

University of California, Irvine
CHICANA/O LATINA/O STUDIES 61:
INTRODUCTION TO CHICANA/O LATINA/O STUDIES
Winter 2012
Thursdays: 7-9:50pm | Social Science Hall 100

Professor: Jessica Ordaz
Email: jordaz1@uci.edu
Office Hours: Thursdays 5:45-6:45pm and by appointment
Office: 375 Social Science Tower

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is an introduction to the historical experiences of the Chicana/o and Latina/o community. Through lectures, films, and readings, this course will address the topics of empire, colonization, imperialism, migration, labor exploitation, resistance, gender and racial formation, and economic development. We will examine the intersection of race, class, gender, and sexuality through an interdisciplinary and transnational perspective. This course will explore the Americas through a hemispheric lens and interrogate U.S.-Latin American relations. In studying the historic experiences of people from Latin America and the Caribbean, we will investigate the following: Mesoamerican culture and the colonization of the Americas; the territorial and economic expansion of the U.S.; immigration policy and repatriation campaigns; the racialization of labor; struggles for civil rights; overpopulation fears and reproductive regulation; and conclude by exploring contemporary human right violations against women in Latin America.

LEARNING GOALS:

This course fulfills two General Education requirements (III & VII). In meeting the “Social and Behavioral Sciences” requirement, we will explore the social realities of the Chicana/o and Latina/o community. Students will understand the scientific methods used in the acquisition of knowledge, the testing of competing theories in the social and behavioral sciences, and critically evaluate methods, findings, and conclusions in the research literature on human behavior. To meet the “Multicultural Studies” requirement, this course is designed to develop students' awareness and appreciation of the history and culture of the Chicana/o and Latina/o community in California and the United States.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- 1) Gonzalez, Juan. *Harvest of Empire: A History of Latinos in America*. New York: Penguin Books, 2011.
- 2) Anzaldúa, Gloria. *Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza*. San Francisco: Aunt Lute Book, 2007.
- 3) Camacho, Alicia Schmidt. *Migrant Imaginaries: Latino Cultural Politics in the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands*. New York: New York University Press, 2008.
- 4) Gaspar de Alba, Alicia. *Desert Blood: The Juarez Murders*. Houston: Arte Publico Press, 2005.

Additional articles are required and will become available via the UCI portal DropBox.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Attendance and Participation

Students are required to attend class prepared to engage in lecture. I may take attendance unannounced and your presence will count toward your participation. I expect you to come to class on time and stay for the entire duration of the class. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to complete the assigned readings and get the lecture notes from a classmate. The weekly readings must be completed *before class* in order to better understand lecture and participate in discussion. Lectures will be based on key concepts and themes and the instructor will not reiterate the specific details of all the readings. Thus, ask detailed questions about the assigned articles and books in section. I ask that you be thoughtful and respectful when expressing your ideas in class and section. You are expected to take notes during all PowerPoint presentations and film screenings, because this material will be on the midterm and final examinations.

Class Logistics

I require that all cell phones and other electronic devices be turned off. Laptops must only be used to take notes. If this becomes a problem, you may be asked to leave the room. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to speak with me during office hours, after class, or via email. When contacting me via email, I ask that you include the course name in the subject line.

It is up to the discretion of the professor to revise and change class assignments and reading as necessary to support student learning. Should any revisions or changes be made, students will be given ample time to accommodate to any changes.

Academic Honesty

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and students guilty of academic dishonesty shall be penalized appropriately. Academic dishonesty applies equally to electronic media and print, and involves text, images, and ideas. It includes but is not limited to cheating, dishonest conduct, plagiarism, and collusion.

For more information: http://www.senate.uci.edu/senateweb/default2.asp?active_page_id=754

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING:

Exams

The midterm and final examinations will be in-class, closed book, and will consist of short essay questions and term identification, covering topics from lecture, readings, and audio-visual materials used in class. Grades will be based on your ability to think critically, make thematic connections, and illustrate your comprehension of the course content. You will be expected to evidence your argument with specific examples pertaining to the course.

Quizzes

Quizzes will be given three times during the semester. Each quiz will be given at the start of class and the questions may cover assigned readings, lecture, and films.

