Chicano Studies 2: The Mexican American in Contemporary Society: SPRING 2015
Section Number 0154: Internet Class: https://myetudes.org/portal
Los Angeles Mission College. Professor José A. Maldonado
Office Hours: Wednesday, 4 pm – 6:30 pm, and by appointment
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SYLLABUS

This course will introduce students to some of the major characteristics of the Chicano-Mexicano community. Special attention will be given to the social, cultural, economic and political elements, which differentiate persons of Mexican descent from other ethnic groups in the present-day United States. The purpose of the course is to provide students with a broader knowledge of the forces that shape the lives of Mexican-descended peoples in today’s society.

Grading will be based on 2 Research Notes Exercises, 5 Forum discussions, four 4-page Chapter Summaries, and a 5-part Oral History Project. ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE ON THE SUNDAY NIGHT BEFORE THE FOLLOWING WEEK BEGINS. LATE PAPERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. NO EXCEPTIONS. BE SURE TO READ ALL MOODLE TUTORIALS SO YOU KNOW HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR WORK! There are no exams.

Required Texts:

Class Schedule:
Week 1, February 9: INTRODUCTION: The Roots of Identity and Denial
Assignment Due: Forum Discussion 1

Assignment Due: Oral History Project # 1 Quiz Due

Week 3: February 23: The Immigration Debate: Brief History of Mexican Migration
Assignment Due: Chapter Summary 1

Week 4: March 2: The Immigration Debate- Proposition 187 and HR 4437
Assignment Due: Forum Discussion 2

Week 5: March 9: The Immigration Debate- California’s SB 60: Drivers Licenses for the Undocumented Drivers;
Assignment Due: Oral History Project # 2 Bios Due

Week 6: March 16: AB 540: In-State Tuition for Undocumented Students
Assignment Due: Chapter Summary 2

Week 7: March 23: Education: Proposition 227, English for the Children – California’s English Only law;
Assignments Due: Forum Discussion 3

Week 8: March 30: Education: Proposition 209: The California Civil Rights Initiative;
Assignment Due: Research Assignment # 1

Grading will be as follows:
Chapter Summaries (4 x 10): 40%
Research Exercises (2 @ 5 pts ea) 10%
Forums (5@ 2 pts each) 10%
Oral History Project: 40%
TOTAL 100%

Week 9: April 4-10 SPRING BREAK

Week 10: April 13: The Criminalization of Poverty and Youth: Proposition 184—The Three-Strikes-and-You’re-Out Initiative. Assignment Due: Chapter Summary # 3

Week 11: April 20: The Criminalization of Poverty and Youth: Proposition 21—The Juvenile Justice Initiative Assignment Due:
Oral History Project # 3 Final Selection Due

Week 12: April 27: The Criminalization of Poverty and Youth: Racial Profiling Driving While Brown
Assignment Due: Forum Discussion # 4

Week 13: May 4: Religion and Spirituality: Catholics, Protestants and Danzantes Aztecas
Assignment Due: Chapter Summary # 4

Week 14: May 11: Chicano-Mexicano Cultural Expressions: Chicana/o Art
Assignment Due: Forum Discussion # 5

Week 15: May 18: Chicano-Mexicano Cultural Expressions: Ranflas, Rolas y Pachangas
Assignment Due: Oral History Project #4 Video Due


Week 17: June 1- June 6: FINALS WEEK
Assignment Due: Oral History Project # 5.
ALL EXTRA CREDIT DUE
CHAPTER SUMMARY GUIDE (40%)

For your summaries, write a 4-page summary of each group of chapters below. You must read each chapter in the group, and summarize the entire group in 4 pages. Make sure the format of the critique is MLA format, double-spaced, 1" margins, and the font should be either 12-point Times or 10-point Courier.

The paper should be arranged as follows: devote 1 ½ page per chapter. In the first paragraph tell me the title of the chapter, name of the author, and the title of the book. For example:

"Temples of Doom" is an article written by Heather Pringle. The article was published in the March, 1999 issue of Discover Magazine. (Titles of articles or chapters of books have "Quotation Marks" around them, titles of books, magazines, or newspapers are Italicized, or Underlined if you don't have italics on your typewriter/computer.)

Also in the first paragraph tell me what the theme of the article/chapter is, what it claims to prove or disprove. For example:

In this article Ms. Pringle claims to show that new evidence has been discovered that helps to prove the occurrence of human sacrifice among the Moche culture in the Andean region of South America.

In the second paragraph you can then go on to tell me what the article/chapter says. For example:

Ms. Pringle states in this article that up until now there had been little or no physical evidence of human sacrifice in the Americas, aside from the accounts of the Spaniards. But she says that recent discoveries have been made that apparently prove that this did in fact exist among the Moche civilization. The Moche culture existed before the Inca civilization in the area of Peru's northern coastal desert. This civilization flourished from around 100 - 800 AD. (and so on-- basically give me a summary of the chapter here).

