adobe.com and then clicking on the icon on the left side of the screen which says "Get Adobe Reader. Follow instructions to install the reader.
- **Microsoft Office:** I recommend buying this if you do not have any word processing software or presentation software. It is available at the UTEP bookstore to students at a discounted price. If you cannot purchase it you can access it at any of the computer labs on campus. All assignment documents must be submitted as Word .doc files. You can save the files as .doc files from

most word processing programs. If I cannot open your documents, they WILL NOT be graded.

Course Policies and Procedures

Blackboard

Blackboard is a tool that allows faculty to add resources for students to access online. PowerPoint, video, audio, animation, and other applications are created outside of Blackboard and added into Blackboard courses for students to enhance teaching and learning efforts. Assignment and schedule details as well as assignment grading can be found on Blackboard. If you need a hard copy of this syllabus, print it.

Your final grade is posted on Blackboard.

Uploading and downloading assignments, the syllabus, and readings will be on Blackboard.

How to Login to Blackboard

Blackboard is tied to my.utep.edu. If you are properly registered for the class, you are enrolled in Blackboard as well.

Go to: <https://my.utep.edu>

Log in with your UTEP Username and password. If you have trouble, email me as soon as possible. Blackboard Student Services provides 24/7 help desk and technical support to faculty and students in online courses.

Contacting Blackboard Student Services 24/7 Support

Toll free 1-877-382-0491

*** IMPORTANT: You must get into the habit of checking Blackboard at least twice a week to make sure you do not miss any important course information.

Respect

All students are in this class to learn. Should a student disrupt that process, the instructor will take the appropriate steps to ensure that all students interact in a safe space that is conducive to the learning process.

Remember that your instructor is also a human being. She has many other responsibilities outside of this class, just as the student has several responsibilities outside of this one class. Read the syllabus, stick to class/university policies, utilize common etiquette and respect, and know that your instructor wants you to succeed in this course, but she is not responsible for that, you are.

I do not drop students from class; that is your choice and responsibility.

Work will be graded in a timely manner as listed in the explanation of assignments.

As this is a hybrid classroom, it is essential that online communication is effective and reflects appropriate behavior.

Class Attendance

The student is expected to maintain a consistent presence in this course. Do note that we have several activities IN class; connect with the professor if there are barriers to you being in class. IF you are late to class please WAIT until the person speaking is done. This is about respect.

Deadline Policy

All due dates are listed for each requirements; late submissions will not be graded. Please ensure that you carefully read all instructions. Reading the instructions is your responsibility and you should not assume due dates or times. Work can be submitted before the deadline time/date. Note that all assignments are due at 11:59a.m. on the stated deadline.

Letter grade scale

96+ points = A

95 – 80 points = B

79 – 70 points = C

69 – 60 points = D

59 – 0 points = F

Please note that there is a HUGE point spread to get an A. Life happens, so there is a nice cushion. Because there is that cushion, do not ask for any additional extra credit*.

*Navigate the course site and you will find opportunities for extra credit.

Do note that there are rubrics for all individual assignments; this is to solidify expectations and equity.

Generalizations, unoriginal thoughts, and vague references will result in a deduction of points. The focus is informed, critical, and well supported work.

Class Activities: 40 points

There will be several class activities to help further connect to and understand the plays and their impact. It is essential that you have done the work prior to coming to class. You will receive a grade on Blackboard after class (dependent on your contributions and participation in the session). Each class activity will be different and there will be opportunities for all with a variety of skills to succeed.

Class Assessments: 10 points

We will have two collective class assessments to reinforce what is being learned. Students will receive the grade for these assessments after that class session.

Blackboard Assignments and Quizzes: 48.5 points

There will be several assignments due on Blackboard outside of in person class sessions. These include:

Introduction

Quizzes

Reflections

Research
Reviews

Play Viewing 5 points

**Students must attend the UTEP productions of *Borderline* and *Zoot Suit*.
You MUST sign in at the end of the show and I will receive a copy of attendance.**

Final Presentation 10 points

Incorporating what students have experienced in the class, students will create a final presentation (3-5 minutes) that represents their informed thoughts on Latinx Theatre. This can be a PowerPoint, poem, visual creation (with explanation), etc. Make sure that you source your information and include at least THREE plays discussed this semester.

