Faculty: Dr. Irma V. Montelongo
Student: Eric A. Ponce

Independent Study Theme: Hybrid Consciousness and Chicana/o/x Identity Formation

Independent Study Description:
This independent study will focus on Chicana/o/x identity formation in the U.S. and how intersections of race, class, gender, and sexuality inform hybrid identities and how they situate themselves within their communities. Some of the themes to be analyzed include family relations, cultural traditions, homophobia, violence, drug use, and cultural disconnect. Eric will develop a Review of Literature (25-30 pages) based on his analysis of the sources listed below. Additionally, Eric will develop poetry and short fiction pieces to accompany the literature analysis.

The guiding questions for the study are:
- How and why do Chicana/o/xs form hybrid identities in the U.S.?
- How do Chicana/o/xs situate themselves within their many communities?
- How does Chicana/o/x identity unfold within the texts being analyzed?
- How and why do Chicana/o/xs mythologize their own identities?

Reading List:
Books:
- Gil Cuadros, City of God
- Sesshu Foster, World Ball Notebook
- Oscar Zeta Acosta, Autobiography of a Brown Buffalo
- Lorna Dee Cervantes, Emplumada
- Pablo Miguel Martinez, Brazos, Carry Me
- Cherrie Moraga, Loving in the War Years
- Jose Esteban Muñoz, Disidentifications: Queers of Color and the Performance of Politics
- Daniel Alexander Jones, Love Like Light: Plays and Performance Texts
- Adelina Anthony, et al., Tragic Bitches: An Experiment in Queer Xicana and Xicano Performance Poetry

Articles:
- Pablo Vila, “Identity and Empowerment on the Border,” 40-47
- Yolanda Chávez Leyva, “There is great good in returning”: A Testimonio from the Borderlands, 1-9
- Daniel Enrique Pérez, “Toward a Mariposa Consciousness: Reimagining Queer Chicano and Latino Identities,” 95-127

Course Calendar:
January 16, 2024: Meeting to discuss readings, themes, and written project
January 31: Discuss Acosta, Foster, and Rodriguez
February 14: Discuss Moraga, Cuadros, and Vila
February 28: Discuss Martinez, Cervantes, and Leyva
March 13: Spring Break
March 27: Discuss Jones
April 10: Discuss Muñoz and Anthony, et al., and Pérez
April 24: Meeting to discuss final Project
May 8: Submit Final Project