

The University of Texas at El Paso

La Chicana

CHIC 3301, CRN 32595, Summer II 2014
M-F 11:40-1:50 LART 323

Dr. Irma V. Montelongo

Office Hours M-F: 2:00-3:00pm

(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: Students are required to download all readings available on Blackboard.

Course Requirements:

Attendance and Discussion: You are expected to attend class and *be there on time*; 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).

There are a few ground rules for discussion. 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.*

Weekly Exams (20% each): There will be three (3) weekly in-class exams. See Course Calendar for scheduled dates. These are essay exams based on the readings, films, and discussions for that week.

Final Comprehensive Exam (40%): There is a final comprehensive exam that covers the entire summer session scheduled for **August 4, 2014 from 1:30-3:45pm.**

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. **This is a short semester so there are no make-ups for exams.**
- 2. Dropping the Class:** Students may drop the class and receive a "W" any time prior to **July 25, 2014.**
- 3. 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.
- 4. 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
- 5. 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 Gender, Race, and Class

Week 1: Monday (M) July 7 – Introductions

Tuesday (T) July 8 – Understanding Gender and Sexuality

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

Wednesday (W) July 9 – Understanding Racial Formation

Read: Ruiz, “Racial Constructions in Chicana/o Historiography” 343-360

Thursday (Th) July 10 – Gendered Stereotypes in American Media

Film: Miss Representation

Friday (F) July 11 – Essay Exam #1 on Gender and Race Formation

Part 2: Creating Identity in the 20th Century

Week 2: (M) July 14 – Mexican Identity at the Turn of the 20th Century

Read: Garcia, “The Chicana in American History,” 315-33

(T) July 15 – World War II and the Creation of the Pachuca/o Identity

Read: Escobedo, “The Pachuca Panic,” 133-156

(W) July 16 – The Chicana/o Movements

Read: Hernandez, “Chicana Feminists and Loyalists,” 136-148

(Th) July 17 – Stereotypes on the Big Screen

Film: The Bronze Screen

(F) July 18 – Essay Exam #2 on Chicana Identity Formation in the 20th C

Part 3: Health, Bodies, and Social Control

Week 3: (M) July 21 – Chicana/o Bodies: Health Issues

Read: Ramos, “Latina Women: Healthcare Disparities,” 258-271

(T) July 22 – Chicana Bodies: A Complex Terrain

Read: Santos, “The Chicana Canvas,” 91-120

(W) July 23 – Latina Bodies in Contemporary Cinema

Read: Báez – “Towards a Latinidad Feminista,” 109-128

(Th) July 24 – Social Control and Chicana Bodies

Film: Real Women Have Curves

(F) July 25 – Essay Exam #3 on Bodies and Social Control

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

Week 4: (M) July 28 – Erasing Chicana/o Identity

Film: Precious Knowledge

(T) July 29 – The Politics of Masculinity

Read: Flores and Hondagneu-Sotelo, “Chicano Gang Members in Recovery,” 476-490

(W) July 30 – Transcending Identities

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

(Th) July 31 – Erasing Chicana/o Bodies

Film: A Girl Like Me: The Gwen Araujo Story

(F) Aug. 1 – No Class – Study for Final Exam

Final Exam: August 4, 2014 from 1:30 – 3:45pm in this same classroom.