The third paragraph should be a summary of the evidence that is used in the argument. For example:

Among the evidence that Ms. Pringle cites for her conclusions are the bones that were found under the plaza of the Pyramid of the Moon located southeast of the town of Trujillo, Peru, near the Cerro Blanco. Some of these bones have what appears to be knife marks that the researchers claim are evidence that these people had their throats slit. (put as much evidence as you can find here).

The next paragraph should be your analysis of the article/chapter and what it claims to prove. For example:

In reality, none of these "new discoveries" really prove anything. First of all, there is no way of knowing how a person died just by examining bones, especially bones that are fifteen hundred (1,500) years old. Not only that, but the marks on the bones could just as easily have been made after the person was dead. Further, Ms. Pringle begins the article with a story from a Spanish chronicler who claims to have witnessed human sacrifice, and uses Meso-American codices as graphics to accompany the article. This misleads the reader into believing that the article is talking about the Aztecs, when it is not. This type of “reporting” continues to perpetuate the unproven allegation that there was widespread human sacrifice among the Aztecs.
(Dispute the evidence, question it, or agree with it, but tell me why, to the best of your knowledge and ability here).

In the last paragraph, you are going to give me your opinion. Was the article interesting or boring, and why? What did you like or not like about it? Was it well-written, easy or hard to read, confusing, did it make sense? You can use examples from the article and put these in quotation marks here. Finally, tell me whether you were convinced by the arguments the author was making.

Chapter/article summaries from the book *Chicanas and Chicanos in Contemporary Society* are due in this order:

1. Read both of the following chapters and write a 4 page summary:
   - The Demography of Mexicans in the United States, *Saenz, Morales, and Filoteo*
   - Shortchanged in the Labor Market, *De Anda*

2. Read both of the following chapters and write a 4 page summary:
   - *Learning Manito Discourse*, *Romero*
   - Teacher Narratives of *Movimiento* Ideology, *Trujillo*

3. Select and Read 2 of the following chapters and write a 4 page summary:
   - Exploring Parental Involvement, *Moreno*
   - Chicana Teen Mothers, *Valdez*
   - “Let’s Unite so that our Children are Better off than us,” *Ochoa*

4. Select and Read 2 of the following chapters and write a 4 page summary:
   - Of Corridos and Convicts, *Villa*
   - *Festejando Community*, *Flores*
   - Liberation Theology and Social Change, *Cadena and Medina*

CHAPTER SUMMARY GRADING RUBRIC

Assignment Name

Assignment begins, no more than 8 lines down from where your name is. Please note, the paper must: 1) be on time, 2) have the proper identifying information as shown above, and 3) be in the proper format: ie (MICROSOFT WORD FOR ONLINE STUDENTS!!), 1” margins all the way around, have similar size and style font as this (11 point Times New Roman) and meet the minimum length requirements. Please do not include a bibliography, cover page, or table of contents. They will be graded first on this format. You will be given 2 points for each of the following to begin:

- Identifying Information and Formatting: Identifying information as shown above (including assignment name and title of book), and proper 1” margins (2 pts)
- Writing Proficiency: Each full page of narrative (2 pts)

**IF you have 4 full pages of narrative, this will give you 10 points TO BEGIN WITH.** From that point on I will begin to look carefully at the following criteria in your paper, in this order, and deduct the points below if the paper does not meet the following:

- Proper Introduction includes at minimum: the title of the book, the name(s) of the author(s), the name(s) of the author(s) and title of the individual articles being summarized. (2 pts)
- The Body must include: 1) a summary of each article/chapter in the group, 2) a general analysis/critique of the work: includes a summary of the evidence and an analysis of the article and what it claims to prove. (2 pts)
- Conclusion: synthesis of your opinion of the work. (2 pts)
- spelling, punctuation, grammar, syntax, etc. (2 pts)
FORUM DISCUSSIONS (5 @ 2 % EACH=10% TOTAL)

Read the information on the assigned websites and comment on them. Analyze the information in the context of 1) the Chicano Mexican experience, 2) indigenous, human rights, civil rights, the rights of minorities, 3) the constitution of the United States, and International Law. Discuss the topics on the Forums page.

FORUM DISCUSSIONS GRADING RUBRIC:
No Credit: Assignment missing or fails to adequately fulfill the requirements of the assignment
½ Credit: Assignment partially fulfills the requirements of the assignment.
Full Credit: Assignment fulfills all of the requirements of the assignment.

RESEARCH NOTES 10% TOTAL (2 assignments @ 5 % EACH= 10%)

Research from the available scholarly sources through the Los Angeles Mission College Library website, and submit your notes that relate to the topics below. The notes for each topic and for each source should have the source properly cited at the top, followed by a summary of important or pertinent information that you feel is relevant to the Chicano@-Mexican@ community below.

