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 Anti-Vietnam War, Gay Liberation, and American Indian. 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. Students will develop and apply elements of leadership through effective individual participation and meaningful team collaboration to empower them to be agents of change. This will be achieved by studying the mid-twentieth century American protest movements. Students will present their work in written and oral formats by preparing four short papers, a class presentation, and a formal project report.

2. Students will examine the roles and responsibilities crucial for their success in college and beyond. Students will complete exercises in note taking, study skills, writing assignments, test taking, and paraphrasing.

3. Students will identify, assess, and build on their strengths and experiences to develop academic and transitional strategies necessary for success in their academic, career, and life goals. 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. Students will engage in research and critical thinking activities that demonstrate their ability to effectively integrate their learning within, across, and beyond academic settings. Accomplish a better idea of what academic research entails and what is expected of each for this class and future work, including career. Students will practice critical analysis of texts (each library assignment will require a paraphrased text), videos, music, and oral reports.

5. Students will engage in campus and community activities to increase their sense of academic and social belonging. Students must attend two university activities outside of class and submit a one-page summary describing each 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 (10) 100 points
Outside Activity papers (2) (1 page each; 50 points each) 100 points
Lyrics Presentations 100 points
Group Presentations (Individual/Group grade) 100 points
Project Report 100 points
Portfolio 100 points
Peer Leader/Instructor Meeting (each worth 50 points) 100 points
Course Survey at end of Semester 100 points

Total 1200 points

Required Readings:

---On sale at the Union Bookstore:
Borders: Crossing Into Your Future 7th 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 Chapters from Where White Men Fear to Tread: The Autobiography of Russell Means.

Required Materials:
One folder with brads 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. “All students are expected and required to obey federal, state, and local laws, to comply with the Regents' Rules and Regulations, with The University of Texas System and University rules and regulations, with directives issued by an administrative official of the U.T. System or The University of Texas at El Paso in the course of his or her authorized duties, and to observe standards of conduct appropriate for an academic institution” (Handbook of Operating Procedures: Student Affairs).

3. Dropping the Class: Students may drop the class and receive a W any time prior to Nov 2.
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 twice. During this time, we will provide you with your to-date grades or Mid-term grades.

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. “Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts” (Handbook of Operating Procedures: Student Affairs).

6. Students with Disabilities Policy: “The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students, staff, faculty, job applicants, applicants for admissions, and other beneficiaries of University programs, services and activities with documented disabilities in order to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Reasonable accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship on the University.”

7. 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.*

8. 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.*

9. 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 and access Blackboard, 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 reviewed every Friday by 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 group 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. Outside Activity: All students will attend two (2) UTEP events 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 each event describing and explaining how it relates to the course, along with proof of your attendance (i.e., selfie, ticket stub, etc.). 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, readings, assignments, etc.

Week 1
S, Sept. 1: Introductions (Start listening to the music of the 1950s, 60s, 70s). Borders: Introduction, Chpt. 1 (The UTEP Edge) and Chpt. 2, pps. vii-52. Chpt. 3, Differences Between High School and UTEP, pp 54-74.

Begin the online Library Modules, Interactive Scavenger Hunt, and class Lib Guide.

Homework due today:
1. Prepare a written answer for Discussion Questions 1.2 p. 10 and Discussion Question 3, under 1.3 p. 12.
2. Activity 2.2: p. 49 (Degree plan) and Activity 2.3: p. 51-52 (Worksheet).
3. Get a planner/calendar and complete Activity 3.3: p. 59;
4. Activity 3.4: p. 66, and prepare for discussion;
5. List of goals/interests (will it change at the end of the semester?).

Begin reading “Introduction” from The Sixties Papers.

Week 2
S, Sept. 8 – Borders, Chpt. 4, Preparing to Learn, pp 75-83, Critical Thinking, pp 100-110; Chpt. 5, Note Taking, pp 112-117, Reading, pp 118-125. Be prepared to discuss “Introduction” of The Sixties Papers.

Homework due today:
6. Provide a one (1)-page summary of at least two sections of the readings.
7. Are you an Active Learner? What is Critical Thinking? Prepare a written answer and discuss.

Library Assignment:
1. Complete online Library Modules.

1Notes Due Today!

*Speaker: Non-partisan Voter Registration

Week 3
S, Sept. 15 -- *1st Library visit – Meet in lobby of Library, not in regular classroom. Library Room 204B. We will give you the 2Library Assignment in class today; don’t do the one in the book. Defining Primary and Secondary sources.

