

Chc/Lat 111A
Spring 2005

CLS IIIA Critical Issues in Chicano Latino Studies

Spring 2005

T Th 9:30-10:50, SST 318

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Office Hours: by appointment

Course Description

This course will survey various approaches, that is, theories and 'models', applied in studies of the Chicano Latino experience. Discussion will focus US imperialism and on matters of ethnicity, racism and class as they have been applied to explaining history of the Chicano Latino community. The course will focus on the late 19th century to the present with particular attention to US-Mexico economic relations. In the opinion of the instructor, the late 19th century and early 20th centuries provided the beginning point for Chicano history. Consequently, we shall examine the historical relations between Mexico and the US over the course of the 20th century as a means for explaining, among other things, a century of Mexican migration to the United States and settlement as barrios and colonias across the US.

All readings will either be handed out in class or emailed as attachments. Consequently, there are no required books to purchase.

Course Requirements

--Attendance at class meetings

--Read the assigned articles and come prepared to participate in class discussions (readings marked with asterisk will be emailed as attachments. Please note: *NYT* = *New York Times*; *LAT* = *Los Angeles Times*; *ORG* = *Orange County Register*).

--Take home mid-term and take-home final (50%+50%)

Course Outline (Includes readings/films/slide presentations)

I. Introduction: Theoretical Approaches in Chicano Latino Studies

II. Imperialism: The Critical Factor in United States History

Readings:

Max Boot, "The Case for American Empire," *The Weekly Standard*, Oct. 15, 2001.

Jay Bookman, "Now, Open Talk of Empire," *OCR*, May 11, 2003.

Emily Eakin, " 'It Takes an Empire,' Say Several U. S. Thinkers," *NYT*, April 2, 2002.

John Bellamy Foster, "Imperial America and War," *Monthly Review*, May 2003.
 Gilbert G. Gonzalez, "The Economics, Politics and Culture of U. S. Imperialism,"
 Unpublished ms*
 Arthur Herman, "In an Era of Only One Superpower, We're All Safer," *LAT*, Mar. 13,
 2005.
 Seumas Milne, "An Imperial Nightmare," *The Manchester Guardian*, Nov. 8, 2001.
 Stephen Foster Rosen, "The Future of War and the American Military," *Harvard
 Magazine*, May-June 2002.
 Trudy Rubin, "An Empire in Denial," *OCR*, May 5, 2003.
 William Rusher, "U. S. Too Big for Other Countries to Like," *OCR*, June 5, 2001.
 Paul Waugh, "Blair Under Fire over Advisor's Call for 'imperialism'" *The Independent*,
 Mar. 28, 2002.
 Mark Weisbrot, "The Unbearable Costs of Empire," *Business Week*, July 29, 2004.

III. U. S. Imperialism: The Critical Factor in Chicano Latino Studies.

Readings (to be emailed as attachments):

Gilbert G. Gonzalez and Raul Fernandez, "Empire and the Origins of Twentieth Century
 Migration from Mexico to the United States," from *A Century of Chicano
 History: Empire, Nations and Migration* (Routledge, 2004).*
 Gilbert G. Gonzalez, "The Economic Conquest and Its Social Relations," from *Culture of
 Empire: American Writers, Mexico, and Mexican Immigrants, 1880-1930*
 (University of Texas Press, 2004).*
 -----, "American Writers Engage Mexico," from *Culture of Empire*.*
 -----, "Imperialism and Labor: Mexican, Indian and Algerian Migrations in
 Comparative Perspective," from *Guest Workers or Colonized Labor?: Mexican
 Labor Migration to the United States*, (Paradigm Publishers 2005).*

III. Education of the Latino Community and Military Affirmative Action in the Age of Imperialism

Readings:

Gilbert G. Gonzalez and Raul Fernandez, "The Ideology and Practice of Empire," from *A
 Century of Chicano History*.*
 "Army Likely Won't Meet Recruiting Goals," *NYT*, Mar. 23, 2005.
 Max Boot, "Uncle Sam Wants *Tu*," *LAT*, Feb. 24, 2005.
 "Confronting the Graduation Rate Crisis in California," Harvard University Civil Rights
 Project, Mar. 24, 2005.
 Damien Cave, "For Army Recruiters, a Hard Sell From a Hard Sell," *NYT*, Mar. 27,
 2005.
 Paul Chavez, "Rights Group: Dropouts are Undercounted," *OCR*, Mar. 24, 2005.
 Monica Davey, "Un-Volunteering: Troops Improvise to Find Way Out," *NYT*, Mar. 18,
 2005.

