

The University of Texas at El Paso
CLASSROOM SYLLABUS

I. General Information

Course Title:	Chicana/o Studies: La Chicana
Course Number	CHIC 3301 CRN 10711
Course Dates:	October 21, 2024, through December 9, 2024

Required Materials:

1. Ramirez, Yasmin. (2022). *Ándale Prieta! A love letter to my family*. New York: Cinco Puntos Press. ISBN 9781947627550

All additional readings and videos posted on the Blackboard site are in the Learning Module for any week.

Relevant Websites:

All course content will be delivered via the *Blackboard* LMS. To access BlackBoard, go to <https://my.utep.edu/My> and click on the “Blackboard” tab on the left-hand side of the page. Follow the link in that box and log in 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 classmates or 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 check Blackboard EVERY DAY to ensure you get all the important announcements.

II. Instructor Information

Instructor: Josie Carmona

Office Hours: Bi-weekly Saturday zoom office hours and by appointment.

Contact Information: Email address: jcarmona6@utep.edu

III. Specific Course Information

Course Description:

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

Course Outcomes:

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. Identify and analyze differences and similarities among Mexican American experiences over time and space.
4. Demonstrate their understanding of the concepts of gender, sexuality, race, and class by using them to identify experiences of privilege and inequality as well as collaboration and conflict, within and between U.S. Latina/o communities.
5. Use an interdisciplinary approach to connect the past to the present in an effort to better understand the world around them and themselves as global citizens.

Course Schedule: Please review addendum Course Calendar which is updated each semester

V. Grading

Grade Scale:

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

Grade Weighting:

Discussion Blogs (4)	30%	Critical Reflection Journal #2	20%
Quizzes (4)	30%	Total	100%
Critical Reflection Journal #1	20%		

VI. Course Policies

Our Virtual Classroom:

I have provided a set of *Course Policies and Procedures* and a *Grading Rubric*. From the *Home Page*, go to the *Course Resources* folder. Along with a copy of the syllabus, you will find the *Course Policies and Procedures* and the *Course Grading Rubric*. Please access this as soon as possible and familiarize yourself with the dos and don'ts of the course and the grading scales for all assignments. The information provided is essential and crucial for your success in this course.

All communication with me must be conducted through Blackboard email. When you email me, include as much information as possible, including your first and last name, class title, and CRN number. I will respond to you within 24-48 hours.

NOTE: Online learning is not a spectator sport. Everyone is responsible for participating fully to get the most from the experience. Here are some simple rules to ensure participation and engagement in the learning process:

Ask Questions: I created a Discussion Forum entitled HELP BOARD under the *General Discussion Forums* tab on the *Home Page*. The *Help Board* is for asking questions related to the content OR any other problems you are having. Make sure that you have 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, article, link, or other items to 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, and/or attacks toward other students or the instructor.

Scholastic Integrity:

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, possessing 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 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. All suspected violations of academic integrity at The University of Texas at El Paso must be reported to the [Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution \(OSCCR\)](#) for possible disciplinary action. To learn more, please visit [HOOP: Student Conduct and Discipline](#).

Guidance on Artificial Intelligence: Using AI for brainstorming: Some AI technologies or automated tools, particularly generative AI such as [ChatGPT](#) or [DALL-E](#), can be beneficial during the early brainstorming stages of an activity, and you are welcome to explore them for that purpose. However, keep in mind that AI-generated ideas are not your own and may hinder your ability to think critically and creatively about a problem. It is also important to remember that these technologies often “hallucinate” or produce materials and information that are inaccurate or incomplete—even providing false citations for use.

That said, you are not allowed to submit any AI-generated work in this course as your own. If you use any information or materials created by AI technology, you are required to cite it like you would any other source. Consider how this will affect your credibility as a writer and scholar before doing so. Any direct use of AI-generated materials submitted as your own work will be treated as plagiarism and reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR).

Accommodations Policy:

The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. Students who become pregnant may also request reasonable accommodations, in accordance with state and federal laws and regulations and University policy. Accommodations that constitute undue hardship are not reasonable. To make a request, please register with the UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS). Contact CASS at 915-747-5148, email them at cass@utep.edu, or apply for accommodations online via the CASS portal.

Deadline Policy:

Deadline for assignments and quizzes is 11:59 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.

Technology Requirements:

Course content is delivered via the Internet through the Blackboard learning management system. Ensure your UTEP e-mail account is working and that you have access to the Web and a stable web browser. Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox are the best browsers for Blackboard; other browsers may cause complications. When having technical difficulties, update your browser, clear your cache, or try switching to another browser.

You will need to have access to a computer/laptop. You will need to download or update the following software: Microsoft Office, Adobe Acrobat Reader, Windows Media Player, QuickTime, and Java. Check that your computer hardware and software are up-to-date and able to access all parts of the course.

If you do not have a word-processing software, you can download Word and other Microsoft Office programs (including Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook and more) for free via UTEP’s Microsoft Office Portal. Click the following link for more information about [Microsoft Office 365](#) and follow the instructions.

IMPORTANT: If you encounter technical difficulties beyond your scope of troubleshooting, please contact the UTEP [Help Desk](#) as they are trained specifically in assisting with technological needs of students. Please do not contact me for this type of assistance. The Help Desk is much better equipped than I am to assist you!

Graduate credit for this course:

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.