Total Points Available: 113.5

Upload Instructions

Upload written work as either a **DOC** or **PDF** file. **Do not upload Text files.** Name them as follows: your last name_play1(no spaces)_date(mmddyy)
example: lopez_play1_041518

Deadlines are listed for each submission and are in the course calendar; please note that I do not accept late work, you need to keep track of the assignment schedule. If you are having an issue with an assignment, make sure that you connect with me with plenty of time.

I have the ability to track your participation in Blackboard and I am able to see what date and time you accessed all links. Do not wait until the last minute to do your work. Technology has a way of tripping you up when you are racing against the clock. You will receive full credit for your posts that are quality and consist of critical analysis and contribute to the discussion and that meet deadlines. You will need to use the course readings and/or other verified sources to support your arguments. I do not want a summary (recap of the material) of the readings. I have read the material; I know what it is about.

Subject Matter: The performing arts have a power to stir strong emotions, or possibly touch on subjects you might not feel comfortable reading. If you have concerns about reading or discussing specific subjects, please contact me soon as possible to discuss possible accommodations. Requests for substitutions of readings must be made no later than 72 prior to the original assignment due date.

I expect all our discussions—including any that may occur outside of class—to be conducted in a respectful and professional matter. You can do research about each piece prior to the reading so that you can make the informed decision. I do not know your background and/or experiences. I do not know what impacts which people in which

way. We must all advocate for ourselves and also respect the impact that such work can have on others.

The Center for Accommodations and Support Services

If you have or believe you have a disability, you may wish to self-identify. You can do so by providing documentation to The Center for Accommodations and Support Services located at Union Building East Room 106 by phone (915) 747-5148 or email cass@utep.edu. If you have a condition that may affect your ability to exit safely from the premises in an emergency or that may cause an emergency during class, you are encouraged to discuss this in confidence with the instructor and/or the director of The Center for Accommodations and Support Services.

The University Writing Center

The University Writing Center offers free synchronous online one-on-one writing assistance for UTEP Connect students. Graduate and undergraduate consultants work with writers on projects for a wide variety of classes and provide assistance during all parts of the writing process, including: prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing. Online assistance is available by appointment through the UWC's website (uwc.utep.edu). Most UWC consultants are bilingual Spanish and English speakers. Consultants will not edit your paper for you, and you are the one ultimately responsible for the work you submit and the grade you earn. Instead, Writing Center consultants will guide you through the writing process and teach you valuable writing skills. Visit the UWC's website to learn more about the services they provide or make an appointment for an online consultation. Online consultations take place during regular business hours (see website) and must be made at least one day in advance.

Academic Integrity Statement

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, possessing 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's as ones' own. And, 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 possible disciplinary action. Students may be suspended or expelled from UTEP for such actions. Please consult the Handbook of Operating Procedures at <http://hoop.utep.edu> for the complete University policy on academic dishonesty.

I do expect all work to be original; I do read all of your work.

Student Agreements

Student agrees to treat fellow students, UTEP faculty and staff, with respect and collaborate with all group members in a professional manner.

Student understands that copyright laws protect the materials used in this class. Student will refrain from any public or private distribution of all materials provided and/or created in this course.

Student understands that any superimposed copyright on materials may not be covered over in any way.

Student will not upload the aforementioned materials to Internet sites, whether public or private, such as YouTube, Facebook, or any other Web Publishing System.

Student will not exhibit any of the materials provided and student work created in this course and shared on Blackboard in any public venue without express and written permission of the copyright holder.

Student Responsibility

You are responsible for seeing that all of your equipment and software are up to date or that you get yourself to a lab, library, etc. where you can meet the requirements of the class.

Blackboard works best with Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, and Safari. Stay away from Internet Explorer! For some reason Blackboard does not communicate well with Internet Explorer so avoid it.