- Monica Davey, "Recruiters Try New Tactics to Sell Wartime Army," *NYT*, June 14, 2004.
- Amy Goodman, "No Child Left Unrecruited: Army Recruiters Target High Schools," *Democracy Now*, April 20, 2004.
- Andrew Gumbel, "Pentagon Targets Latinos and Mexicans to Man the Front Lines in War on Terror," *The Independent*, Sept. 10, 2003.
- Ron Harris, "African-American Youths are Rejecting Army, Military Says," *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, Mar. 14, 2005.
- Erika Hayashi, "Campus Military Recruitment Roils Campus," *LAT*, Feb. 8, 2004.
- Duke Helfand, "Nearly Half of Blacks, Latinos Drop Out, School Study Shows," *LAT*, Mar. 24, 2005.
- Deborah Kong, "Seeking Equality," *OCR*, April 4, 2004.
- Jorge Mariscal, "'Lethal and Compassionate': The Militarization of US Culture," *CounterPunch*, May 5, 2003.
- James C. McKinley Jr., "Mexican Pride and Death in U. S. Service," *NYT*, Mar. 22, 2005.
- Jennifer Mena, "'Dream Act' Is a Study in Optimism," *LAT*, Sept. 19, 2004.
- Mark Mazzetti, "Recruiting Goals Are in Harm's Way," *LAT*, Mar. 17, 2005.
- Juan Pablo, "Hit the Road Sam: Communities Speak Out Against Army's Hip Hop Recruitment," *Village Voice*, Mar. 1, 2004.
- Greg Palast, "No Child's Behind Left: New Educational Eugenics in George Bush's State of the Union," <http://www.gregpalast.com/>, Jan. 21, 2004.
- Ann Pepper, "In Time of War: Thickening the Ranks," *OCR*, Mar. 4, 2004.
- Ann Scott Tyson, "Two Years Later, Iraq War Drains Military," *Washington Post*, Mar. 19, 2005.

NOTE: For those interested in the Black and Latino dropout problem checkout:
<http://www.civilrightsproject.harvard.edu/index.html>

IV. Free Trade, Migration and Labor

Readings:

- Kate Bronfenbrenner, "Employers Have Been Using the Threat of Capital Mobility..."
- Nancy Cleeland, "Off-the-Books Jobs Growing in Region," *LAT*, 2001.
- William Finnegan, "The Economics of Empire: Notes on the Washington Consensus," *Harper's Magazine*, May 2003.
- Gilbert G. Gonzalez, "Indentured Labor: A Convention in U. S. Mexico Relations," from *Guest Workers or Colonized Labor?**
- , "The Hispanic Challenge? Or the Imperialist Challenge," from *Guest Workers or Colonized Labor?**
- Paul Krugman, "The Debt Peonage Society," *NYT*, Mar. 8, 2005.
- Labor Council for Latin American Advancement, "Another America is Possible," August 2004.
- Evelyn Nieves, "Fla. Tomato Pickers Still Reap 'Harvest of Shame'," *Washington Post*, Feb. 28, 2005.
- Public Citizen Global Trade Watch, "The Ten Year Track Record of NAFTA," (2004)

Robert S. Scott, "NAFTA's Hidden Costs," Economic Policy Institute Briefing Papers
Alexandra Spieldoch, "NAFTA Through Gender Lens: What Free Trade Means for
Women," *CounterPunch*, Dec. 30, 2004.

Film:

Voces en el Campo/Voices in the Fields, produced by Ulla Nilsen and Selene Jaramillo
(1995).

V. The Economic War

Readings

Juan Forero, "Free Trade Proposal Splits Bolivian City," *NYT*, Mar. 9, 2005

"Bolivian Protests Stall Cargo, Prompt Food Shortages," *OCR*, Mar. 15, 2005.

-----, "Latin America Fails To Deliver on Basic Needs," *NYT*, Feb. 22, 2005.

"Guatemala Ratifies Trade Pact," *OCR*, Mar. 11, 2005.

Gary Polakavic, "Groups Gear Up to Battle Hemispheric Pact," *LAT*, Mar. 25, 2001.

Jorge Enrique Robledo, "Colombia and the Free Trade Agreement With the United
States," Washington Office on Latin America, Nov. 19, 2004.

Hector Tovar, "Bolivia Mired in War of Demands," *LAT*, Mar. 13, 2005.

VII. Conclusion