Bring in study guides from your other classes, and any returned test/quizzes! How did you do?
Borders, Chpt. 6, Academic Resources, pp. 149-164.

Week 4
S, Sept. 22 - Borders, Chpt. 7, Avoiding Hazards Along the Way, pp.165-190; Chpt. 8, Healthy Student Living, pp 191-216. Chpt. 9, Career Planning, pp 217-234.

Homework due today:
8. Complete Activity 7.1: p. 169 (Keeping a Cool Head).

2Notes Due.

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

Week 5

Read Mississippi Trial, 1955 by Chris Crowe.

Group Assignments handed out today.

1Peer Leader/Instructor Meetings w/Students Begins.

Week 6
S, Oct. 6 – Civil Rights – Go to the 3Library’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). PREPARE A WRITTEN SUMMARY OF YOUR LIBRARY ASSIGNMENT. USE PROPER CITATION FORMAT.


Start listening to music by Joan Baez, Bob Dylan, Jimi Hendrix, The Doors, Jefferson Airplane, and others from the decade.

Homework due today:
10. Project Proposal Due.
Ghosts of Mississippi

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

3Notes Due.

Week 7

Homework due today:
Go to the 4Library’s on-line databases and print out a newspaper article on any person or event from Women’s Liberation to turn in. PREPARE A WRITTEN SUMMARY OF YOUR LIBRARY ASSIGNMENT. USE PROPER CITATION FORMAT. Be prepared to discuss your selection.

4Notes Due.

Read, House of Houses by Pat Mora.

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

Week 8
S, Oct. 20 – Made in Dagenham, 5Notes Due.

Week 9
S, Oct. 27 – Chicana/o Movement. Library assignment due today: 5print out and bring to class an Internet article on any Chicano/a activist. PREPARE A WRITTEN SUMMARY OF YOUR LIBRARY ASSIGNMENT. USE PROPER CITATION FORMAT. Be prepared to discuss your selection. Don’t just select Cesar Chavez, please!

Chicano/a Movement: Effects in El Paso, discussion.

Submit a 2-page Reflection Paper of the Pat Mora book.

6Notes Due.

Walkout

Week 10
F, Nov. 2 – LAST DAY TO DROP CLASS WITH A W.


Homework due today:
Go to the 6Library’s National Archives Section and print out a government document on any person or event from this topic to turn in. PREPARE A WRITTEN SUMMARY OF YOUR LIBRARY ASSIGNMENT. USE PROPER CITATION FORMAT.

Progress report on Project Due.

7Notes Due.

Group Meetings.

2Peer Leader/Instructor Meetings begins.

Week 11
S, Nov. 10 – Born on the 4th of July, 8Notes Due.
Week 12
S, Nov. 17 – Library assignment due today: print out and bring to class a newspaper or magazine article that contains comparisons between Vietnam and Iraq. PREPARE A WRITTEN SUMMARY OF YOUR LIBRARY ASSIGNMENT. USE PROPER CITATION FORMAT.

Read The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie.

The Counterculture. Lyrics Presentations due today: bring in the printed lyrics from any song that you think holds political significance.

9Notes Due.

Week 13

Library assignment due today: find a magazine, newspaper, or journal article that refers to the Stonewall Inn Riots. Print out the entire article if it is short, otherwise print out the relevant pages and bring to class. PREPARE A WRITTEN SUMMARY OF YOUR LIBRARY ASSIGNMENT. USE PROPER CITATION FORMAT.

Read from Russell Means (Blackboard): “The American Indian Movement,” “The Trail of Broken Treaties,” The Path to Wounded Knee.”

*Speaker.

10Notes Due.

Week 14

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. PREPARE A WRITTEN SUMMARY OF YOUR LIBRARY ASSIGNMENT. USE PROPER CITATION FORMAT.

10Last day to complete and turn in the results of the Scavenger Hunt (Library Assignment).

Submit a 2-page Reflection Paper of the Sherman Alexie book. Be prepared to discuss.

Week 15
S, Dec. 8 – Group Presentations, Portfolios Due, Project Paper Due, Last day to turn in Outside Activity Papers.

Week 16
S, Dec. 15 -- Final Exam Period from 9:00 am to 11:50 am; Group Presentations. ALL students must attend.

Dec. 21 - Final grades available to students.

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