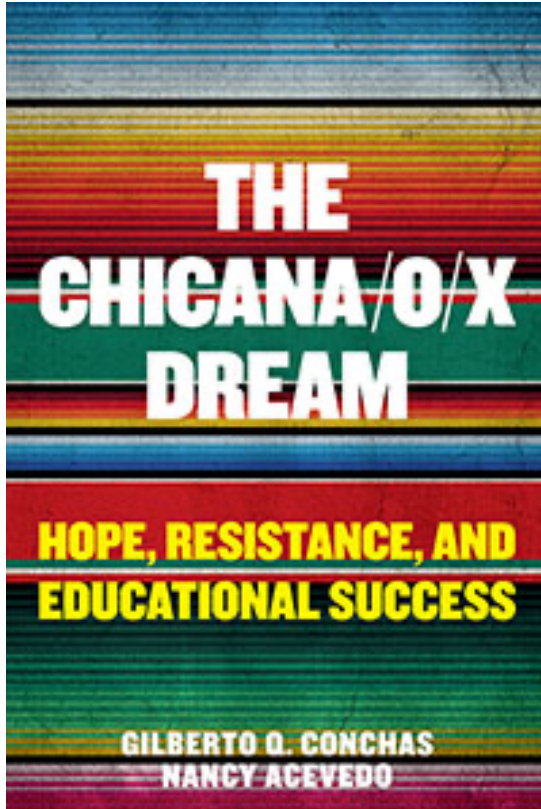# Cultural Diversity and Youth in the U.S
## -Syllabus-
### Department: Chicano Studies
### Instructor Information: Olivia Garcia, PhD (Dr. or Professor Garcia)

**Textbook:**

Required: The Chicana/o/x Dream
Hope, Resistance, and Educational Success
Gilberto Q. Conchas and Nancy Acevedo
ISBN-13: 978-1-68253-511-0

Optional book: Inventing Latinos
A New Story of American Racism
Laura E. Gómez
ISBN: 978-1-59558-917-0

**Additional required readings will be posted in Blackboard.**

## Course Description

CHIC 3339 is a Liberal Arts elective. This course introduces the student to the concept of racial and cultural diversity. The course also examines the political and educational experiences of the Mexican American and Mexican immigrant community in the United States given that they make up the largest racial and ethnic minority portion of the total U.S. population.

## Course Overview and Objectives

This course is intended to give students an understanding of Chicano/a Studies within the fields of education, politics and broader Latino Studies. By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Explain the formation of the Chicano identity and other racial and ethnic identities.
- Understand the socioeconomic conditions of various racial and ethnic groups in the U.S.
- Describe how the Chicano identity has impacted racial and ethnic educational and political systems.
- Critically think about and analyze the role of racial and ethnic identity within the readings.
- Understand the role of identity debates within education and politics in the U.S.
- Gain a better understanding of your own worldviews and opinions.

## Class Format

### Learning Modules

This course is **NOT** self-paced. Instead, this course is based on modules that open and close at specific times. Each module is "packaged" and has all the materials, lecture notes, and assignments for a given timeframe.

### Required Assignments

**Discussion Board Post:** Students are asked to complete an instruction assignment in the Discussion Board. This assignment calls for students to follow instructions and share a little bit of information about themselves.

**Quizzes:** Students will be asked to complete a quiz for each module to ensure they are keeping up with the course material. Students will have 3 hours (180 minutes) which already takes into consideration additional time for accessibility needs. Students have 2 attempts for properly submit quizzes. Only the latest submission will be graded.

The quizzes will be a combination of short answer and/or written responses to the course materials. Students should be prepared to use the course material as well as think critically about their own lived experiences to answer the questions in each quiz. Incorporating the course material into quiz responses is necessary.

**Written Exam:** Students will complete 1 written exam which is the final for this course. This exam would take about 3-4 hours, so students have 5 days to complete this assignment. This already considers additional time for accessibility needs.

<div align="center">THERE WILL BE NO EXTRA CREDIT OFFERED FOR THIS COURSE.</div>

### Final Grade Calculation

Your final grade in this class will be determined based on the 2 exams, chapter quizzes and participation assignments. A list of all assignments is provided below.

| Assignment | Points per assignment | Total for all assignments |
|---|---|---|
| Introduction – Discussion Board | 10 | 10 |
| Quizzes | 10 | 6 * 10 = 60 |
| Final | | 30 |
| *Total* | | *100* |

**Final Grade Distribution:**
100 – 90 Points = A
89-80 Points=B
79-70 Points=C
69-60 Points=D
59 and below Points=F
*Please note: There will be no curve used in grading and no grades will be dropped. It is best not contact me at the end of the term regarding extra points for a particular letter grade. Your grade is your accomplishment and mastery of the course material.*

All assignments are "open book" and "open notes," meaning that students can use any class materials they wish when completing these assignments. However, they cannot "collaborate" in any way with any person when completing the assignments. Doing so constitutes cheating and will be dealt with per the policy on academic dishonesty specified later in the syllabus.

