Chicano Studies 37: *Chicana and Chicano Literature.* SN 0160.
Los Angeles Mission College, Professor: José A. Maldonado
Day/Time: ONLINE; Room: ONLINE;
Office Hours: by appointment
Room: Instructional Building Faculty Offices # 1; (818) 833-3412; maldonja@lamission.edu

SYLLABUS

This course will provide an analysis of the literary, social, and historical aspects of essay, novel, drama, short story, and poetry as written by persons of Mexican descent in the United States (Mexican Americans), revealing the progression of culture in America as interpreted by Mexican American writers who seek to define themselves vis a vis other Americans.

Grading will be based on five Forum Discussions, an analysis of the lyrics of contemporary Chican@ music, and eight 4-page written papers as follows: four book reports and four creative writing assignments (see below). **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!**

Required Texts:
Anaya, Rudolfo. *Bless Me, Ultima*.
Cisneros, Sandra. *The House on Mango Street*.
Rodriguez, Luis. *Always Running*.
Gaspar de Alba, Alicia. *Desert Blood*,
Maldonado, Jose A. Chicano Studies 37 Reader
Maldonado, Jose A. Chicano Studies 37 Audio CD*
* available Tia Chucha's Centro Cultural:
(818) 528-4511.

Forums:	10%
Audio Notes	10%
Papers:	80%
TOTAL:	100%

Class Schedule:

Week 1: August 27: Introduction: The Roots of Identity and Denial

Week 2: September 3: Readings: Ana Castillo, and Roberto Rodriguez from the Reader, links.
FIRST PAPER DUE: CW-IDENTITY

Week 3: September 10: Readings: Pre-Columbian Literatures from the Reader, links.
Forum#1

Week 4: September 17: Readings for Discussion: Cisneros, ***The House on Mango Street***.
SECOND PAPER DUE: BR-MANGO STREET

Week 5: September 24: Readings: Guadalupe Garcia Montaño, Indio from the Reader.
Forum#2

Week 6: October 1: Readings for Discussion: Student Short Stories
THIRD PAPER DUE: CW-SHORT STORY

Week 7: October 8: Readings: Plays: ***Zoot Suit, Real Women Have Curves.***
LITERARY TERMS QUIZ; **Forum#3**

Week 8: October 15: Readings for Discussion: Anaya, ***Bless Me, Ultima.***
FOURTH PAPER DUE: BR-ULTIMA

Week 9: October 22: Readings for Discussion: Poetry: Olga Garcia, Tzintzuni: from the Reader.
Forum#4

Week 10: October 29: Readings for Discussion: Student Poetry.
FIFTH PAPER DUE: CW-POETRY

Week 11: November 5: Readings for Discussion:
Forum#5

Week 12: November 12: Readings for Discussion: Rodriguez, ***Always Running.***

Week 13: November 19: Readings for Discussion: ***SIXTH PAPER DUE: BR-ALWAYS RUNNING***

Week 14: November 26: Readings for Discussion: Biography/Autobiography.
SEVENTH PAPER DUE: CR-AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Week 15: December 3: Readings for Discussion: Historical Fiction.
Extra Credit: Forum#6

Week 16: December 10: Final Exams Week- (no final in this class); Readings for Discussion: Gaspar de Alba, ***Desert Blood***.
EIGHTH PAPER DUE: BR: DESERT BLOOD.
ALL EXTRA CREDIT WORK

Grading

Los Angeles Mission College, Professor: José A. Maldonado

STUDENT PAPER GUIDELINES

For your written assignments, you must write a total of eight (8) 4 page, typed, double-spaced, papers (see the rubrics below as examples). Refer to the syllabus for the due dates for these assignments. The paper topics will be as follows:

1) Creative Paper: Essay on Identity
2) Book Report: House on Mango Street
3) Creative Paper: Original Work of Fiction; Short Story
4) Book Report: Bless me, Ultima
5) Creative Paper: Original Work of Poetry (explain the inspiration for the poem/s)
6) Book Report: Always Running
7) Creative Paper: Autobiography or Personal Statement
8) Book Report: Desert Blood
9) Book Report: Optional- for Extra Credit (see below)

This semester, I will be asking all of you to focus on a specific theme in all of your readings: Labor, class struggle, the working class, and those things associated with it. We will have special assignments, films, and guest speakers on this particular subject. In essence, the socio economic conditions of the majority of Chican@s, but specifically job related issues. Not all assigned readings will have this, but some will. The class assigments must all discuss the labor isssues of the readings, if these exist.