TOPICS

Research Notes Assignment # 1:

a) 9/11, Homeland Security and the Patriot Act
b) Immigration, Deportations, and the Prison-Industrial Complex
c) Israel and Occupied Palestine, the United States and Occupied Aztlan

Research Notes Assignment # 2:

a) Brutality, Impunity, and the Militarization of Police
b) The Declaration of Independence, the constitution of the United States of America
c) The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People, and international law.

USE CREDIBLE SOURCES. For each topic you must find at least two (2) sources from the resources available through our library, i.e. EBSCOHost, CQ Researcher, Opposing Viewpoints, National Newspapers, etc.

This research assignment is designed to link contemporary domestic issues with international ones, linking them all by the thread of human rights and state abuse of power.

RESEARCH NOTES GRADING RUBRIC:

No Credit: Assignment missing or fails to adequately fulfill the requirements of the assignment
½ Credit: Assignment partially fulfills the requirements of the assignment.
Full Credit: Assignment fulfills all of the requirements of the assignment.
ORAL HISTORY PROJECT (40%)

This is a 5-part project, as shown below. The final product will be a video or audio recorded oral history of a member of their local community. The person can be a relative, friend, or someone they want to know more about. It does not have to be anyone famous or a celebrity. We all have a story to tell. The recorded oral histories will be housed in the new Chican@ Resource Center.

PART 1: ORAL HISTORY BOOKLET QUIZ 5%
The Oral History Project Guidebooklet will be available online beginning Monday, February 17. A 20 question quiz on the Guidebooklet will open on Monday February 17 and will be due by the following Sunday night. This quiz will be worth 5 points or 5% of your total grade.

PART 2: LIST OF POTENTIAL INTERVIEWEES WITH BRIEF BIOS 5%
A list of potential interviewees (known as “informants” to academics) is due the week of March 10. Select someone who you know whose story you feel is important to capture and save, in particular the elders in your family or community. If you want to do the project but don’t know who you can interview, I have some suggestions. You will need to make an initial contact with them to get enough information for the brief (one paragraph) biography of each potential candidate: name, date and place of birth, how long have they lived in the San Fernando Valley (or wherever they currently live) and one or two interesting things about the subject that prompted you to choose them.

PART 3: SELECTION OF FINAL INTERVIEWEE WITH QUESTIONS 5%
You must make a final selection of who you are going to interview on camera by the week of April 21 (week 11). You must also select 25 to 50 questions from the booklet that you might consider asking during your interview. Keep in mind that depending on the informant, you may burn through the questions quickly, or you may not ask very many because the conversation goes well without any prompts.

PART 4: INTERVIEW VIDEO/AUDIO WITH LIFE HISTORY & RELEASE FORMS 15%
The final product of your work is due: the video-taped interview with your subject/informant/interviewee, along with a completed Life History Form and liability release form from the interviewee. The interview should be a minimum of 1 hour long, and be of good quality. Follow the guidebook to structure your interview.

PART 5: RESEARCH PAPER 10%
A 2-3 page report on any topic that came up during the interview is due with the project. For example, you might interview someone who mentions the 1971 or 1994 earthquakes that happened (Sylmar and Northridge respectively). Look into that event and discuss it in the context of the information your informant provided. Or s/he may talk about lowriding in San Fernando in the 70’s, or working at the General Motors plant in Van Nuys, or Price Pfister in Pacoima. You can do a little research on that and write your report on that. Be creative. Use your curiosity and imagination.

EXTRA CREDIT-OPTIONAL
The final week of the class a window will open to submit all of your extra credit assignments. Students may submit additional work for extra credit (up to 10 points total NO MORE!). The assignments must be clearly written and readable. The possible extra credit is as follows:

Extra Chapter Summary assignment of remaining chapters: 5 points
Report on Community/On Campus Events: 2 pts each
Volunteer Hours with Proof: 1 point per Hour up to 10 hours maximum
Summary of recommended films: 2 points for each report

NOTE: STUDENTS MAY COMBINE ANY OF THE ABOVE FOR EXTRA CREDIT, HOWEVER, NO MORE THAN 10 POINTS TOTAL EXTRA CREDIT WILL BE GIVEN.
FINANCIAL AID

If you need help paying for books and other college expenses, call the Financial Aid Office at (818) 364-7648 or see them in the Instructional Building – Administration Wing http://www.lamission.edu/financialaid

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

If you need special assistance, please contact our Disabled Student Services 818.833.3313. www.lamission.edu/dsp/ or office INST 1016.

BOOK RENTAL

The ASO Book Rental Program is available to all ASO paid member students; Who can rent books at the Eagle’s Landing Bookstore for a reduced price on all “qualified titles”.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Stay Calm, Follow the plan
Listen carefully to and follow all directions
Campus Sheriff Substation: (818) 364-7843