*Course Communication: How we will stay in touch*
Because this is an online class, we won't see each other in the ways you may be accustomed to: during class time, small group meetings, and office hours. However, there are a number of ways we can keep the communication channels open:

- ***Students should communicate with the instructor via Blackboard only.***
  1. Be on the look-out for **Announcements.** When I need to communicate with all students, I will post in the Announcements section, and this will automatically send a UTEP email to all students. You should be on the look-out for those, but **do not reply** to a course announcement.
  2. **Blackboard Messages** – this is an email system for our course only which is the best way to communicate with me.
  3. **Discussion Board**: Students may also ask questions through Dr. Garcia's Open Forum in the Discussion Board and at office hours.
  4. **Office Hours**: We will not be able to meet on campus because this is an online course. I will still have office hours for your questions and comments about the course. My office hours will be held in Blackboard with a video, phone or chat option during these times Mondays: 4:30-6:30 pm Mountain Time or Fridays by appointment.
- **UTEP Email is for emergencies**: You should only contact me at: ogarcia10@utep.edu for emergencies like *a family member that you take care of is very ill, you are having a medical*

*emergency, or there has been a death in your immediate family.* Keep in mind that I will ask for documentation with regards to your unique situation.

- This is a last resort. You may also call or text me at: 202-891-8483 for emergencies only. Leave a message (this is a secure line) and I will get back to you as soon as I can. Remember to provide your full name, the course you are enrolled in and the purpose of your call. Keep in mind that I am on Eastern time, and I have other professional obligations outside of my UTEP faculty responsibilities.

### *Netiquette = Network Etiquette*

As we know, sometimes communication online can be challenging. It's possible to miscommunicate what we mean or to misunderstand what our classmates mean given the lack of body language and immediate feedback. Therefore, please keep these netiquette (network etiquette) guidelines in mind. Failure to observe them may result in disciplinary action.

- Always consider audience. This is a college-level course; therefore, all communication should reflect polite consideration of other's ideas and experiences.
- Respect and courtesy must be provided to classmates and to the instructor at all times. No harassment or inappropriate postings will be tolerated.
- When reacting to someone else's message, address the ideas, not the person. Post only what anyone would comfortably state in a face-to-face situation.
- Blackboard is not a public internet venue; all postings to it should be considered private and confidential. Whatever is posted on in these online spaces is intended for classmates and professor only. Please do not copy documents and paste them to a publicly accessible website, blog, or other space.

### 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, scanner, a webcam, and a microphone (for office hours). 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!

## Class and University Policies

### *Disclosures*

Because of the name of the material in this course, students sometimes share sensitive information with me.  Keep in mind, however, according to Texas law SB 212 (Senate Bill 212) that requires **all employees** of Texas universities **to report** incidents of sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking allegedly committed by or against a student or employee to a Title IX Coordinator or Deputy Title IX Coordinator. Under this law, an employee who fails to report or falsely reports such an incident will also be subject to criminal liability (misdemeanor) and termination of employment.  So please keep this in mind as you share sensitive information with me.

### *Excused Absences and Course Drop Policy*

According to UTEP Curriculum and Classroom Policies, "When, in the judgment of the instructor, a student has been absent to such a degree as to impair his or her status relative to credit for the course, the instructor may drop the student from the class with a grade of "W" before the course drop deadline and with a grade of "F" after the course drop deadline." See academic regulations in the UTEP Undergraduate Catalog for a list of excuse absences. I will not drop you from the course. However, if you feel that you are unable to complete the course successfully, please let me know and then contact the Registrar's Office to initiate the drop process. If you do not, you are at risk of receiving an "F" for the course.

### *Deadlines, Late Work and Absence Policy*

All deadlines are clearly labeled on the last page of the syllabus. Deadlines are firm. Late work is not accepted.

### *Make up Work*

Make-up work will be given *only* in the case of a *documented* emergency.  Note that make-up work may be in a different format than the original work, may require more intensive preparation, and may be graded with penalty points. If you miss an assignment and the reason is not considered excusable, you will receive a zero. It is therefore important to reach out to me—in advance if at all possible—and explain with proper documentation why you missed a given course requirement. Once a deadline has been established for make-up work, no further extensions or exceptions will be granted.

### *Alternative Means of Submitting Work in Case of Technical Issues*

I strongly suggest that you submit your work with plenty of time to spare in the event that you have a technical issue with the course website, network, and/or your computer. I also suggest you save all your work (answers to discussion points, quizzes, exams, and essays) in a separate

Word document as a back-up. This way, you will have evidence that you completed the work and will not lose credit. If you are experiencing difficulties submitting your work through the course website, please contact the UTEP Help Desk. You can send me a Course Message through Blackboard as back-up but it is preferred that you submit assignments in the proper black within Blackboard.

