

The University of Texas at El Paso

Chicana/o/x Identity Formation: Race, Class, and Gender CHIC 3305 CRN 23258

UTEP CONNECT: 100% Online Course: Computer Access Required
Spring 8O1: January 16, 2024 to March 4, 2024

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Office Hours: By Virtual Appointment Only
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Course Description:

This course is an interdisciplinary examination of the social, political, and economic forces that characterize Chicana/o/x identities in the U.S. By comparing and contrasting historical and contemporary Chicana/o/x experiences, students will better understand how issues such as race, class, gender, homophobia, nationalism, and globalization define Chicana/o/x identities. Students will critically analyze how Chicana/o/x identity formation challenges and negotiates American norms and where Chicana/o/xs fit within social, political, and economic hierarchies in the U.S.

Student Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the class, students will:

1. Develop the critical thinking and analytical skills necessary for effective communication both orally and written.
2. Identify, analyze, and articulate the central themes, both historical and contemporary, in Chicana/o identity formation.
3. Understand theories of race, class, ethnicity, and gender in the shaping of both geo-political and metaphorical borders.
4. Connect the past to the present to better understand the world around them.
5. Interact and collaborate with people of diverse backgrounds in open and respectful ways.
6. View themselves as global citizens.

The guiding questions for this course are the following: What is Chicana/o identity? What are the social, political, and economic forces that define Chicana/o identity? How do space and time inform identity formation?

Required Materials:

- Access to computer and internet
- All readings, videos, and podcasts for the course are uploaded in our Blackboard Ultra shell. They are inside the Learning Modules (see course calendar).

All course content will be delivered via the **Blackboard Ultra**. To access Blackboard, go to <https://my.utep.edu> and click on the "Blackboard" tab on the left-hand side of the page. Login using your UTEP credentials. The Blackboard course shell contains **all** materials related to this course.

All correspondence (email/course messages) for this course must be conducted in our Blackboard shell. Include an appropriate subject line to prevent your course message/email from going into the junk mail folder.

*** **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 correspondence (email/course messages) for this course must be conducted in our Blackboard shell. Please do not send emails to my UTEP address. I will respond to you within 24 hours.

Online learning is not a spectator sport. It is everyone's responsibility to participate fully so everyone gets the most from the experience. Here are some simple rules to follow to ensure participation and engagement in the learning process:

Ask Questions: I created a Discussion Forum entitled **Help Board**, located under the *General Discussion Forums* tab on the *Home Page*. The Help Board is for asking questions related to issues you may be having with content, video or podcast access, etc. **If you are having technical difficulties, you will probably be directed to tech support.**

Reach Out to Others: You can help each other learn by offering a fact, an article, link or any other resource. I have created a Discussion Forum entitled **The People's Internet Café**, located under the *General Discussion Forums* tab on the *Home Page*. The People's Internet Café is for the entire class to introduce yourselves, share relevant information, and participate in leisure conversations. 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, attacks toward other students or the instructor.

Required Software:

Please make sure 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. Blackboard works best with **Mozilla Firefox** especially when screening videos. Google Chrome works okay but not for screening videos and Safari and Internet Explorer experience the most problems with Blackboard. **Please work with Mozilla Firefox, it is by far your best bet!**

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 have provided *Course Policies and Procedures*, and a *Grading Rubric*. This information is under *Course Resources* 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.

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 referred to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR) for disciplinary action.

Use of **Artificial Intelligence** or **AI** technologies or automated tools, particularly generative AI such as ChatGPT or DALL-E, **is not allowed** for assignments in this course. Each student is expected to use critical and creative thinking skills to complete tasks and *not rely on computer-generated ideas*. Any direct use of AI-generated materials submitted as your own work will be treated as plagiarism and reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR).

Students Needing Accommodations and Support Services:

I will make any reasonable accommodation for students with differing abilities. Please contact me immediately to discuss any special needs you might have. You must have the proper documentation to receive specific accommodation. For further assistance, contact the **Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS)** at (915) 747-5148, or by email to 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

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:

Deadlines 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. Carefully read the Course Calendar and all instructions. Good time management skills are required for distance learning, and it is your responsibility to meet all class requirements.

Learning Modules:

The course 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. Each theme-related learning module contains some or all of the following: short introductions; lectures, which deal with the topic(s) at hand; all reading, video, and podcast links; quiz links; and assignment links. Theme-related learning modules will last approximately 13 days.

Any embedded quiz and assignment links will open according to the dates in the course calendar and will close according to the scheduled deadlines in the course calendar. See Course Calendar for all due dates and deadlines. You will not see Quiz and/or Assignment links until they are scheduled on the Course Calendar.

