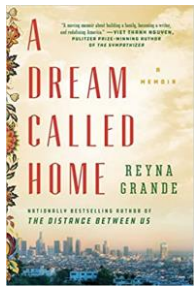


University of Texas El Paso
Course Syllabus

| | |
|---|---|
| Course: | UNIV 1301: Seminar for Critical Inquiry |
| Total Semester Units: | 3.0 |
| Instructor: Office Hours: | Aaron Campbell, ascampbell2@utep.edu UGLC 332 Monday-Thursday: 9:00 AM- 10:00 AM; |
| Peer Leader: Advisor: Librarian: | Annette Escarcega, apescarcega@miners.utep.edu Mario Rodriguez, marodriguez22@utep.edu Marissa Testerman, mtesterman@utep.edu |
| Course Information: | CRN: 27110 UGLC 340 Tuesday, Thursday 10:30 AM- 11:50 AM 01/18/22 – 05/05/22 |
| Textbook(s): | <i>A Dream Called Home: A Memoir</i> by Reyna Grande ISBN# 9781501171437 (physical) ISBN# Kindle version (ISBN: 978-1-5011-7143-7) from Amazon  |
| Course Description: | UNIV 1301 is a course that provides a common first-year experience, wherein students employ their agency to develop strategies for academic, career, and lifelong success. This course will help students build a foundational network of support to increase their sense of belonging and commitment to the University. UNIV 1301 will prepare students for internships, employment, undergraduate research, and community-engaged learning experiences. Students will engage in enriching experiences to understand and develop their personal strengths, enabling them to succeed in college and beyond. |

Learning Outcomes:

- ✓ Students will increase their sense of agency by exploring, reflecting on, and documenting their entering student experience to clarify academic and professional aspirations
- ✓ Students will participate in and reflect upon campus and community experiences to expand and deepen their sense of belonging at UTEP and in the local community
- ✓ Students will engage as members of an academic community by developing reading, writing, and critical thinking skills transferable to their professional and life goals

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- ✓ Students will participate in meaningful hands-on learning and enriching experiences to identify, assess, and strengthen their professional and leadership skills
- ✓ Students will experience an environment of trust by developing a network of faculty, staff, peers, and community members to establish a strong foundation of academic and professional support

UTEP EDGE: You will become more aware of the UTEP Edge and your Edge Advantages through this course. You will become more familiar with and strengthen the many assets you bring to the university.

Grading:

Please note, grades are earned, your instructor does not 'give' you a grade.

Course Point Values

Here are the point values for the major assignments you will complete in UNIV 1301:

| Point Value for most major assignments: | | The grade distribution for UNIV 1301 is as follows: |
|---|----------------|---|
| Assignment: | Points: | A: 1000-900 points |
| Attendance | 200 Points | B: 899-800 points |
| Daily Work | 400 Points | C: 799-700 points |
| Digital Story | 200 Points | D: 699-600 points |
| Common Read | 200 Points | F: 599-0 points |

Total: 1,000 Points

If you have any questions about the graded feedback you receive from your instructor or peer leader, email your instructor to set up an appointment to discuss your concerns.

NOTE: Students may be required to submit course paperwork through plagiarism notification software. These tools check paperwork for originality and generates a report which may help improve citation and/or avoid potential plagiarism.

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory for this course and accounts for 200 points total over the semester. That is two full letter grades. Students are expected to come to class and participate.

Daily Work: Throughout the semester, you will participate in various activities and complete assignments that help develop your five pillars of success. These assignments collectively add up to 400 points.

Digital Story: Throughout the semester, you will participate in various course, campus, and community activities that will help shape your entering student experience at UTEP. You will document these experiences and create a multimodal digital story. The digital story is collectively worth 200 points.

Common Reading: Throughout the semester, you will read one woman's personal and academic journey. Using her journey as a starting point, you will reflect on how your academic journey is building your five pillars of academic success (agency, belonging, engagement, academic success, and professional preparation). These assignments collectively add up to 200 points.

ESE Speaker Series: These one-hour talks are sponsored by the Entering Student Experience and are required viewing for UNIV 1301 students. You may attend the talk live (via Zoom) OR watch the recording of the talk. You must first register for the talk here. Recordings will be available later that

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day [here](#).

UTEP Policies

ADA: The ADA requires that reasonable accommodations be provided for students with disabilities. Please contact CASS at 747-5148, Union East 106, or cass@utep.edu.