It is very important that you follow directions carefully. You must submit all of your work correctly. If you fail to properly submit your work you will not receive credit for the assignment. Here is an example of improperly submitting work: Student opens assignment link, copies/pastes their critical response then fails to click the submit button. They then move into another part of Blackboard and the assignment is never submitted. Simple human error, but it will cost you a grade.

You must check Blackboard often for announcements and course messages.

You are provided with a course calendar that clearly defines all due dates and deadlines. Hybrid learning is independent learning and you must be responsible enough to submit all work on time. I will not accept late work.

The only time that I will accept a late quiz or assignment is if the Blackboard System goes down. I have the ability to enter the system as both an administrator and as a student and I will know if there was a system failure. If there was a failure I am provided with a report stating so and then I can extend the deadline.

Security

Remember that your password is the only thing protecting you from pranks or more serious harm.

Don't share your password with anyone.

Change your password if you think someone else might know it.

Always logout when you are finished using the system.

Guidelines for Communicating Online:

Treat everyone with respect, even in email or in any other online communication.

Use clear and concise language.

Remember that all college level communication should have correct spelling and grammar.

Avoid slang terms and texting abbreviations such as "u" instead of "you".

Use standard fonts such as Times New Roman and use a size 12 or 14 pt. font.

Avoid using the caps lock feature as it can be interpreted as yelling.

Limit and possibly avoid the use of emoticons like :) or 9.

Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm as tone is sometimes lost in an email or discussion post and your message might be taken seriously or offensive.

Be careful with personal information (both yours and other's).

Do not send confidential patient information via e-mail.

Email Netiquette:

When you send an email to your instructor, teaching assistant, or classmates, you should:

Use a descriptive subject line.

Be brief.

Avoid attachments unless you are sure your recipients can open them.

Avoid HTML in favor of plain text.

Sign your message with your name and return e-mail address.

Think before you send the e-mail to more than one person.

Please note that aggressive and unprofessional behavior is not acceptable and will be dealt with immediately.

COVID Testing

If you have COVID-19 symptoms or are at high risk for severe illness, pregnant, or have had close contact with a person who is infected, you can be tested for COVID-19 at the **UTEP Testing Site located at 3333 N. Mesa from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.** The only drive-up entrance to the site will be from Sun Bowl Drive at Kern Drive.

On-Campus Testing for UTEP Students

Current UTEP students also have access to free on-campus testing in the UTEP Student Health and Wellness Center located in Union Building East, first floor.

If You Receive a Positive COVID-19 Test

Please report a positive COVID-19 test to covidaction@utep.edu so the COVID Action Team can follow up with you.

ASSIGNMENT TABLE

	Points	Due Date
<u>Week One 8/22-8/26</u>		
In person meeting on 8/23		
Introduction to the course		
Blackboard Work		
Navigate the course site		
Read: https://www.americantheatre.org/2016/11/21/x-marks-the-spot-why-were-embracing-latinx/		

Read and Watch: <https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/choosing-the-right-word-hispanic-latino-and-latinx>

Read: <https://www.npr.org/sections/codeswitch/2020/08/11/901398248/hispanic-latino-or-latinx-survey-says>

Read: <https://abcnews.go.com/US/latinx-latino-hispanic-linguistics-expert-explains-confusion/story?id=82273936>

Post a personal introduction	.5	8/26
Take the Syllabus Quiz	1	8/28
Thoughts on the term	1	8/28

TOTAL POINTS: 2.5

Week Two: 8/29-9/2

In person meeting on 8/30

Discussion on terminology

Blackboard Work

Submit research on *Rabinal Achi* 2 9/2

Read: *Rabinal Achi*

TOTAL POINTS: 2

Week Three: 9/5-9/9

In person meeting on 9/6

Discuss *Rabinal Achi* 5

Blackboard Work

Reflection: *Rabinal Achi* 3 9/9

Submit research on *Los empeños* 5 9/11

Read: *Los empeños de una casa*

TOTAL POINTS: 13

Week Four: 9/12-9/16

In person meeting on 9/13

Discuss *Los empeños* 5

Blackboard Work

Submit research on *Machinal* 5 9/16

Read: *Machinal*

TOTAL POINTS 10

Week Five: 9/19-9/23

In person meeting on 9/20

Discuss *Machinal* 5

Blackboard Work

Submit research on *Fefu...* 5 9/23
 Watch: *Fefu and Her Friends*
 Optional Readings/Viewing:
https://www.fornesinstitute.com/_files/ugd/ae4538_b386917c79ee4977a0d982e8d7d4f872.pdf

