

The University of Texas at El Paso

## ***La Chicana***

CHIC 3301, CRN 15451, Fall 2015

**UTEP CONNECT:** 100% Online Course: Computer Access Required  
7-Week Course: October 26, 2015 to December 12, 2015

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

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This course syllabus and reading list may be subject to changes as circumstances warrant. Any such changes will be announced in advance and the syllabus will be updated.

**Course Description:** This course is an interdisciplinary examination of the social, political, and economic forces that characterize Chicana/o identities in American society. By comparing and contrasting historical and contemporary Chicana/o experiences, students will better understand how such issues as masculinity, whiteness, homophobia, nationalism, and globalization re-define, incorporate, or neglect Chicana/o identities in the United States. This course pays close attention to Chicana and third world feminism and the categories of gender and sexuality to better understand how Chicana/o identities challenge and negotiate American norms. Through texts, films, and discussion this class explores a variety of Chicana/o identities and how these identities are produced and conversely destabilized.

### **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 in Mexican American community and identity formation.
3. Develop their technology skills and learn to use software available for teaching and learning.
4. Understand theories of race, class, ethnicity, and gender in the shaping of both geo-political and metaphorical borders.
5. Connect the past to the present in an effort to better understand the world around them.
6. View themselves as global citizens.

### **Required Materials:**

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

### **Relevant Websites:**

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

The Moodle course shell contains all materials related to this course. You will also use Moodle 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 Moodle email.**

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

### **Our Virtual Classroom:**

All communication must be conducted through Moodle Email. Please do not send emails to my UTEP address. If you email me be sure to include as much information as possible to include your first and last name, title of class, and CRN number. I will respond to you within 24 hours.

**NOTE:** I will be checking Moodle and my email regularly Monday- Friday between 8:00am – 5:00pm. I do not check email or Moodle on Saturdays or Sundays.

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

**Ask Questions:** I have created is a Discussion Forum entitled **HELP BOARD**, located under the *Communication Forum* section on the *Home Page*. The *Help Board* is for asking questions related to content OR any problems you are having. Make sure that you have clearly indicated the subject of your message. **If you are having technical difficulties you will probably be directed to tech support.**

**Reach Out to Others:** Offer a fact, an article, link or other items that can help others learn something you can share.

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:**

Having your computer requirements checked and all software up to date is essential to access course content. Please take some time to access the following link read through the information provided to ensure you and your equipment get off to a successful start!

[http://utepconnect.utep.edu/documents/BestPractices\\_New/Check Your Technology.pdf](http://utepconnect.utep.edu/documents/BestPractices_New/Check Your Technology.pdf)

You will definitely need Adobe Acrobat Reader to access the readings for the class: If you do not have it on your computer you can download the program by going to <https://get.adobe.com/reader/otherversions/> and follow the instructions to install the reader.

You are also required to have a media player plug-in to view the assigned videos for this class. The most common plug-ins are Adobe Flash Player, Windows Media Player, QuickTime Player VLC Player. You can get a free media player plug-in by going to <https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/> and following the download instructions. If you use Google Chrome as your browser then the Adobe Flash Player is already built in.

When creating documents, slide presentations, spreadsheets, etc., you must use Microsoft Office or a compatible program (see 10 Free MS Word Alternatives). Microsoft Office is available at the UTEP bookstore to students at a discounted price. If you cannot purchase it you can access it at any of the computer labs on campus. 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 a set of *Course Policies and Procedures and Grading Rubric*. On the Home Page go to the *Course Information* section then click on *Course Resources* and then click on *Class Policies and Procedures and Grading Rubric*. Please access this as soon as possible and familiarize yourself with the do's 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, but is not limited to 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 ones' 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 will be referred to the Dean of Students Office for disciplinary action. Students may be suspended or expelled from the University for such actions.

### **Students with Disabilities:**

I will make any reasonable accommodations for students with limitations due to disabilities, including learning disabilities. Please see me personally before or after class in the first two weeks or make an appointment, to discuss any special needs you might have. If you have a documented disability 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 two weeks for classes. 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 11:55 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. In each Learning Module you will find a short Introduction; a Lecture, which deals with the topic at hand; all Readings and Videos; Quiz links; Assignment links; and Discussion Board links. Each Learning Module will last approximately ten (10) days.

**The embedded Quiz, Assignment, and Discussion links will open according to the scheduled due dates and deadlines.** See Course Calendar for all due dates and deadlines. Remember: You will not see a Quiz, Assignment, and/or Discussion link until the day that they are scheduled on the Course Calendar.

