

The University of Texas at El Paso

## La Chicana

**CHIC 3301, CRN 25760, Spring 2024 (8W2)**

**100% Online Course:** Computer Access Required  
8-Week Course: March 18, 2024, to May 10, 2024

### **Dr. Irma V. Montelongo**

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*"We as women should shine light on our accomplishments and not feel egotistical when we do. It's a way to let the world know that we as women can accomplish great things!"*

Dolores Huerta

### **Course Description:**

This course is an interdisciplinary examination of the social, political, and economic forces that characterize Chicana/x identity formation in the United States. By comparing historical and contemporary Chicana/x experiences, students will better understand how issues such as colonialism, masculinity, whiteness, homophobia, nationalism, and globalization re-define, incorporate, or neglect Chicana/x identities in the U.S. This course pays close attention to the categories of race, class, gender, and sexuality to better understand how Chicana/x specifically, and Latina/x in general, challenge and negotiate U.S. norms. We will interrogate identity formation keeping in mind that there is no single definition that encompasses all Chicana/x experiences. Through texts, films, podcasts, and class discussion this course ventures to learn about the warriors, laborers, activists, artists, and others that make up the complex, varied, and incredible story of "La Chicana."

### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

**By the end of the course, students will:**

1. better understand how gender dynamics and ethnic identity intersect and characterize the life experiences of Chicanas and Latinas in the United States.
2. better understand Chicana and Latina feminist social and cultural theory.
3. better understand how theories of race, class, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality shape both geo-political and metaphorical borders.
4. better understand the historical and contemporary experiences of Chicanas and Latinas With respect to immigration, politics, education, religion, family dynamics, labor, the media, and the arts.
5. view themselves as global citizens who interact and collaborate with people of diverse backgrounds in open and respectful ways.

***The guiding questions for this course are the following: What is Chicana/x identity? What are the historical events that define Chicana/x identity? How do space and time inform Chicana/x identity formation?***

### **Required Materials:**

- Access to computer and internet
- All readings and videos for the class are posted on the **Blackboard** Learning Management System (LMS) site and are located inside of the Learning Module for any week.

All course content will be delivered via the **Blackboard** LMS. To access Blackboard, go to <https://my.utep.edu> and click on the “Blackboard” tab on the left-hand side of the page. Follow the link in that box and login using your UTEP login and password.

The Blackboard course shell contains **all** materials related to this course. You will also use Blackboard to send e-mails to your fellow classmates or to me – always remember to include an appropriate subject line to prevent your email from going into the junk mail folder. **All correspondence for this class must be done through Blackboard email.**

**\*\*\* IMPORTANT:** You must get into the habit of checking Blackboard **EVERY DAY** to make sure you do not miss any important announcements.

### **Our Virtual Classroom:**

All communication must be conducted through Blackboard Email. Please do not send emails to my UTEP address. I will respond to you within 24 hours.

**Ask Questions:** I have created a Discussion Forum entitled **Help Board**, located on the *Home Page*. The *Help Board* is for asking questions related to content OR any course issues. Clearly indicate the subject of your thread. **If you are having technical difficulties, you will be directed to UTEP tech support.**

**Reach Out to Others:** Offer a fact, an article, link, or other items that can help others. I have created a separate class discussion forum called **La Pachuca Internet Café**, also located on the *Home Page*. This discussion board is for the entire class to share relevant information and to participate in leisure conversations as well. The only requirement is that you treat one another with respect.

Inappropriate behavior/comments online will not be tolerated. Inappropriate behavior WILL BE subject to disciplinary action. I reserve the right to drop you from this course if you use our class as a venue for insulting or insensitive comments or attacks toward other students or the instructor.

### **Required Software:**

Please make sure that all your computer hardware is working properly and please make sure that you have all the required software, and that the software is up to date. It is especially important that your Adobe software is up to date. Blackboard works best with Mozilla Firefox.

Please ensure that you have the necessary software. You must have *Adobe Acrobat Reader* to access the readings for the class and a media player plug-in to view the assigned videos (*Adobe Flash Player, Windows Media Player, QuickTime Player, VLC Player, etc.*). When creating documents, slide presentations, spreadsheets, etc., you must use *Microsoft Office* or a compatible program (see 10 Free MS Word Alternatives). Be sure you have the appropriate word processing software because if I cannot open your documents, they **WILL NOT** be graded.

### **Course Policies and Procedures and Grading Rubric:**

I provided a set of Course Policies and Procedures and a Grading Rubric under the Course Management tab on the Home Page. Please access them as soon as possible and familiarize yourself with the dos and don'ts of the course and the grading scales for all assignments. The information provided is extremely important and crucial for your success in this course.

### **Academic Dishonesty:**

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, processing 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. **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 referred to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCRR) for disciplinary action. Students may be suspended or expelled from the University for such actions.

### **Usage of Artificial Intelligence:**

Since writing, analytical, and critical thinking skills are part of the learning outcomes of this course, all work submitted in this course must be your own and completed in accordance with the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures Chapter 1 Section 1.2.3. **AI** generated submissions that use ChatGPT, Grammarly, Chegg or other AI composition software **is prohibited**, will be treated as cheating, and reported to the Dean of Students.

### **Students with Disabilities:**

I will make any reasonable accommodation for students with limitations due to special needs, including those with learning disabilities. Please inform me immediately of any special needs you might have. If you have a documented special need and require specific accommodations you will need to contact the **Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS)** at 747-5148, or by email to [cass@utep.edu](mailto:cass@utep.edu), or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106 within the first week of class. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at [www.sa.utep.edu/cass](http://www.sa.utep.edu/cass)

### **Attendance Policy:**

This is an online class so there is no real attendance policy. Attendance is taken by measuring your work online. You are responsible for doing all the work and meeting all deadlines and due dates.

