

The University of Texas at El Paso

## ***La Chicana***



CHIC 3301, CRN 25512, Spring 2016

100% Online Course: Computer Access Required

8-Week Course: March 21, 2016 to May 14, 2016

**Dr. Irma V. Montelongo**

Office Hours: **Contact via Blackboard**

Office: Graham Hall 110B

Phone: 915-747-7612

Email: imontelo@utep.edu

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.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

**By the end of this course students will:**

1. Develop the critical thinking and analytical skills necessary for effective communication in a virtual community.
2. Connect the past to the present in an effort to better understand the world around them.
3. Identify, analyze, and articulate the central themes in Mexican American identity formation.
4. Understand theories of race, class, ethnicity, and gender in the shaping of both geo-political and metaphorical borders.
5. Develop their technology skills and learn to use software available for teaching and learning.
6. View themselves as global citizens.

**Required Materials:**

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

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

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

**\*\*\* 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 communication must be conducted through Blackboard 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 Blackboard and my email regularly Monday- Friday between 8:00am – 5:00pm. I do not check email or Blackboard 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 *General Discussion Forum* tab 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:**

Please make sure that all of your computer hardware is working properly and please make sure that you have all of the required software and that the software is up to date.

Please access the Blackboard course shell. On the left hand side of the Home Page under the Course Tools you will see the first link entitled ***Are You Ready for Online Learning?*** Please access that link and then click on ***Check Your Technology***. Read this section carefully to ensure that you have the necessary software. If you do not, you will find links on this page for downloading the necessary software and it is free. 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.*). 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). 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 a *Grading Rubric*. On the *Home Page* go to the *Course Resources* folder and then click on *Class Policies and Procedures* and/or the *Grading Rubric*. Please access them 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. I also embedded the Course Policies and Procedures in the first Learning Module: Introduction and Getting Started

### **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 twelve (12) 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: 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 detailed assignment sheet for the Photo Essay that explains what is required. The Photo Essay Assignment Sheet will be embedded in Learning Module 4. After the first response papers for Learning Module 2 are graded, I will pick one paper that I feel is a good example of a response paper and I will also post it in the Course Resources Folder on the Home Page.

I provided a set of guidelines on “**How to Write a Critical Response Paper**” located in the Course Resources Folder on the Home Page. I will also provide a set of questions to guide your analysis and these questions will be located in the assignment link. After you write your Critical Response Paper you must develop one critical question from that response paper. In other words, after you read your critical response, what is the one main question that your paper is asking? What was the main question you asked yourself as you wrote the paper? Write the question at the end of your critical response paper, SAVE IT, and submit your paper. Then, take that question and post it to your Group Discussion Board as a new thread. All of this must be completed by Monday at 11:59pm (MST) of the scheduled due date.

**Check course calendar for assignment due dates and deadlines.**

Then, as a group you will discuss each other’s questions for the remainder of the week.

**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 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 and Getting Started**  
March 21 – 25, 2016

The first week of the course is your opportunity to study the Syllabus, Course Policies and Procedures and Grading Rubric, and to familiarize yourself with the Blackboard System. Use this week to ask me any questions you have regarding course content as well as the class policies and procedures and grading rubrics.

You must also post an introduction to yourself in the *La Soldadera Internet Café* by Wednesday **March 23, 2016 at 11:59pm (MST)**. The Internet Café and Help Board are located under the Communication Forums Link on the Home Page, and I also provided a link to *La Soldadera Internet Café* inside of Learning Module 1.

You must also access the brief video entitled "**Plagiarism.**" The video link is embedded in Learning Module 1. This video provides very important information for writing and submitting assignments, especially in an online course. Please pay close attention to this information so that you avoid plagiarism at all cost.

Finally, for Week 1 you are also required to take the Syllabus/Plagiarism Quiz, which will be available **Thursday March 24, 2016 at 5:00pm (MST) until Friday March 25, 2016 at 11:59pm (MST)**. The quiz is based on your reading of the Syllabus, Class Policies and Procedures, Grading Rubric, and the Plagiarism video.

**The following information is very important!**

Use this week to ask me any questions you have regarding course content as well as the class policies and procedures and grading rubric, **BUT, not technical issues!** I cannot provide

technical support. For questions concerning the site and any technical questions or support you must contact the UTEP Help Desk at (915)747-5257 or at [helpdesk@utep.edu](mailto:helpdesk@utep.edu) or Blackboard Tech Support (24/7) at 1-877-382-0491

### **Learning Module 2 – Mexicanas Creating Identity in the 20th Century United States**

March 26 – April 8, 2016

**Read** – Barak, et al, “Understanding Gender and Male Privilege,” 127-146 and Cypress, “Mother Malinche,” 14-27; and Hernandez, “Chicana Feminists and Loyalists,” 136-148.

**Videos:** “Sexual Stereotypes in the Media”  
“The Real Sonia Sotomayor”

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

**Reading Quiz:** available from March 31, 2016 at 5:00pm (MST) to April 1, 2016 at 11:59pm (MST).

**Individual Response Paper:** due April 4, 2016 at 11:59pm (MST).

Group Discussion Boards are in effect from April 5, 2016 at 8:00am to April 8, 2016 at 11:59pm (MST).

### **Learning Module 3 – Mexicanas Creating Identity in the 20th Century United States**

April 9 – April 22, 2016

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

**Videos:** “Dolores Huerta: Interview”  
“President Polk and the Mexican American War”  
“Public Opinion of the Mexican American War”  
“The Treaty Of Guadalupe Hidalgo”  
“Zoot Suit Riots”

**Podcasts:** “Mexican Repatriation”  
“Illegal Alien”  
“Chicana Feminism”

**Reading Quiz:** available from April 14, 2016 at 5:00pm (MST) to April 15, 2016 at 11:59pm (MST).

**Individual Response Paper:** due April 18, 2016 at 11:59pm (MST).

Group Discussion Boards are in effect from April 19, 2016 at 8:00am to April 22, 2016 at 11:59pm (MST).

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

April 23 - May 06, 2016

**Read** – Cammarota, “Misspoken in Arizona,” 321-333; and Heidenreich, “Learning From the Death of Gwen Araujo,” 118-135

**Video(s):** “ Matthew Shepherd Dies After Being Severely Beaten in Apparent Hate Crime”  
“Tal Como Somos”

**Podcasts:** “Flirty Racism”  
“Intra-Latino Stereotypes”

**Reading Quiz:** available from April 28, 2016, at 8:00am (MST) to April 29, 2016, at 11:59pm (MST).

**Individual Photo Essay:** “La Chicana” due May 6, 2016 by 11:59pm (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 May 12, 2016 at 5:00pm (MST) and will be available through May 15, 2016 at 11:59pm (MST). Good Luck!