**Quizzes:** There will be four reading quizzes, one in each of the first four Learning Modules. There is no quiz during the week of the Final Exam. The quizzes will be located inside of the individual Learning Modules. Check course calendar for scheduled dates and deadlines for all quizzes.

### Individual Assignments:

You will submit three (3) assignments. You will submit two (2) Critical Response Papers for Learning Modules 2 and 3 and one (1) Photo Essay Assignment for Learning Module 4. I will provide a set of guidelines on “How to Write a Critical Response Paper” as well as a set of questions to guide your analysis, and I will provide a detailed assignment sheet for the Photo Essay that explains what is required. Check course calendar for assignment due dates and deadlines.

### Group Discussion Boards:

You will work in groups of five to six. Random groups will be generated the second week of class. These are permanent groups and no changes will be permitted. There will be two (2) *Group Discussion Boards* associated with Learning Modules 2 and 3, and participation in the group boards **is required**. You will find your Group Discussion Board Links embedded in the opening page of Learning Modules 2 and 3. Check course calendar for Group Discussion Board deadlines and due dates.

### The grades will be divided as follows:

Quizzes (4 each)	20%
Individual Responses (2) and Photo Essay Assignment (1)	30%
Discussion Boards (2 each)	25%
Final Exam	25%

### Grading Scale:

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

**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.

## **Course Calendar:**

**Learning Module 1:** Introduction: Moodle and Syllabus Orientation  
October 26 - 28

### **The following information is very important!**

The first two days of the course are your opportunity to study the syllabus and to familiarize yourself with the Moodle System. Use these two days to ask me any questions you have regarding course content as well as the class policies and procedures.

You must also post an introduction to yourself in the *La Soldadera Internet Café* by Tuesday October 27, 2015 at 11:55pm (MST). The Internet Café and Help Board are located under the General Discussion Links on the Home Page.

You are also required to take the Syllabus/Plagiarism Quiz, which will be available Tuesday October 27, 2015 At 5:00pm (MST) until Wednesday October 28, 2015 at 11:55pm (MST). The quiz is based on your reading of the Syllabus, Class Policies and Procedures, and the Plagiarism video. The video is located in the Learning Module entitled "Introduction: Moodle and Syllabus Orientation."

**NOTE:** The instructor cannot provide technical support. For questions concerning the site and any technical questions or support you must contact Moodle Tech Support at 1-877-382-0491.

### **Learning Module 2 - Placing Chicana/o Identities Into Historical Context**

October 29 – November 8

Read – Barak, et al, "Understanding Gender and Male Privilege," 127-146 and Castañeda, "Sexual Violence in the Politics and Policies of Conquest," 15-33

Videos – "Sexual Stereotypes in the Media"

**All videos listed in this course calendar are required viewing.**

**Reading Quiz:** available from November 1, 2015 at 5:00pm (MST) to November 2, 2015 at 11:55pm (MST).

**Individual Response Paper:** due November 4, 2015 at 11:55pm (MST).

Group Discussion Boards are in effect from November 5, 2015 at 8:00am to November 8, 2015 at 11:55pm (MST).

### **Learning Module 3 - Creating Identity in the 20th Century**

November 9 – November 19

Read – Peña Delgado, "Border Control and Sexual Policing," 157-178; and Escobedo, "The Pachuca Panic," 133-156;

Videos: "Dolores Huerta: Interview"

**Reading Quiz:** available from November 12, 2015 at 5:00pm (MST) to November 13, 2015 at 11:55 pm (MST).

**Individual Response Paper:** due November 15, 2015 at 11:55pm (MST).

Group Discussion Boards are in effect from November 16, 2015 at 8:00am to November 19, 2015 at 11:55pm (MST).

**Learning Module 4 - The Politics of Chicana/o Identity in the 21st Century**

November 20 - November 30

Read – Campbell, “Female Drug Smugglers,” 233-267; and Heidenreich, “Learning From the Death of Gwen Araujo,” 118-135; and Weber, “The Oaxacan Enclaves in Los Angeles: A Photo Essay,” 269-285

Video(s) – “Maria Hinojosa: Changing the Narrative”

**Reading Quiz:** available from November 24, 2015, at 8:00am (MST) to November 27, 2015, at 11:55pm (MST).

**Individual Photo Essay:** “La Chicana” due December 2, 2015 by 11:55pm (MST): I will provide a detailed assignment sheet inside of this Learning Module that explains what is expected for this assignment.

**There is no Group Discussion Board for this module.**

**Learning Module 5 - Final Exam** will be available on December 9, 2015 and will be accessible through December 12, 2015 at 11:55pm (MST). Good Luck!