1. Quizzes (20%): There will be four (4) quizzes, one in each of the first four Learning Modules. There is no quiz during the week of the Final Exam. The quiz links will be embedded in each learning module. **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 a Quiz link until they are scheduled on the Course Calendar. **See course calendar for scheduled quiz dates and deadlines.**

2. Critical Essay: Who Am I?: Understanding Identity Formation (20%): You will submit one (1) Critical Essay for Learning Modules 2. The paper will be 3-4 pages in length, double-spaced, 12pt

font. I will provide detailed instructions and guideline questions to help you think critically about the assignment. **See Course Calendar for due dates.**

3. Critical Essay: Intersections of Ethnicity, Gender, and Citizenship (20%): You will submit one (1) Critical Response Paper for Learning Modules 3. The paper will be 3-4 pages in length, double-spaced, 12pt font. I will provide detailed instructions and guideline questions to help you think critically about the assignment. **See Course Calendar for due dates.**

4. Photo Blogs Assignment (20%): You will submit one (1) Photo Blog Assignment for Learning Modules 4. The assignment will consist of two (2) photos and accompanying text. The submission will consist of 2-3 pages in length, double-spaced, 12pt font. I will provide detailed instructions and guideline questions to help you think critically about the assignment. **See Course Calendar for due dates.**

5. Final Exam (20%): There will be a comprehensive Final Exam that covers Learning Modules 2, 3, and 4. The final exam and detailed guidelines will be in Learning Module 5: Final Exam.

Grading Scale:

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

See Grading Rubric for additional information on quizzes, assignments, and final exam.

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:

The following is subject to change with reasonable notice to students. Any changes will be announced immediately.

Learning Module 1: Introduction and Getting Started

January 16 – 19, 2024

The following information is very important!

The first four days of this course are your opportunity to study the *course materials*: syllabus, course policies and procedures, and grading rubrics and to familiarize yourself with the Blackboard System. Ask me any questions you have regarding any of the course materials.

You are required to post an introduction to yourself in *The People's Internet Café* by Wednesday January 17, 2024, at 11:59pm (MST) AND you are also required to take the Syllabus/Plagiarism Quiz, which will be available Thursday, January 18, 2024, at 5:00pm (MST) until Friday, January 19, 2024, at 11:59pm (MST).

The quiz is based on your reading of the Syllabus, Course Policies and Procedures, the Grading Rubrics, and the Plagiarism video. The video is in the Learning Module entitled "Introduction and Getting Started." *The People's Internet Café* and *Help Board* are located under the General Discussion Forums tab on the Home Page.

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

Learning Module 2 – The Racial Construction of the Mexican-American

January 20 – February 1, 2024

All readings, videos, and podcasts listed are required.

Read – Ian Haney López, “The Social Construction of Race,” 191-203; and Neil Foley, “Becoming Hispanic: Mexican Americans and Whiteness,” 59-69

Video – “**A Class Apart**” (50 mins.) FoD

Read – Gilbert Gonzalez, “Segregation of Mexican Children in a Southern California City,” 55-76

Video – “**Chicano! Taking Back the Schools**” (54 mins.) YT

Read - Beverly D. Tatum, “The Complexity of Identity,” 7-9; and Gwen Kirk and Margo Okawaza-Rey, “Who Am I? Who Are My People?” 10-15

Podcast – “**Latinx, Hispanic, Chicano/a: How and why do people self-identify?**” (41 mins.) TXPR

LM2 Reading Quiz: available from January 27 at 8:00am (MST) to Jan. 28, 2024, at 11:59pm (MST).

Critical Essay Assignment: due on February 1, 2024, at 11:59pm (MST).

Learning Module 3 – Intersections of Ethnicity, Gender, and Citizenship

February 2 – February 14, 2024

All readings, videos. And podcasts listed are required.

Read – Gregg Barak, et. al. “Understanding Gender and Male Privilege,” pgs. 127-146; and Steven Rosales, “Making Masculinity in the U.S. Military,” 118-136

Podcast – “**Belonging, Recruitment, and Remembrance**” (59 mins.) LAUSA

Read – Judith Lorber “Night to His Day,” 54-65

Video – “**Birth on the Border**” (28 mins.) K

Read – Linda Heidenreich, “Learning from the Death of Gwen Araujo,” 118-135

Video – “**Southwest of Salem**” (92 mins.) K

Reading Quiz: available from Feb. 9, 2024, at 8:00am (MST) to Feb. 10, 2024, at 11:59pm (MST).

Critical Essay Assignment: due on February 14, 2024, at 11:59pm (MST).

Learning Module 4 – Class and Identity in the Borderlands

February 15 – February 27, 2024

All readings, videos, and podcasts listed are required.

Read – Greg Mantios, “Class in America,” 173-182; and “Las Marthas,” 101-131

Video – “**Las Marthas**” (69 mins.) K

Read – bell hooks, “White Poverty: The Politics of Invisibility,” 214-217;

Video – “**The Forgotten Americans: Poverty on the Texas Border**” (57 mins.) K

Read – Pablo Vila, “Identity and Empowerment on the Border,” 40-47

Podcast – “**Anything For Selena: Tejano Tension**” (39 mins.) WBUR

Reading Quiz: available from Feb. 22 at 8:00am (MST) to Feb. 24, 2024, at 11:59pm (MST).

Photo Blogs Assignment: due on February 27, 2024, at 11:59pm (MST). I will provide a detailed assignment sheet located inside of this learning module.

Note: Last Day to Withdraw with a “W” is February 19, 2024

Learning Module 5 – Final Exam

February 28 – March 4, 2024

Final Exam Submission Link will open March 1, 2024, at 8:00am (MST) and will close March 4, 2024, at 11:59pm (MST).