Course Description

This course focuses on the themes of social and political change in the mid-twentieth century as a result of protest movements such as the Civil Rights, Women’s Liberation, Chicano/a, Student, Gay Liberation, American Indian, and Anti-Vietnam War. We will explore how historians gather, organize, and analyze information in order to understand how past events have shaped our world today. The class will explore how national, social, and political changes affected El Paso, UTEP, and/or surrounding areas. Or were they affected?

Goals of the Course:

1. To strengthen academic performance and facilitate student’s transition to college. This will be achieved by studying the mid-twentieth century American protest movements. Students will complete exercises in note taking, study skills, writing assignments, and test taking.

2. To enhance academic skills. Students will practice critical analysis of texts, videos, music, and oral reports. Students will present their work in written and oral formats by preparing four short papers, a class presentation, and a formal project report.

3. To increase student interaction with both faculty and peers. This will be achieved through group work outside of class, in-class discussion and group work, and meeting throughout the semester with the teaching team.

4. To encourage student’s self-assessment and goal clarification. This will be achieved by students listing short- and long-term goals at the beginning of the semester, and attending a presentation by Career Services.

5. To increase student’s involvement at UTEP. Students must attend one university activity outside of class and submit a one-page summary describing the event and its relevance to student life. At least one (1) class period will be devoted to information on university resources.

Grading:

- Notes (10 reviews; 10 pts each) 100 points
- Homework (10 Activities; 10 pts each) 100 points
- Class Participation (Attendance) 100 points
- Reflection Papers (4) (2 pages in length, 25 points ea.) 100 points
- Library Assignments (7) 100 points
- Outside Activity paper (1 page) 100 points
- Lyrics Presentations 100 points
Group Presentations (Individual/Group grade) 200 points
Project Report 100 points
Portfolio 100 points
Peer Leader Meeting 100 points
Course Survey at end of Semester 100 points

Total 1300 points

Required Readings:
--On sale at the Union Bookstore:
Borders: Crossing Into Your Future 5th Edition
Mississippi Trial, 1955 by Chris Crowe
House of Houses by Pat Mora
The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie

--PDF. files on Blackboard:
Selected Articles from The Sixties Papers: Documents of a Rebellious Decade by Judith Albert and Stewart Edward Albert
Selected Readings from The Essential Writings and Speeches of Martin Luther King Jr. edited by James. M. Washington
Selected Chapters from Where White Men Fear to Tread: The Autobiography of Russell Means.

Required Materials:
Two folders with brads, one for the notes you will turn in, the other for your portfolio.

Class Policies:
1. Attendance: Attendance and participation in class are required; part of your overall grade. Students may be absent two (2) times without penalty. Each additional unexcused absence will result in a three (3)-point deduction from the final grade. Unavoidable absences that are properly documented may be excused at the discretion of the instructor. There are no makeups for in-class assignments or homework.
2. Conduct: All students are expected to behave as responsible adults. If your cell phone rings during class you may be asked to leave for the remainder of that class session. NO TEXTING or other electronics. We will have frequent discussions and students are expected to listen and respect the opinions of others.
3. Dropping the Class: Students may drop the class and receive a W any time prior to Oct. 28.
4. Meeting with the Instructor and the Peer Leader: Students must meet with the Peer Leader early in the semester, and again as necessary throughout the semester. All students will meet with the Instructor at least once to plan their project.
5. Intellectual Honesty: Students are encouraged to work together on class assignments. However, all written assignments must be entirely the work of the individual student. Plagiarism (copying from written sources, the Internet, or other students) is a serious violation of university policy and will not be tolerated. All cases of plagiarism will be reported to the Dean of Students for further review.
6. Format of Written Work: All written assignments done outside of class must be typed using black ink, 12 pt. font, 1-inch margins, double-spaced, on white paper. Notes and in-class work must be legible and comprehensible. If we can’t read it or understand it, we can’t grade it.
7. **Deadlines:** Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the due date. Work handed in after class on the due date will be penalized ½ letter grade (5pts.). Late work will have an additional full letter grade deducted for every day late thereafter (10 pts.). Late homework will not be accepted. Do not turn in late work to the Peer Leader or put it under the door of her office. Any assignment may be handed in early.

8. **Feedback:** We want to hear from you about how you are doing in this class as well as your other classes. THERE ARE NO STUPID QUESTIONS!!! Please let us know if you don’t understand something or need help. You will be asked to provide the teaching team with an email address so that we may contact you; we will explain in class how to set up your UTEP email account, if that has not been done already.

**General Format of Assignments:**

1. **Notes:** You will take brief notes on the readings and write a short summary (2-3 sentences) for each reading assignment. You must take notes during each class (lectures and discussions, films and documentaries, if presented) and add these to the reading notes. These will be placed in a folder and turned in every Friday to the Peer Leader who will grade your organization and content.

2. **Portfolio:** All of your papers, homework, and class handouts. Keep in a folder to turn in on the last day of class. This is to reflect your progress from the beginning to the end of the semester.

3. **Reflection papers** will consist of a summary and analysis of each of the required readings (books) and additional choice article, 2-3 pages in length. A handout with detailed instructions will be provided for each. Total of four (4) Reflection papers. **Sufficiently answering specific questions will indicate that you actually read the books/article.**

4. **Projects:** A list of movies based on actual events/person(s) will be provided to each student. Students will be placed into groups of four (4) or (5). Each group will then pick a movie (no duplicates). The group will then view the movie; outside of class. The group will research the actual events/person(s) and compare it to the movie. Research must be done using actual newspaper articles, books, speeches, or other primary sources. A handout with detailed instructions will be provided. All projects must be completed before the end of the semester.

5. **Group Presentations:** Each group will prepare a presentation for the end of the semester that showcases the project. Each student will be graded on his or her individual participation, and the entire group will also receive a common grade based on the effectiveness of the presentation.