TOTAL POINTS 10

Week Six: 9/26-9/30

In person meeting on 9/27

Discuss *Fefu and Her Friends* 5

Blackboard Work

Reflection 10 9/30

TOTAL POINTS 15

Week Seven: 10/3-10/7

In person meeting on 10/4

In class assessment 5

Blackboard Work:

Read: *Zoot Suit*

Read: Dramaturgy Packet for *Zoot Suit*

TOTAL POINTS 5

Week Eight: 10/10-10/14

In person meeting on 10/11

Discuss *Zoot Suit* 5

Blackboard Work

Read: *Heroes and Saints*

Additional Resources

TOTAL POINTS 5

Week Nine: 10/17-10/21

In person meeting on 10/18

Discuss *Heroes and Saints* 5

Blackboard Work

Submit Reflection 5 10/21

Read: *Luna*

Read: *jelly beans*

Read: *Theatre for Young Audiences*

TOTAL POINTS 10

Week Ten: 10/24-10/28

In person meeting on 10/25

Discuss *Luna* 5

Blackboard Work

Watch ONE of the following:

*Escobar's Hippo**Exhaustion: Dancin' Trees In The Ravine*, a psychedelic comedia

Short Form Comedy—must watch all three

*La Egoista*All are available at: <https://howlround.com/happenings/2022-latinx-theatre-commons-comedy-carnaval>

TOTAL POINTS 5

Week Eleven: 10/31-11/4

In person meeting on 11/1

Discuss Comedy Carnaval 5

Blackboard Work

Reflection 5 11/4

TOTAL POINTS 10

Week Twelve: 11/7-11/11

In person meeting on 11/8

Class Assessment 5

Blackboard Work:

Work on final presentation

TOTAL POINTS 5

Week Thirteen: 11/14-11/18

No official class session

Blackboard Work:

Submit final presentation 10 11/21

TOTAL POINTS 10

Week Fourteen: 11/21-11/23

In person meeting on 11/22

Presentations

Blackboard Work:

Review one presentation 2 11/27

TOTAL POINTS 2

Week Fifteen: 11/28-12/3

In person meeting on 11/29

Presentations

Blackboard Work:

Review one presentation	2	12/1
-------------------------	---	------

TOTAL POINTS	2	
--------------	---	--

Week Sixteen: 12/5-12/9

In person meeting: 12/6: 1:00p.m.-3:45p.m.

Blackboard Work:

Review one presentation	2	12/8
-------------------------	---	------

TOTAL POINTS	2	
--------------	---	--

Play Viewing	5	
---------------------	----------	--

TOTAL	113.5	
--------------	--------------	--

Instructor Bio:

Adriana is an Assistant Professor of Theatre at UTEP. She has published with *Chicana/Latina Studies*, *The Journal of Latina Critical Feminism*, *Camino Real*, *ETUDES*, and *Theatre Topics*. She has presented at NACCS, MALCS, MALAS, SCOLAS, NEH, and KCACTF. Recent projects include: *And Then Came Tango*, *Real Women Have Curves*, *Luna*, *El Toro y La Nina*, *A Christmas Carol*, *en la Frontera*, and *Cenicienta*. She received her B.A. in Theatre Arts with a Minor in Secondary Education from the University of Texas at El Paso, her M.A. in Performing Arts Administration from New York University, and her Ph.D. in Curriculum & Instruction from New Mexico State University. Adriana has participated in theatre as an actress, director, producer, designer, and teacher at the elementary school, middle school, high school, and college level for over 25 years and couldn't imagine doing anything else. Adriana's research and scholarship is focused on excluded and underrepresented groups in the performing arts.