

Chc/Lat 154

F'04

Chicano/Latino Studies: CHC/LAT 154 Latino Metropolis  
(Same as Environmental Health, Science and Policy: E190U)

### Latino Metropolis

Instructors: Rodolfo D. Torres, Roberto Gonzales, Erualdo R. González

The course will explore (through readings, lectures & discussions, and films) the processes of Latino urbanization and racialized relations and labor in the US. Particular attention will be paid to the political economy of Latino communities in Southern California with selected comparisons drawing from other cities. In doing so, we will draw on critical social theory to assess the transformation of class relations of Latino urban life and culture.

As more Latinos live and work in urban spaces, they are gradually transforming the social and class relations and spatial practices that manifest the geographical and historical legacies of previous waves of urbanization, to suit their varied needs and to express their own diverse values. Concurrently, these urban Latino communities adjust to the influences of the built environments they encounter, as well as to the social fabric upon which they now imprint themselves. As U.S. urban spaces become the loci that constitute, constrain and mediate Latino identity formation and contestation, they yield new potential for political and social change as they shape new claims on urban futures.

#### Topics to be covered:

Class theory  
Theories of the state  
Theories of urbanism  
Transnational communities  
Postindustrial change  
Politics in a changing city  
Historical foundation of Chicano LA  
Comparative studies of Latinos in US Cities  
African American and Latino Relations

#### Required Reading:

LATINO METROPOLIS by Victor Valle & Rodolfo Torres  
SEEKING COMMUNITY IN A GLOBAL CITY by Nora Hamilton & Norma Chinchilla  
THE TRANSFORMATION OF CITIES by David C. Thorns

#### Course Requirements:

1. Students are required to turn in a journal every two weeks. The journal should contain your reflections on and reactions to the course readings, videos, lectures and class discussion. Assignment is worth a maximum of 25 points

2. STUDENT-LED DISCUSSIONS: Assignment requires each student (@ least once during the term) to lead a discussion on an assigned reading. The discussion should encourage students to discover what is most significant about the assigned reading.

The following may guide your thinking in preparing a presentation: What do the readings have to say regarding the topic for which they were assigned? How do the readings relate to each other? Note points of agreement, disagreement, or some other issue generated by the reading and explaining their theoretical and policy relevance. A 1-2 page outline must be submitted to Roberto Gonzales via email the day before the discussion. Roberto will make copies of the outline for distribution in class. Students are also encouraged to incorporate audio/visual materials in their discussions. Assignment is worth a maximum of 25 points.

3. Final Paper: 12-15 page paper dealing with a particular theoretical and/or policy issue. In addition students will be required to present a summary of their work in progress to the class. The presentation is expected to be no longer than 15 minutes.

4. Attend 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Open House, Chicano/Latino Studies Program Thursday, October 14, 4:00 to 6:00pm, Social Science Tower Plaza (ground Level)

Outline:

9/29	Introduction	
10/6	Chapter Chapter	3 (The Transformation of Cities) 1 (Latino Metropolis)
10/13	Chapter Chapters Hand-out	4 (The Transformation of Cities) 1 & 2 (Seeking Community in a Global City) "So Far From God, So Close to Ground Zero: The Mexicanization of New York" (Los Angeles Times Magazine, August 3, 2003)
10/20	Chapter Chapter	7 (The Transformation of Cities) 2 (Latino Metropolis)
10/27	Chapter Chapter	8 (The Transformation of Cities) 4 (Latino Metropolis)
11/3	Chapter Chapter	6 (Seeking Community in a Global City) 5 (Latino Metropolis)
11/10	Chapter Student Presentations	7 (Seeking Community in a Global City)
11/17	Chapter Chapter Student Presentations	8 (Seeking Community in a Global City) 6 (Latino Metropolis)
11/24	No Class	Research Day :)
12/1	Student Presentations	
12/8	Finals Week	