6. **Project Report:** Each individual student will turn in a 4-5 page report that explains the research conducted by the group, the steps taken to design the project, the steps taken to carry out the project, and the successes and/or failures of the endeavor.

7. **Extra-curricular activity:** All students will attend a UTEP event not associated with your other classes or school activities (for example, if you are a football player, a football game doesn’t count). The event may be of any type, such as a sporting event, a theatrical production, a movie, a seminar or talk sponsored by any department, or any social event, but it must be sponsored by UTEP. A 1-page, typed and double-spaced paper is due after the event describing and explaining how it relates to the course. Information on events will be provided throughout the semester.

**Schedule of Classes:** The following is subject to change. Any changes will be announced in class. If you are absent you are still responsible for finding out about any changes.
Week 1

Wednesday, Aug. 24: Differences Between High School and UTEP – Borders, Chpt. 2: 25-50. Homework due today – Get a planner/calendar and complete 3Activity 2.2 and 2.3: p. 28, 31; 4Activity 2.4: p. 38, and prepare for discussion with Activity 2.7: p. 48 and 2.8: p. 49; 5List of goals/interests (will it change at the end of the semester?). Begin reading the “The Sixties Papers.”

Week 2


Week 3
M, Sept. 5 – Labor Day- Campus Closed!


Week 4
M, Sept. 12 - *Library visit – Meet in lobby of Library, not in regular classroom. We will give you the Library Assignment in class today; don’t do the one in the book. Campus Resources – Borders, Chpt. 5, 126-140.


Week 5


*Speaker: Advisor Lucy Snelson. Bring in your degree evaluation for Goldmine or your hard copy degree plan from your department (Major). Great opportunity to ask questions!!!

Week 6
M, Sept. 26 – Civil Rights – 9Homework due today: Select an article from the readings associated with Civil Rights and submit a one-page outline of the article and a concise statement of the author’s thesis due in class today (remember – work done outside of class must be typed).

Ghosts of Mississippi
W, Sept. 28 – Civil Rights: **Homework due today: go to the Library’s on-line databases and print out a newspaper article on any person or event from this topic to turn in** (Find something relating to events in El Paso, any). Start listening to music by Joan Baez, Bob Dylan, Jimi Hendrix, The Doors, Jefferson Airplane, and others from the decade.

*Ghosts of Mississippi*

**Week 7**

M, Oct. 3 – Civil Rights in El Paso. **Project Proposal Due.** Begin reading “Kate Millett: Sexual Politics: A Manifesto for Revolution and Frances Beale: Double Jeopardy: To Be Black and Female.” **Notes Due.**

Submit a 2-page Reflection Paper of the Chris Crowe book.

W, Oct. 5 - Women’s Liberation. Discussion. **Homework due today: go to the Library’s on-line databases and print out a newspaper article on any person or event from this topic to turn in.** Be prepared to discuss your selection.

Submit a 2-page Reflection Paper on any of the readings in pdf. format. **Notes Due.**

Read, *House of Houses* by Pat Mora.

**Week 8**

M, Oct. 10 – *Made in Dagenham*

W, Oct. 12 - *Made in Dagenham** Notes Due.

**Week 9**

M, Oct. 17 – Chicana/o Movement. **Library assignment due today: print out and bring to class an Internet article on any Chicano/a activist.** Be prepared to discuss your selection. Don’t just select Cesar Chavez, please!

*Walkout*

W, Oct. 19 – Chicana/o Movement: Effects in El Paso, discussion. **Submit a 2-page Reflection Paper of the Pat Mora book.** **Notes Due.**

*Walkout*

**Week 10**

M, Oct. 24– Anti-War Movement, **continue reading assigned articles.**

W, Oct. 26 – Students, Politics, and War in 1968. **Homework due today: go to the Library’s National Archives Section and print out a government document on any person or event from this topic to turn in. Progress report on Project Due.**

F, Oct. 28 – **LAST DAY TO DROP CLASS WITH A W.**

**Week 11**

M, Oct. 31 – *Born on the 4th of July*

W, Nov. 2 – *Born on the 4th of July** Notes Due.
Week 12
M, Nov. 7 – Discussion. **Library assignment due today:** print out and bring to class a newspaper or magazine article that contains comparisons between Vietnam and Iraq. Read *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie.

W, Nov. 9 – The Counterculture. **Lyrics Presentations due today:** bring in the printed lyrics from any song that you think holds political significance. **Notes Due.**

Week 13
M, Nov. 14 – AIM and Russell Means. **Second Progress Report on Project Due. Library assignment due today:** find a magazine, newspaper, or journal article that refers to the Wounded Knee occupation in 1973. Print out the entire article if it is short, otherwise print out the relevant pages and bring to class.

W, Nov. 16 – **Submit a 2-page Reflection Paper of the Sherman Alexie book.** *Borders,* Chpt. 4, pp. 116-124 (Public Speaking). **Notes Due.**

Week 14
M, Nov. 21 – *Incident at Oglala*

W, Nov. 23 – *Incident at Oglala*

F, Nov. 25 – **Thanksgiving Holiday-Campus Closed**

Week 14
M, Nov. 28 – Group Presentations, **Project Paper Due**

W, Nov. 30 – Group Presentations, **Portfolios Due, Project Paper Due,** Last day to turn in Outside Activity Paper.

F, Dec 2 – **Dead Day**

Week 15
W, Dec. 7 – **Final Exam Period from 7:00 pm to 9:45 pm; will only meet IF presentations are not completed. ALL students must attend.**

*Dates and planned events subject to change based on the availability of Jacob Galindo (UTEP Library) and Lucy Snelson (Advising). Films are also subject to change, based on availability and access.*