

Chc/Lat 100B₁

W 04

Chicano/Latino Studies 100B / Social Science 173L
Latinos in a Global Society
Winter 2004

Professor Louis DeSipio
SSPB 5283
824-1420
LDESIPIO@UCI.EDU

Office Hours:

Tuesdays and Thursdays 2-3 p.m.

Course Overview:

Increasing migration from the Americas and the Caribbean presents both a challenge and an opportunity for Latino community formation. Immigration increases the size of the Latino community; national interest in Latinos follows this population growth. Further, because the roots of this migration can be found in all parts of the Americas and the destinations of the migrants include most urban areas of the United States, immigration serves as a pressure to create a durable pan-ethnic Latino identity. At the same time, this large-scale immigration creates expectations for Latino communities that cannot easily be met. Moreover, the community itself does not have the resources to ensure that new Latino migrants will be incorporated into U.S. society. The larger society is often unwilling to take on this responsibility.

In this class, we will examine four dimensions of Latinos in a global society. We will begin by assessing identity formation in Latino communities and the ongoing impact of immigration on this process. Second, we will assess the opportunities and resources for Latinos to organize to make demands on social and political institutions in U.S. society. Third, we will assess the degree to which Latino migrants (and, perhaps, their children) seek to maintain cultural and civic connections with their communities of origin. Finally, we will examine second generation Latinos (the children of Latino immigrants) to assess the likely path of their social and political development in the future.

Course Readings:

Readings are taken from three books, each of which is available for purchase and is on reserve at the library. The books are:

DeSipio, Louis. 1996. *Counting on the Latino Vote: Latinos as a New Electorate*. Charlottesville, VA: University Press of Virginia.

Márquez, Ben. 2003. *Constructing Identities in Mexican American Political Organizations: Choosing Issues, Taking Sides*. Austin, TX: University of Texas Press.

Levitt, Peggy. 2001. *The Transnational Villagers*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Portes, Alejandro, and Rubén Rumbaut. 2001. *Legacies: The Story of the Immigrant Second Generation*. Berkeley and New York: University of California Press and Russell Sage Foundation Press.

Please note that I assign readings for each week of the class (as opposed to each day that we meet). I strongly encourage you to complete the week's readings prior to our Tuesday meeting so that my lectures and class discussions will make more sense. We will primarily discuss each week's readings on Thursdays.

Course Requirements:

I will evaluate your performance in the course in three ways.

- 1) You must lead a discussion about one of the readings. These student-led discussions will take place in class each week, primarily on Thursdays. I will ask each student to sign up for one presentation. This will account for 15 percent of your final grade.
- 2) I will assign three analytical essay questions throughout the quarter. You must complete two of these essays and each essay should be between five and seven pages. You may complete whichever two you prefer. I would encourage you to pick assignments that do not conflict with assignments in other classes. I will only count the grades of the highest two when I calculate your final class grade, so if you complete the first essay and are dissatisfied with the grade you may complete the third essay and substitute its grade.

These essays will require you to evaluate arguments made in course readings and, to a lesser degree, themes raised in class discussions. You will be able to write your essay based on the course readings and will *not* have to do additional research. The essays will be due on the following dates:

	<i>Due date</i>	<i>Covers readings for</i>
1)	February 5	January 13-29 and February 3-5
2)	February 26	February 10-26
3)	March 18	March 2-March 18

Each of the two essays will contribute 30 percent to your final grade for a total of 60 percent.

- 3) The final exam will be at the time scheduled by the University (March 23, 4-6 p.m.). The exam will include short answer and essay questions that will require you to analyze and synthesize class readings, discussions, and lectures. We will discuss the exact format prior to the exam and I will welcome your input on how to design an exam that best tests your knowledge of the material. This exam will contribute 25 percent to your final grade.

Course Schedule and Assigned Readings

Part One Immigration and Latino Community Development

Week One—January 13 and 15 Course Overview &
Out of Many, One? Roots of Latino Identity Formation
READINGS: Portes and Rumbaut, chapters 1 and 2 (pp. 1-43).

Week Two—January 20 and 22 Regulating the Unmanageable: Immigration and Latino
Community Formation
READINGS: Portes and Rumbaut, chapter 3 (pp. 44-69).
Levitt, introductions and chapters 1 and 2 (pp. 1-72).

Part Two Latino Civic and Political Organizing

Week Three—January 27 and 29 Issues and Ideology in Latino Community Building
READINGS: DeSipio, chapters 1-4 (pp. 1-118).

Week Four—February 3 and 5 Institutions and Networks in Latino Communities
READINGS: Marquez, chapters 1-4 and 6-7 (pp. 1-67 and 91-125).

Essay #1 due at the beginning of class February 5.

Week Five—February 10 and 12 Naturalization and Latino Empowerment
READINGS: DeSipio, chapters 5-7 (pp. 119-186).

Part Three Latino Transnational Engagement

Week Six—February 17 and 19 Immigrants and the Tensions of the In-Between
READINGS: Portes and Rumbaut, chapters 4 and 5 (pp. 70-112).
Levitt, chapters 3 and 4 (pp. 73-126).

Week Seven—February 24 and 26 Is Transnational Engagement Durable?
READINGS: Levitt, chapters 5-7 and conclusion (pp. 127-216).

Essay #2 due at the beginning of class February 26

