

The University of Texas at El Paso

La Chicana

CHIC 3301, CRN 22555, Spring 2014

TTH 1:30-2:50 LART 108

Instructor: Irma V. Montelongo, MA
Office Hours Tues and Thurs: 3:00-4:30pm
(And by appointment)
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Course Description and Objectives:

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. Students will develop a number of skills to include critical thinking, reasoning, analysis, and maintaining a point of view, verbally and in writing.

Required Texts:

Rosalía Solórzano Torres and Francisca James Hernández, *Chicana Studies: An Introduction Volume I* (Kendall Hunt Publishing, 2010).

Benjamin Alire Sáenz, *Everything Begins and Ends at the Kentucky Club* (Cinco Puntos Press, 2012)

Course Requirements:

Attendance and Discussion: You are expected to attend class. Completion of the course depends on your attendance. If you miss a class period, it is your responsibility to obtain handouts (from the instructor) and notes (from a fellow student).

It is equally important that you **arrive to class on time!** If you are more than 10 minutes late to class **DO NOT bother entering the classroom!** Classroom door(s) will be closed 10 minutes after class starts and anyone not in their seats will receive an unexcused absence...period!

There are a few ground rules for discussion. You will regularly work in small groups discussing the assigned readings related to the class. Whether you are discussing in a group or as a class, please remember that the appeal of higher learning is that we can think and talk, maturely and

responsibly, about topics like race, class, gender, and sexuality. *Please make an effort to treat each other, and each other's contributions to class discussions, with respect.*

Reading Quizzes (25%): There will be reading quizzes throughout the semester; therefore, you must keep up with your readings to assure that you are prepared on a daily basis and arrive to class on time. **There are absolutely no make-ups for quizzes.**

Midterm Exam (35%): There will be a midterm exam tentatively scheduled for **March 20, 2014.**

Final Exam (40%): There will be a final exam tentatively scheduled for **May 8, 2014.**

Grading Scale: Final grades will be given according to the student's demonstrated level of mastery of the subject matter as determined by his/her assignments, class discussion, and attendance. The assignments for this course are based on a scale of 100 points. Letter grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Score</u>
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	0-59

Class Policies:

1. **Attendance:** Attendance and participation in class are required. Should you miss a class, you are still responsible for everything that is covered in that class. Missing class or being late is no excuse for missing a due date or misunderstanding an assignment. Therefore, you will want to make contact with a classmate, not the instructor, to find out what you missed. **There are no make-ups for in-class assignments or quizzes.**
2. **Dropping the Class:** Students may drop the class and receive a "W" any time prior to **April 4, 2014.**
3. **Format of Written Work:** All written assignments done outside of class must be typed using **black ink, Times New Roman 12 pt. font, 1 inch margins, double-spaced, on white paper.** Notes and in-class work must be legible.
4. **Deadlines:** Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the due date. Work handed in after the due date will be penalized 5pts. **per day** (not class period) that it is late. I will not accept work that is more than 3 days, **not class periods**, late. Any assignment may be handed in early.
5. **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.

6. **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, 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

7. **Student Conduct:** [From the Handbook of Operating Procedures: Student Affairs]: Each student is responsible for notice of and compliance with the provisions of the Regents **Rules and Regulations**, which are available for inspection electronically at <http://www.utsystem.edu/bor/rules/homepage.htm>.

We will have frequent discussions and students are expected to tolerate and respect the opinions of others. All students are expected to behave as responsible adults.

Please SILENCE cell phones before class and NO TEXT MESSAGING and/or FACEBOOKING during class!!!

Course Calendar: The following is subject to change with reasonable notice to students. Any changes will be announced in class. If you miss a class meeting it is your responsibility to ask about any changes.

Part 1: Understanding Chicana/o Identity and Positioning in America

Week 1: Tuesday (T) Jan. 21 – Introductions

Thursday (Th) Jan. 23 – Understanding Gender, Sexuality, and Race

Read: (Article) *Lorber*, “Night to His Day,” 54-65

Film: **Breaking the Illusion of Skin Color**

Week 2: (T) Jan. 28 – Intersectionality and Critical Consciousness

Read: (Text) *Martinez* “In Pursuit of Latina Liberation,” xxiii-xxviii and *Anzaldua* “La Conciencia de la Mestiza/Towards a New Consciousness,” 55-64