Academic Integrity: Scholastic dishonesty is **never** tolerated by UTEP or the Entering Student Program. All suspected cases are reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR) for review. For more info, click [here](#).

Copyright and Fair Use: The university requires all members of its community to follow copyright and fair use requirements. Students are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The university will neither protect nor defend students nor assume any responsibility for student violations. Violations of copyright laws could subject students to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability as well as disciplinary action under university policies.

Student Conduct: [From the Handbook of Operating Procedures: [Student Conduct and Discipline](#)]. Each student is responsible for notice of and compliance with the provisions of the Regents' *Rules and Regulations*, which are available [here](#).

Final Exam Policy: Exemption from final examination may not be given. Final examinations are scheduled to be two hours, forty-five minutes in length and take place during the final examination period. It is the policy of the university not to administer a second final examination in the course. It is also university policy that students shall not have more than two final examinations in a single day. In the unlikely event that the examination schedule results in a student having three final examinations on a single day, the faculty member upon the request of the student shall reschedule the second of that student's three examinations.

Course Management System

Blackboard Ultra is the online course management system we will use throughout the semester if we are forced into an online only environment. You can access Blackboard through my.utep.edu. In Blackboard you can view the syllabus, course calendar, and other supplemental materials related to the course. You can also send e-mails to your classmates or instructional team. You must check Blackboard daily for course announcements, assignments and updates.

The Blackboard app is great for course announcements, emails, and discussions. However, a desktop or laptop computer is recommended for downloading and/or reading course materials, uploading documents or submitting assignments. Call the Help Desk, 747-5257, if you need help with access. Should Blackboard go down for maintenance or other interruptions, email your instructor for assistance.

Technical Requirements

- ✓ A computer with internet access. This course cannot be completed without access to a computer or the Internet. Inability to complete an assignment due to the limitations of the Blackboard app on phones or tablets is not an acceptable reason to miss an assignment or to not follow deadlines or directions.

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- ✓ A web browser that supports Blackboard, YouTube, TED Talks, Yuja, Kanopy, and other forms of media as needed throughout the course.
- ✓ Microsoft Office365 or equivalent. Assignments must be submitted as a Word document (doc or docx) or PDF. Attachments in any other format will not be graded.

You can download a free copy of Microsoft Office as a UTEP student [here](#).

Classroom policies:

ATTENDANCE:

Students are required to attend class. 200 points is allocated to daily attendance. Every class period student attendance will be tracked. An unexcused absence will result in a loss of 5 points, 2 unexcused absences will result in a loss of 10 points, 3 unexcused absences will result in a loss of 20 points, 5 will result in a loss of 40 point, 6 in a loss of 75 and 7 absences will result in a loss of 100 points for attendance. 8 unexcused absences will result in a loss of all of your 200 attendance points. You may also lose points at your instructors' discretion for lack of participation or excessive tardiness. If you are going to miss a class session you must notify myself AND your peer leader before the start of class or your absence will be considered unexcused. Failure to attend multiple weeks may result in being dropped from the course. This includes medical emergencies, doctor's appointments, family emergencies, etc. Students who fail to login into the course Blackboard shell and take part in class sessions are required to meet with the instructor via phone or Blackboard Collaborate to discuss their options.

Always speak to your instructor if you anticipate time away from class. Exceptions to this rule are at the instructor's discretion **ONLY**, and will require documentation in order to be excused. The student will still be responsible for any and all assignments regardless of an excused or unexcused absence.

Excused Absences for University-Recognized Activities

[From the university catalog] "Students who will be absent while representing the University in officially recognized University activities (sports, band, professional conferences, etc.) must notify the Dean of Students not less than ten (10) days prior to the absence. The Dean of Students will provide the student with a letter of excuse for the professors. It is the student's responsibility to give the letter to the professors prior to the official recognized activity. Students following these procedures will be permitted to make up both assignments and examinations in consultation with faculty."

Military Leave

[From the university catalog] ♦ "Section 51.9111, Texas Education Code, and 19 Texas Administrative Code 4.9 provides that students be excused from scheduled classes or other required activities if the student is called to and participates in active military service for a reasonably brief period and that the student shall be allowed to complete an assignment or exam within a reasonable time after the absence. The excused absence is permitted only if the student will not miss more than 25% of the total number of class meetings or the contact-hour equivalent (not including the final examination period) for the specific course or courses in which the student is enrolled at the beginning of the period of active military service. ♦ Students called to active military service must provide a copy of their military orders to the instructor of each course. Further information is available under Complete Withdrawal Due to Active Military Service."

