CHICANA/O STUDIES 3311: Societal Issues and Analysis
Online Course 2015
8-week Session

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Course Description:
Chicano Studies 3311 is a general course designed to provide the student with an understanding of Mexican American and Latino/Hispanic culture. This interdisciplinary course explores how people of Mexican and Latino origin in the United States have created a distinct culture and presence in American society. To better understand the Mexican American experience, this survey examines its historical precursors and contemporary socioeconomic, educational, artistic, political, and literary dimensions. Furthermore, issues such as race, class and gender are also probed to increase our awareness of Mexican American and Latino culture and society.

Format:
- This course will be taught by employing multiple modes of learning including lectures, student presentations, media and discussions.
- 3 dimensional approach to the university curriculum and course themes
- These modes of teaching are strongly emphasized as they place a high importance and value on your narratives as individuals and actors in society. Your narratives, experiences and perspectives on the issues covered are consequential to the learning process because they create a culturally responsive and relevant learning environment.

Theoretical Framework for the Course:
- Historical concepts and issues will be explored. For example: What is your place in history and what is the importance of knowing your history? (Reflexivity and relevance)
- Critical Race Theory
- Gender Theory
- Identity Theory
- Sociopolitical Theory

Required Texts and Technology:
- Burciaga, Jose A. Drink Cultura (1993)

- Extra readings as assigned: These will be provided to you online over Moodle in the module that they will be assigned in
- Students are required to have an active UTEP email account, as I send frequent messages to students with important updates.
**Learning Outcomes:**

1. To examine the historical experiences of the Mexican origin and Latino population in the United States and link that experience to contemporary issues affecting this group.
2. To analyze the salient trends and personas in the development of the Chicana/o cultural dimension through film and artistic expressions, with a regional emphasis.
3. To foster the interdisciplinary integration of paradigms, concepts, and perspectives in the analysis of issues that inform on the Mexican origin population via multimedia instruction.
4. To examine salient political and socioeconomic trends of the Mexican origin population in American society, with an emphasis on the U.S-Mexico border.
5. To analyze the linguistic and cultural characteristics of the Mexican origin population and their manifestation in American society.

An interdisciplinary text exclusively designed for the U.S-Mexico border region serves as the primary source of instruction for the course. Documentaries, exhibits, literary readings, additional reading assignments, and guest lectures also will be used as modes of instruction.

**Course Policies:**

1. **Be Present:** This is an online course; however, it still requires an online or virtual presence. Please check ANNOUNCEMENTS and E-MAIL DAILY!
2. **Be on Time:** I will close discussions and assignments on their due date. This is something that Blackboard will do automatically at midnight on the due date-just like Cinderella and her white horse. Please make sure you give yourself adequate time to do an assignment and submit. Do not wait until the last minute, because when something can go wrong with technology-it will!
3. **May be the Course be With You:** The assigned readings should be read as assigned in each module order to have a fruitful discussion and adequate participation. You will not learn in this class if you do not read. This is where personal accountability comes in. **If online learning is not for you, please let someone else enroll-there's a waiting list.** Do not expect this course to be "easy" because it is online. I will be rigorous and expect top-notch work from my students.
4. **Treat Others the Way You Want to be Treated- with RESPECT:** When discussing issues online, you should be respectful of others. Personal attacks are not permitted. This applies whether the person is a student, a visitor, or the instructor. I look forward to hearing your opinions and ideas. Your voice and ideas are important to me and should be to others as well. Respect for one another is mandatory. A violation of this policy will result in the student being removed from the course.
5. Students are expected to take exams and submit assignments on the assigned dates.

6. **NO EMAILED OR LATE WORK IS ACCEPTED UNLESS PERMISSION GRANTED BY PROFESSOR**
7. **Do not plagiarize any of your work. You will not be fond of the consequences.**

***If you are having any difficulty in the class, please talk to me. I am here to help you. Please do not miss class for several days; the overwhelming majority of students who do this never catch-up. Instead it is better to communicate any difficulty you are having with the instructor.***
Evaluation: 400 points total

Exams 200 points: Two exams will be administered, each worth 100 points. You are responsible for material covered in class and the texts. Students missing an exam must contact the instructor within 24 hours. Make-up exams are given only in cases of documented emergencies. The instructor will decide whether the student has a legitimate excuse to take a make-up exam.

Writing/ Reflection Assignment on book Drink Cultura by Burciaga 50 points: To be discussed with guidelines.

Discussion/quizzes/participation: 75 points

Reading Notes 75 points:
In this course, you are expected to submit reading notes on several of the readings. I will let you know the due dates on the calendar. You may be given a prompt in order to successfully complete your notes.

Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures (HOP). 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 one's 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. Please consult the Handbook of Operating Procedures at http://hoop.utep.edu for the complete University policy on academic dishonesty. You may also consult with the Assistant Dean of Students at the Student Union Building West, Room 102, or by calling 747-5648.

Students with Disabilities
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 Student Services located in the Student Union Building East, Room 203 by phone 747-4148 or e-mail 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 Disabled Student Services.

GRADUATE CREDIT FOR THIS COURSE: In order to obtain graduate credit for this course, you must satisfactorily complete a graduate level project with a topic and parameters approved beforehand by the course instructor.