(Th) Jan. 30 – Negotiating Segregated Spaces

Read: (Text) *Orozco*, “Sexism in Chicano Studies and the Community,” 65-69 and *Trujillo*, “Chicana Lesbians: Fear and Loathing,” 70-75 and (Article) *Lugo-Lugo*, “A Prostitute, a Servant, and a Customer Service Representative,” 40-49

Week 3: (T) Feb. 4 – Representations in the Media

Film: Miss-Representation

(Th) Feb. 6 – Representations in Chicana/o Literature

Read: (Text) *James Hernandez*, “Intersectional Representations of Chicana/o Identity,” 76-94

Part 2: Creating Chicana/o Identity in the 20th Century

Week 4: (T) Feb. 11 – Coming to America

Read: (Text) *Garcia*, “The Chicana in American History,” 315-337 and “Flores de Andrade Recalls,” 153-155 and *Rubio-Goldsmith*, “Shipwrecked in the Desert,” 156-167

(Th) Feb. 13 – Early Community Organizing

Read: (Text) “Emma Tenayuca Reminisces,” 168-170 and *Chavez-Leyva*, “Faithful Hard-Working Mexican Hands,” 177-185

Week 5: (T) Feb. 18 – World War II and the Creation of the Pachuca/o Identity

Film: The Zoot Suit Riots

(Th) Feb. 20 – Defying the Status Quo

Read: (Article) *Escobedo*, “The Pachuca Panic,” 133-156

Week 6: (T) Feb. 25 – Confronting the Status Quo

Read: (Article) *Escobar*, “Bloody Christmas,” 171-199

(Th) Feb. 27 – Defining Chicana/o Civil Rights

Film: Latino Americans: Prejudice and Pride

Week 7: (T) Mar. 4 – The Chicana/o Movements

Read: (Text) *Sosa Riddell*, “Chicanas and El Movimiento,” 23-25 and *Hernandez*, “Chicana Feminists and Loyalists,” 136-148 and *Dicochea*, “Chicana Critical Rhetoric,” 95-106

(Th) Mar. 6 – Changing the System On Behalf of Chicana/os

Film: Walkout

Part 3: Third World Feminism, Labor, and Politics

Week 8: March 10-14 *Spring Break!!!!* Midterm Exam

Week 9: (T) Mar. 18 – **Guest Speaker: TBA**

(Th) Mar. 20 – **Midterm Exam**

Week 10: (T) Mar. 25 – What is Feminism?

Read: (Text) *Nieto-Gomez*, “The Development of Chicana Feminist Discourse, 217-238

(Th) Mar. 27 – Understanding Third World Feminism

Read: (Article) *Belen & Bose*, “U.S. Latina and Latin American Feminism,” 1113-1119

Film: **Isabel Allende – Tales of Passion**

Week 11: (T) Apr. 1 – Globalization on the U.S.-Mexico Border

Read: (Text) *Tiano*, “The Changing Gender Composition of the Maquiladora,” 341-352 and “Six Years of NAFTA,” 353-367

(Th) Apr. 3 – The Dire Consequences of NAFTA

Film: **Señorita Extraviada**

Last Day to Withdraw From Class is April 4, 2014

Week 12: (T) Apr. 8 – Latin American Voices and Concerns

Film: **Moyers and Company: Hispanic America’s Turn**

(Th) Apr. 10 – Negotiating the Institution

Read: (Article) *Arriola*, “No hay mal que por bien no venga” 372-392

Part 4: The Politics of Chicana/o Identity in the 21st Century

Week 13: (T) Apr. 15 – Understanding Masculinity

Read: (Book) *Saenz*, “Everything Begins and Ends at the Kentucky Club,” 11-101

(Th) Apr. 17 – Creating Masculine Spaces

Read: (Book) *Saenz*, “Everything Begins and Ends at the Kentucky Club,” 102-157

Week 14: (T) Apr. 22 – Identity on the Periphery

Read: (Book) *Saenz*, “Everything Begins and Ends at the Kentucky Club,” 158-222

(Th) Apr. 24 – Latino Bodies in Contemporary Cinema

Film: **Gun Hill Road**

Week 15: (T) Apr. 29 – Gendered and Sexual Identities

Read: (Text) *Heidenreich*, “Learning From the Death of Gwen Araujo,” 118-135

(Th) May 1 – Transcending Boundaries

Film: **Two Spirits**

Week 16: (T) May 6 – No Class: Prepare for Final Exam

(Th) May 8 – **Final Exam**