### **Deadline Policy:**

**Deadline for assignments and quizzes is 11:59 PM (MST) on the due date; CHECK COURSE CALENDAR for all due dates and deadlines as late submissions will not be graded.** Please ensure that you carefully read the Course Calendar and all instructions. It is your responsibility to meet all class requirements.

### **Learning Modules:**

The class consists of five (5) Learning Modules. An Introduction and Getting Started module, three (3) theme related modules, and a Final Exam module. **Learning Modules open at 8:00am (MST) on scheduled dates.**

All readings, videos, podcast links, assignment guidelines, and submission links are in the learning module. Theme-related learning modules, except modules 1 and 5, will last approximately 14 days.

### **Graded Assignments:**

1. **Quizzes (20%):** There will be four quizzes, one in each of the first four Learning Modules. There is no quiz during the week of the Final Exam. The quiz links are in the learning modules. **The quiz links will open and close according to scheduled dates and deadlines. See Course Calendar for all due dates and deadlines.** Remember: You will not see the Quiz link until they are scheduled to open on the Course Calendar.
2. **Critical Response Paper (20%):** You will submit one (1) Critical Response Paper for Learning Module 2. The paper will be 2-3 pages in length, double-spaced, 12pt font. I will provide detailed guidelines to help you think critically of the question(s) asked. **You will be severely penalized if you use Artificial Intelligence to complete this assignment.** See Course Calendar for due dates and deadline.
3. **Video Blogs (40%):** You will submit two (2) video blog assignments for Learning Modules 3 and 4. I will provide detailed instructions for this assignment. See Course Calendar for due dates.
4. **Final Exam (20%):** You will have a comprehensive final exam at the end of the course that will cover Learning Modules 2, 3, and 4. The final exam will be in Learning Module 5. **See course calendar for scheduled exam date and deadline.**

See Grading Rubric for more information on Assignments and Final Exam.

### **Grading Scale:**

A: 100-90 B: 89-80 C: 79-70 D: 69-60 F: 59 and less

**GRADUATE CREDIT FOR THIS COURSE:** 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.

## **Course Calendar:**

### **Learning Module 1: Introduction and Getting Started**

**March 18 – March 22, 2024**

**The following information is important!**

The first five days of the course are your opportunity to study the syllabus, familiarize yourself with the Blackboard System, and set up your YouTube channel. Use these five days to ask me any questions about course content and the class policies and procedures.

You must also post an introduction to yourself in [La Pachuca Internet Café](#) by **Wednesday, March 20, 2024, at 11:59pm (MST)**. The Internet Café and Help Board are located under the *Discussions* tab located at the top of the Home Page.

**You are also required to take the Syllabus/Plagiarism Quiz, which will be available Thursday, March 21, 2024, at 5:00pm (MST) until Friday, March 22, 2024, at 11:59pm (MST).** The quiz is based on your reading of the Course Syllabus, Course Policies and Procedures, Course Grading Rubric, and the Plagiarism video. The video and the quiz in Learning Module 1: *“Introduction and Getting Started.”*

**NOTE:** The instructor cannot provide technical support. For questions concerning the site and any technical questions or support you must use the UTEP Help Desk. The following link provides the contact information for assistance: <http://admin.utep.edu/Default.aspx?tabid=74092>

## **Learning Module 2 – Ethnic and Gender Formations**

**March 23 – April 5, 2024**

**Read** – Richard Dyer, “The Matter of Whiteness,” pgs. 9-14; and Peggy McIntosh, “White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack,” pgs. 1-8; and Terry Blas, “You Say Latino;” and Kristi Soto, “I Am Not Ashamed to be Mexican Anymore;” and Sara Boboltz, “9 Facts That Prove Traditional Definitions of Gender Roles are Bullsh\*t

**Video** – Habla Women (58 min.)

**Podcast** – Anything For Selena: Spanglish (43 mins.)

**All readings, videos, and podcasts listed in this course calendar are required.**

**Reading Quiz:** available from March 31, 2024, at 8:00am (MST) to April 1 at 11:59pm (MST).

**Critical Response Paper:** due April 5, 2024, at 11:59pm (MST).

## **Learning Module 3 – Mexican American Identities in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries**

**April 6 – April 19, 2024**

**Read** – David Romo, “The Bath Riots,” pgs. 223-244; and Vicki Ruiz, “Star Struck,” pgs. 109-129; and Elizabeth Escobedo, “The Pachuca Panic,” pgs. 133-156

**Podcast** – Teresa Urrea: The Mexican Joan of Arc (49 mins.)

**Video** – Jovita Idar: Mexican American Activist and Journalist (11 mins.)

**Reading Quiz:** available from April 14, 2024, at 8:00am (MST) to April 15 at 11:59pm (MST).

**Video Blog:** due April 19, 2024, at 11:59pm (MST).

## **Learning Module 4 – Becoming Chicana/x**

**April 20 – May 3, 2024**

**Read** – Lisa J. Hernandez, “Chicana Loyalists and Feminists,” pgs. 136-148; and Gloria Anzaldúa, “La Conciencia de la Mestiza,” 99-113; and Carmen Lugo-Lugo, “A Latina in Academia,” pgs. 40-49

**Video** – Dolores (97 mins.)

**Reading Quiz:** available from April 28, 2024, at 8:00am (MST) to April 29 at 11:59pm (MST).

**Video Blog:** due May 3, 2024, at 11:59pm (MST).

## **Learning Module 5 – Final Exam**

**May 4 – May 10, 2024**

The submission link for the Final Exam will be available on **May 6, 2024, at 8:00am (MST) and will be accessible through May 10, 2024, at 11:59pm (MST).** Good Luck!