Make-Ups

Make-up exams will not be accepted unless a valid reason is provided and approved. No credit will be given for missed exams or quizzes.

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Total Percent Value</u>
Section Participation	15%
Quizzes (3 quizzes worth 5 points each)	15%
Mid-term Exam	30%
Final Exam	40%

Grades

The instructor will use the +/- grading option for this course. A grade of "C" or better is required to meet the General Education requirements. A grade of "C-" or below will not satisfy the General Education requirements (UPS 300.004).

The grading scale is as follows:

A	100-94%
A-	93-90%
B+	89-87%
B	86-84%
B-	83-80%
C+	79-77%
C	76-74%
C-	73-70%
D+	69-67%
D	66-64%
D-	63-60%
F	59-0%

Students who require special accommodations must speak with me as soon as possible and before any assignments are graded. Students must first make arrangements with the Office of Disabled Student Services. In order for the appropriate accommodations to be made, students must present the instructor with an Accommodation Letter at the beginning of the semester or when the disability is verified.

For more information: <http://www.disability.uci.edu/>

LECTURE TOPICS AND REQUIRED READING:

January 12 **Introduction: Course Overview and Expectations**

In-Class Film: Viva La Causa! 500 Years of Chicano History

Readings:

1) Gloria Anzaldua, *Borderlands/La Frontera*: Ch. 1

January 19 **Mesoamerican Culture and the Colonization of the Americas**

QUIZ #1

Readings:

1) Miguel Leon-Portilla, "In the Language of Kings" PDF

2) Elizabeth Martinez, "The Story of the Chicana Begins" PDF

3) Gloria Anzaldua, *Borderlands/La Frontera*: Ch. 3, 4, 6

4) Juan Gonzalez, *Harvest of Empire*: Ch. 1

January 26 **Manifest Destiny and U.S. Involvement in Latin America**

Readings:

1) Elizabeth Martinez, "The New Invaders" PDF

2) Juan Gonzalez, *Harvest of Empire*: Ch. 2 & 3

February 2 **Immigration and Repatriation in the Twentieth Century**

QUIZ #2

Readings:

1) Juan Gonzalez, *Harvest of Empire*: Ch. 4-9

2) Elizabeth Martinez, "The Great Depression and the Repatriation" PDF

February 9 **The Bracero Program and the Racialization of Labor**

In-Class Film: Harvest of Loneliness

Readings:

1) Alicia Schmidt Camacho, *Migrant Imaginaries*: Ch. 1 & 2

February 16 **MIDTERM EXAM**

February 23 **The Chicano and Nuyorican Movements and Radical Feminism**

In-Class Film: Chicano! Quest for a Homeland

Readings:

1) John A. Garcia, "The Chicano Movement" PDF

2) Alicia Schmidt Camacho, *Migrant Imaginaries*: Ch. 4

3) Gloria Anzaldua, *Borderlands/La Frontera*: Ch. 2, 5, 7

4) Alma M. Garcia, "The Development of a Chicana Feminist Discourse" PDF

5) Elizabeth Martinez, "El Movimiento is Born" PDF

March 1 **Latina Fertility Control, Medicalized Nativism, and Public Health**

Readings:

1) Leo R. Chavez, "A Glass Half Empty" PDF

2) Alexandra Minna Stern, "Sterilized in the Name of Public Health" PDF

March 8 **The Neoliberal Economy and the Rise of “Maquilatitlán”**
QUIZ #3

Readings:

- 1) Alicia Gaspar de Alba, *Desert Blood*: Ch. 1-24
- 2) Juan Gonzalez, *Harvest of Empire*: Ch. 13
- 3) Alicia Schmidt Camacho, *Migrant Imaginaries*: Ch. 6

March 15 **Ni Una Mas: Manufacturing Femicide in Latin America and Course Review**

In-Class Film: *Señorita Extraviada*

Readings:

- 1) Alicia Gaspar de Alba, *Desert Blood*: Ch. 25-45
- 2) Rosa Linda Fregoso, “Toward a Planetary Civil Society” PDF
- 3) Melissa W. Wright, “The Dialectics of Still Life” PDF

FINAL EXAMINATION:
Thursday, March 22, 7pm-9pm