COURSE SYLLABUS

CHIC 3339
Cultural Diversity and Youth (online)
CRN: 26188
Spring, 2021

Cortega@utep.edu
Office hours: MR: 11 – 1pm

NOTE: The University asks that all students review the following film (6 minutes) at covidtraining.questionpro.com

COURSE DESCRIPTION

CHIC 3339 is a Liberal Arts elective, although majors and minors in Chicano Studies can also take the class as part of their degree plan. On one level, the course introduces the student to the concept of cultural diversity. How it has been defined and how the subtopics will fit into the course itself. The bigger idea in the course will be to examine the educational experiences of the Mexican American and Mexican immigrant community in the United States. In order to accomplish this task, selected experiences will be the focus of the course. The activities students will address are designed to develop critical thinking skills, not only with respect to these experiences but also to reflect on personal experiences within the school experience. Writing, discussion board participation, and test assessments will be utilized to accomplish these skills.

The class presents an approach to a subject relevant to all students in the university. Demographically, the Mexican community is the largest ethnic group in the U.S. To that end, just how the school experience fits into their place in society is crucial to understand. Whether or not students plan to enter the educational profession, the more they understand these experiences, the better prepared they will be to face the challenges many of their children will be confronted with.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. The student will understand the concepts of cultural diversity, culture, identify the school as a cultural institution and be familiar the historic educational experiences of Chicano/Latino students.

2. Students will know the responsibility of being a teacher or human service professional.

3. Students will analyze and discuss the relationship of concepts such as race, ethnicity, culture, language, socioeconomic status, and segregation.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

The text can be purchased at the UTEP bookstore and through the publisher. I will provide the email address when they send me the purchase information.

PLEASE NOTE: The first edition will not do. Too many people purchase the first edition and only when we start the final project will they inform me of their purchase and want to know where they can get a copy of the second edition. There is no guarantee of this availability. So please make sure you purchase the 2nd edition. Also, do not try and purchase the text through Amazon. They have doubled the price and its not fair to students.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Course grading for the course will be based on Grading Rubrics. How well you interpret the rubric will affect your assignment and ultimately, your course grade. You can find these rubrics by clicking on the specific assignment link on Blackboard and choosing to “View Rubric” from the button beneath the “Points Possible” for the assignment.


--- 15 points: Personal Narrative Paper

--- 20 points: Conceptual Analysis Midterm

--- 20 points: Educational Experience Paper: Linking concepts with experience

--- 30 points: Final Project

--- 15 points: Participation

The Personal Narrative Paper will introduce the student to critical writing. Here the student will analyze their understanding and use of the word, “Chicano.”

The Conceptual Analysis paper will take the student into specific concepts used to analyze schooling and will demonstrate their understanding, support or opposition to these ideas presented in the assignment.

The Educational Experience paper will utilize selected concepts which the student will analyze and then connect to their educational experience. This will be important since most of the students are border experienced, tying in the concepts to their experience could be illuminating to them.

The final project will be designed to allow students to personally reflect on their learning experience in the class. They will write on issues and concepts of their own choice and demonstrate the extent of their learning, the “so what” aspect of their experience within the confines of this subject.

Participation will be based on discussion board activities where students will have the opportunity to interact with one another. Other forms of participation, such as virtual interactions may also be utilized.
ATTENDANCE POLICY

As an online course, attendance will be based on class participation online. Participation is based on the following:

* Reading/Viewing of all course materials to ensure understanding of assignment requirements.

* Participating in discussions with class peers on discussion boards.

* Completing all Module activities (including tests and papers).

* Completing all key assignments.

In order to maintain student GPA’s, it is important that completion of all required assignments is a must. Not turning in assignments or failure to participate, could result in the student being dropped from the class or losing a grade.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Course content is delivered through the internet via the Blackboard Learning Management System (LMS). To ensure the best possible outcome, please ensure that: Your UTEP and Blackboard email system is in working order and that Web access and browser is accessible. For browsers, Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome and Windows 10 should do the trick. Be advised, if one of these goes down and is causing trouble, switching to another browser will be the next step. Other browsers may cause problems.

You will need access to a computer/laptop, webcam and microphone, and perhaps a scanner. You will need to download or update the following software: Microsoft Office, Adobe Flash player, windows Media Player, QuickTime, and Java. Check that your computer hardware and software are up do date and able to access all parts of the course.

If you ever encounter technical difficulties (and we all do) beyond your abilities to troubleshoot, please contact the Help Desk (747-4357) as they are available to assist with all manner of problems.

ONLINE ETIQUETTE

* Please consider your audience. Members of the class and your instructor will be reading posts.

* Respect and courtesy must always be provided to students and instructor. No harassment or inappropriate postings will be tolerated.

* When reacting to someone’s posting, address the idea, not the person.

* Blackboard is not a public venue; therefore, all postings should be considered private and confidential. All postings are for students and instructor enrolled in this class. Please do not copy documents and paste them to a publicly accessible website, blog, etc. If students wish to do so, they have an ethical obligation to first request the permission of the writer(s).
* Finally, as with any course, we are about the sharing of ideas in order to understand a set of experiences faced by the Mexican-origin community. Not everyone will agree with the instructor’s point of view. Let us agree to disagree.

LATE WORK POLICY/Writing Assignments

All writing assignments will be due on Sundays at 11:59 pm. Any late work will be subject to a deduction of 3 to 5 points depending on the assignment.

DROP POLICY

To drop this class, please contact the Registrar’s office to initiate the drop process. If you cannot complete the course contact me first. If you do not, then you are at risk of receiving a “D” or “F” for the term. Drop deadline (with a “W”) is October 30, 2020.

ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

The University is committed to providing reasonable and auxiliary services to students enrolled in courses. Anyone with documented disabilities is eligible to receive equal opportunities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments (ADAA) of 2008. You may contact the Center for Accommodations and Student Services at 915-747-5148 or cass@utep.edu.

SCHOLASTIC INTEGRITY

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of UTEP’s Handbook of Operating Procedures. This includes, but not limited to: cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. This is to say that students are expected to maintain integrity in all classes in their work within the university. This means they will not be involved in cheating, where one copies or provides information on a test, falsifying research data, or possessing unauthorized data on a test. Students will avoid plagiarism where the knowingly present a paper or research as their own by not giving credit to the original author. With collusion, the student engages with another student to commit a dishonest act, such as cheating. Suspected acts of academic dishonesty will be reported by the instructor to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution. This office will carry out any disciplinary actions as deemed necessary.

STUDENT RESOURCES

* UTEP Library: Access to a wide range of resources including journals, e-books, films plus reference service and librarian assistance for enrolled students. Many of these resources are online.

* Help Desk: Students confronting technological problems can call, email, or walk-in to this office and will be assisted by staff. Call: 747-4357 or, email at: helpdesk@utep.edu

* University Writing Center: Located on the second floor of the library, students may make appointment to have their papers reviewed, especially with grammar.
Military Student Success Center: Welcomes all military affiliated students to its degree programs. Most staff are veterans as well as students thus helping to make the transition to university life a bit easier.