

The University of Texas at El Paso

CLASSROOM SYLLABUS

I. General Information

Course Title:	Chicana/o Studies: Chicana/o Legal History
Course Number	CHIC 4301 CRN 16281
Course Dates:	August 22, 2022, through October 14, 2022

Required Materials:

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 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.

II. Instructor Information

Instructor: Josie Carmona
Office Hours: By appointment via Zoom
Contact Information: Email address: jcarmona6@utep.edu

III. Specific Course Information

Course Description:

This course examines the legal history of the Chicana/o community’s struggle for civil rights, social justice, and equal protection under the law. It interrogates legal theories on race and racial formation and the ways racial identity impacts the equal economic, social, and political rights of individuals. Additionally, the course explores the intersections of race, class, gender, and sexuality to better understand the complexities of both individual and community discrimination and its relation to the law. Lastly, it examines important precedent-setting cases in American law related to civil rights and the ways Chicana/os have legally challenged inequality in the U.S. Students will develop a number of skills to include critical thinking, reasoning, analysis, and maintaining a point of view, verbally and in writing. Additionally, this course will help students develop computer skills and electronic communication skills.

Course Outcomes:

1. understand the precedent-setting cases in American law and their relation to developing race relations in the U.S.
2. be able to explain how racial ideology was/is articulated in law.
3. understand how Chicana/o identity and community formation was/is embedded in social, political, and economic legal justice.
4. better understand the role of legal practices and their influence on the Chicano movement.
5. better understand intersections of race, class, gender, and sexuality and the discrimination and struggle for legal rights by people on the margins.
6. develop critical thinking and analytical skills necessary for effective communication both orally and written.

The guiding questions for this course are the following: What is the legal history of the Chicana/o community and the struggle for civil rights, social justice, and equal protection under the law? How do intersections of race, class, and gender impact the legal rights of marginalized individuals such as immigrants, women, and LGBTQ communities.

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:

Quizzes (4)	25%
Video Blog	25%
Critical Response Papers (2)	30%
Final Exam	20%
Total	100%

VI. Course Policies

Our Virtual Classroom:

I have provided a set of *Course Policies and Procedures and Grading Rubric*. From the *Home Page* go to the *Course Resources* folder. Here, along with a copy of the syllabus, you will find the *Course Policies and Procedures* as well as the *Course 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.

All communication with me must be conducted through Blackboard email. When 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 24-48 hours.

NOTE: Online learning is not a spectator sport. It is everyone's responsibility to participate fully so that everyone can get the most from the experience. Here are some simple rules 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 Forums* tab on the *Home Page*. The *Help Board* is for asking questions related to content OR any other 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, 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, and/or attacks toward other students or the instructor.

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, 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

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.

Required Software:

Having your computer hardware and all software up to date is essential to access course content. Please take some time to access the following link and read the information provided to ensure you are prepared for success! Check out this page, [Are you Ready for Online?](#)

You definitely need Adobe Acrobat Reader to access the lectures and readings for the class, as they are all (.pdf) files. If you do not have Adobe Reader on your computer you can download the program for free 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, and 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. 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.

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.