### Incomplete Grade Policy

Incomplete grades may be requested only in exceptional circumstances after you have completed at least half of the course requirements. Talk to me immediately if you believe an incomplete is warranted. If granted, we will establish a contract of work to be completed with deadlines.

### Accommodations Policy

The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students, staff, faculty, job applicants, applicants for admissions, and other beneficiaries of University programs, services and activities with documented disabilities in order to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Reasonable accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship on the University.  Students requesting an accommodation based on a disability must register with the [UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services](#) (CASS). Contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services at 915-747-5148, or email them at [cass@utep.edu](#), or apply for accommodations online via the [CASS portal](#).

### Academic 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.](#)

### Class Recordings

The use of recordings will enable you to have access to class lectures, group discussions, and so on in the event you miss a synchronous or in-person class meeting due to illness or other extenuating circumstance. Our use of such technology is governed by the Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and UTEP's acceptable-use policy. A recording of class sessions

will be kept and stored by UTEP, in accordance with FERPA and UTEP policies. Your instructor will not share the recordings of your class activities outside of course participants, which include your fellow students, teaching assistants, or graduate assistants, and any guest faculty or community-based learning partners with whom we may engage during a class session. **You may not share recordings outside of this course.** Doing so may result in disciplinary action.

*Copyright Statement for Course Material*
All materials used in this course are protected by copyright law.  The course materials are only for the use of students currently enrolled in this course and only for the purpose of this course. They may not be further disseminated.

*COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS*
Please stay home if you have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, so that we can work on appropriate accommodations. If you have tested positive for COVID-19, you are encouraged to report your results to [covidaction@utep.edu](mailto:covidaction@utep.edu), so that the Dean of Students Office can provide you with support and help with communication with your professors. The Student Health Center is equipped to provide COVID 19 testing.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that people in areas of substantial or high COVID-19 transmission wear face masks when indoors in groups of people. The best way that Miners can take care of Miners is to get the vaccine. If you still need the vaccine, it is widely available in the El Paso area, and will be available at no charge on campus during the first week of classes.  For more information about the current rates, testing, and vaccinations, please visit [epstrong.org](http://epstrong.org)

## UTEP Resources to help you succeed
Technology Resources
- [Help Desk:](#) Students experiencing technological challenges (email, Blackboard, software, etc.) can submit a ticket to the UTEP Helpdesk for assistance. Contact the Helpdesk via phone, email, chat, website, or in person if on campus.

Academic Resources
- [UTEP Library:](#) Access a wide range of resources including online, full-text access to thousands of journals and eBooks plus reference service and librarian assistance for enrolled students.
- [University Writing Center (UWC):](#) Submit papers here for assistance with writing style and formatting, ask a tutor for help and explore other writing resources.
- [Math Tutoring Center (MaRCS):](#) Ask a tutor for help and explore other available math resources.
- [History Tutoring Center (HTC):](#) Receive assistance with writing history papers, get help from a tutor and explore other history resources.
- [RefWorks:](#) A bibliographic citation tool; check out the RefWorks tutorial and Fact Sheet and Quick-Start Guide.

Individual Resources

- [Military Student Success Center:](#) Assists personnel in any branch of service to reach their educational goals.
- [Center for Accommodations and Support Services:](#) Assists students with ADA-related accommodations for coursework, housing, and internships.
- [Counseling and Psychological Services:](#) Provides a variety of counseling services including individual, couples, and group sessions as well as career and disability assessments.

## Important Course Dates between October 17– December 9, 2022

| Week | Date Available | Module | Assignment | Points | Due Date at 11:59:00 pm (Mountain) |
|------|---------------|--------|------------|--------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | October 17 | 1 – About the course – setting up for success | Introduction – Discussion Board Post | 10 | October 25 |
| | | | Quiz 1 | 10 | October 29 |
| 2 | October 24 | 2 – Who is Latino/a/x/e? Hispanic? Chicano? | Quiz 2 | 10 | November 5 |
| 3 | October 31 | 3 – Introduction to theory on Race and Ethnicity | Quiz 3 | 10 | November 12 |
| 4 | November 7 | 4 – Theory in Practice | Quiz 4 | 10 | November 19 |
| 5 | November 14 | 5 - Structural inequalities that Chicanos experience | Quiz 5 | 10 | November 26 |
| 6 | November 21 | 6 - University Chicano male and Chicana female students | Quiz 6 | 10 | December 3 |
| 8 | October 17 | Written Exam – Please do not start until after completing Module 6 | | 30 | December 9 |