Absence from Examinations

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[From university catalog] ♦ “A student absent from a test during the semester is graded zero (0) unless another policy is set by the instructor.”

ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS AND POLICIES:

Late Work

All assignments for that given week are due by 11:30 PM Sunday of that week. Late work will be accepted at a loss of ten percent of the total grade for every 24 hours an assignment is late. After ten days, if an assignment has not been turned in the assignment will be graded at a zero.

Participation

Class participation consists of weekly participation, contributing to online class discussions, responsibility within team assignments, asking questions, and responding to questions put forth by fellow students. **You are expected to behave as a reasonable adult seriously pursuing learning, respectful to all members of the class and the instructor at all times.**

Technology

Students must have responsible access to a computer that can run Blackboard and Blackboard Collaborate effectively. The student will also need access to word processing programs such as Microsoft Word and access to a reliable internet connection. Students should ensure their email, preferred internet browser, Adobe, and all Media Players are up to date before the start of the classes.

Students with Disabilities Policy:

If you have or suspect a disability and need an accommodation, you should contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services at 747-5148 or at cass@utep.edu or go to Room 106 Union East Building.

Other Things to Consider:

Respect and tolerance should be displayed at all times during our online interactions. It is also important to remember that anything posted on Blackboard should be considered private. Please do not copy, paste and share anything posted within the course shell of this class.

Student Resources:

UTEP provides a variety of student services and support:

- [UTEP Library](#): Access a wide range of resources including online, full-text access to thousands of journals and eBooks plus reference service and librarian assistance for enrolled students.
- [Help Desk](#): Students experiencing technological challenges (email, Blackboard, software, etc.) can submit a ticket to the UTEP Helpdesk for assistance. Contact the Helpdesk via phone, email, chat, website, or in person if on campus.
- [University Writing Center \(UWC\)](#): Submit papers here for assistance with writing style and formatting, ask a tutor for help and explore other writing resources.
- [Math Tutoring Center \(MaRCS\)](#): Ask a tutor for help and explore other available math resources.
- [History Tutoring Center \(HTC\)](#): Receive assistance with writing history papers, get help from a tutor and explore other history resources.
- [Military Student Success Center](#): UTEP welcomes military-affiliated students to its degree programs, and the Military Student Success Center and its dedicated staff (many of whom are veterans and students themselves) are here to help personnel in any branch of service to reach their educational goals.
- [RefWorks](#): A bibliographic citation tool; check out the RefWorks tutorial and Fact Sheet and Quick-Start Guide.

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- **Technology Support:**
UTEP HELP Desk
Phone: (915) 747-4357 (HELP)
Website: TS.UTEP.EDU
Location: LIBR 300

Important Dates:

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|------------------------|--------------|
| Classes Begin | Jan 18th |
| Census Day | Feb 2nd |
| Cesar Chavez Day | Mar 25th |
| Course Drop Deadline | April 1st |
| Dead Day (no classes) | May 6th |
| Final Exams | May 9th-13th |
| Final Grades Available | May 18th |

Netiquette Guidelines

Be respectful of other's ideas, opinions, and beliefs. It's fine to disagree with someone, but please respect their right to think differently. Do not attack or insult your classmates, peer leader, or instructor.

When responding to posts, be sure to address the idea and not the person. You should never use insults or resort to name-calling, as neither are appropriate in an academic setting.

With that said, keep in mind that interacting online doesn't allow for the use of facial expressions and other non-verbal cues to convey meaning; be cautious of the tone used in your posts and don't assume an emoticon (☺) will convey your tone or intent.

All inappropriate posts/emails will be reported to UTEP's Office of Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution office for review.

COVID 19

COVID-19 PRECAUTION STATEMENT

Please stay home if you have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, so that we can work on appropriate accommodations. If you have tested positive for COVID-19, you are encouraged to report your results to covidaction@utep.edu, so that the Dean of Students Office can provide you with support and help with communication with your professors. The Student Health Center is equipped to provide COVID-19 testing.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that people in areas of substantial or high COVID-19 transmission wear face masks when indoors in groups of people. The best way that Miners can take care of Miners is to get the vaccine. If you still need the vaccine, it is widely available in the El Paso area, and will be available at no charge on campus during the first week of classes. For more information about the current rates, testing, and vaccinations, please visit epstrong.org.

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CHANGE is the only constant in life. Except for changes that substantially affect the grading statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change. Any changes to the syllabus will be announced in class and/or on Blackboard. It is your responsibility to stay updated.