

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO
CLASSROOM SYLLABUS

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Course Title:	Chicana/o Studies: Societal Issues and Analysis
Course Number & CRN:	CHIC 3311 CRN 29038
Course Credit Hours:	3 Semester Hours
Course Dates:	March 21, 2016 to May 14, 2016

Required Materials:

Access to computer and internet
All readings and videos posted on the Blackboard site and are located in the Learning Module for any particular week.

Relevant Websites:

All course content will be delivered via the *Blackboard* LMS. To access Moodle 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
Contact Information: Email address: jocarmona@utep.edu

III. SPECIFIC COURSE INFORMATION

Course Description:

This course is designed to provide the student with a general understanding of past and present Mexican American culture and society. This interdisciplinary course examines education, labor, politics, immigration, and film to better understand how ethnic Mexicans create distinct cultures and identities in the United States. Issues such as citizenship, class, gender, and sexuality are also interrogated to increase awareness of the way that Mexican American culture and society constantly redefines itself. 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. 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

Week	Reading/Activities	Course Work
<p>March 21-March 27th Learning Module 1 Introduction, Blackboard and Syllabus Orientation</p>	<p>This week is your opportunity to study the long and detailed syllabus and to familiarize yourself with the Blackboard System.</p> <p>Post an introduction of yourself in <i>La Llorona Internet Café</i> by Tuesday, March 22, 2016 11:59 (MST).</p> <p><i>Internet Café and Help Board</i> are located under the General Discussion Links on the Home Page. Your Group Discussion Board Links are located under My Groups below the Course Content on the left hand side of the Home Page. Click on your group then on Discussion Boards and locate the appropriate Discussion Board. All Group Discussion Boards will be located in this manner.</p> <p>You will be required to take the Syllabus/Plagiarism Quiz, which will be available Thursday March 24, 2016 at 5pm until Friday March 25, 2016 at 11:59pm (MST). The quiz is based on your reading of the syllabus and the Plagiarism video located in the Table of Contents of the Introduction Learning Module</p> <p>NOTE: The instructor cannot provide technical support. For questions concerning the site and any technical questions or support you must contact Blackboard Tech Support at 1-877-382-0491 and they are available 24/7.</p>	<p>Introduction</p> <p>Syllabus/Plagiarism Quiz #1</p>
<p>March 28th – April 3rd Learning Module 2 Manifest Destiny- Re- Creating the American Southwest</p>	<p>Monday: Read – Weber, “Scarce More than Apes,” 153-167; and <i>Chávez</i>, “Race, Manifest Destiny, and the U.S. War with Mexico, 1-34</p> <p>Videos – “<u>The Golden Land</u>” <i>All videos listed in this course calendar are required viewing.</i></p> <p>Reading Quiz due: available from Thursday at 8:00am to Friday at 5:00pm (MST). All quizzes are located under the Table of Contents of each Learning Module.</p>	<p>Reading Quiz#2</p>
<p>April 4th – April 10th Learning Module 2 Manifest Destiny- Re- Creating the American Southwest</p>	<p>Individual Response Paper <u>and</u> Group Discussion Post due Monday by 11:59pm (MST): Type a 500 word response to Week 2 readings and videos then create 1 question related to the readings and video to the Group Discussion Board</p> <p>Group Discussion Boards are in effect from the moment you post your first response until Friday evening at 11:59pm (MST).</p>	<p>Individual Response Paper #1</p> <p>Group Discussion Board Question Posting</p>
<p>April 11th – April 17th Learning Module 3 Identity and Resistance in the 20th Century: Becoming American</p>	<p>Monday: Read – Ruiz, “Star Struck,” 109-129; and Ramirez, “Sayin’ Nothin,” 1-33; and Escobar, “The Dialects of Repression,” 1483-1514</p> <p>Videos: “<u>A Class Apart</u>” and “<u>Chicano! Quest For a Homeland</u>”</p>	<p>Reading Quiz #3</p>

	Reading Quiz due: available from Thursday at 5:00pm to Friday at 11:59pm (MST) . All quizzes are located under the Table of Contents of each Learning Module .	
Week	Reading	Course Work
April 18th – April 24th Learning Module 3 Identity and Resistance in the 20th Century: Becoming American	Individual Response Paper and Group Discussion Post due Monday by 11:59pm (MST): Type a 500 word response to Week 4 readings and videos then then create 1 question related to the readings and video to the Group Discussion Board	Individual Response Paper #2 Group Discussion Board Question Posting
April 25th – May 1st Learning Module 4 Educational Advancement in Chicana/o Communities	Monday: Read – Gonzalez, “Segregation of Mexican Children” 55-76; and Rodriguez and Ruiz, “At Loose Ends,” 1689-1699; and Cabrera, “The Fight for Mexican American Studies,” 20-24 Videos – “ <u>Chicano! Taking Back the Schools</u> ,” and “ <u>Hispanic Education at the Crossroads</u> ” Reading Quiz due: available from Thursday at 5:00pm to Friday at 11:59pm (MST) . All quizzes are located under the Table of Contents of each Learning Module .	Reading Quiz #4
May 2nd – May 8th Learning Module 4 Educational Advancement in Chicana/o Communities	Individual Photo Essay due Friday, May 6, 2016 by 11:59 (MST) . The Photo Essay will consist of photos taken by you and accompanied by the text that reflect and symbolize your own communities. I will provide a detailed assignment sheet inside of the Learning Module.	Photo Essay Due
May 9th – May 14th Learning Module 5 Final Exam	The final exam is comprehensive and will cover Modules 2, 3, and 4. The final exam is available on Thursday May 12, 2016 at 5:00pm (MST) through Saturday May 14, 2016 at 11:59pm (MST). Good Luck!	Final Exam

IV. COURSE ORGANIZATION & ASSIGNMENT DETAILS

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. You will submit 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 set of guidelines on “How to Write a Critical Response Paper” as well as a set of questions to guide your analysis, and I will provide a detailed assignment sheet for the Photo Essay that explains what is required. Check course calendar for assignment due dates and deadlines.

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 in the opening page of Learning Modules 2 and 3. Check course calendar for Group Discussion Board deadlines and due dates.

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)	20%
Individual Responses (2) & Photo Essay	30%
Discussion Boards (2) each	25%
Final Exam	25%
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. Please do not send emails to my UTEP address. 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 hours.

NOTE: I will be checking my Blackboard email regularly Monday - Friday between 8:00am – 5:00pm (MST). I do not respond to email on Saturdays or Sundays.

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!

http://utepconnect.utep.edu/documents/BestPractices_New/Check_Your_Technology.pdf

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.