Creative Papers:

Write to the best of your ability, based on your experience or understanding of the topic, and from what you learned through the readings and in-class discussions. Each of these papers is worth 10 points toward your final grade. The last ten points will come from the Literary Terms Exam (see the syllabus for the date of this exam).

Book Reports:

All book reports must follow the same format, including Extra Credit Book Reports. Extra Credit Book Reports are worth a maximum of 5 points each. The first paragraph must include the following: Title of the Book, Name of the Author. Tell me what type of literature it is: is it Fiction, and if so, is it short story, or a novel? If it is Nonfiction, is it an essay, a biography or autobiography, etc. You must also tell me the setting of the work (time and place in which it takes place, and identify the protagonist and antagonist (main characters). Finally, tell me what the main theme of the work is.

***Indian Killer* is a novel written by Sherman Alexie. Mr Alexie is probably the most well known and widely read Native American author in the world today. The novel takes place in time and place. Their does not seem to be a single protagonist, as the novel flips back and forth among different people and is told from all of their points of view. However, if I had to choose, it would probably come down to one of two persons: _____ and/or _____. Because of the recurring message in the novel, you might also say that the protagonist is the Native American community, and the antagonist is the dominant society. The theme of this novel is that _____.**

The next several paragraphs must be a summary of the plot of the book. Tell me the sequence of events as they happen in the story. Identify some of the other principal characters, and use the list of literary terms to identify any additional literary techniques that the author uses.

The final paragraph(s) is(are) your evaluation of the book. Did you enjoy the book? Why or why not. Be specific, and provide detailed descriptions of the parts of the book you are referring to. You may use quotations taken directly from the book in order to illustrate your points.

On the next two pages I have included grading rubrics for the Book Reports and Creative Writing Assignments respectively. Follow the instructions carefully.

WRITING ASSIGNMENT GRADING RUBRICS

Name (your information)
Chicano Studies 037 SN XXXX
Date

Assignment Name (Book Report)
Title of Book

Assignment begins, no more than 8 lines down from where your name is. The paper must be on time, have the proper identifying information as shown above, 1" margins all the way around, have similar size and style font as this (10-12 point Times New Roman) and meet the minimum length requirements ***JUST TO BE ACCEPTED.*** If they do not meet the minimum requirements, you will not receive a grade, and there are ***NO LATE PAPERS OR REWRITES ALLOWED.*** You do not need to 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 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 of the author, the setting, the protagonist and antagonist, and the type of literature the work is. (2 pts)
- The Body must include: 1) a plot summary and 2) a general analysis/critique of the work: includes review of use of literary techniques and their effectiveness, etc. (2 pts)
- Conclusion: synthesis of your opinion of the work. (2 pts)
- spelling, punctuation, grammar, syntax, etc. (2 pts)

Name
Student ID
Chicano Studies 037 SN XXXX
Date

Assignment Name (Creative Writing - Short Story)
Title or Name of Your Work

Assignment begins (no cover Page, no more than 8 lines down from where your name is). The page must be on time, have your personal information as shown above, 1" margins all the way around, and meet the minimum length requirements ***JUST TO BE ACCEPTED.*** If they do not meet the minimum requirements, you will not receive a grade, and there are ***NO LATE PAPERS OR REWRITES ALLOWED.*** You do not need to include a bibliography or table of contents. They will be graded first on this format. You will be given 2 points for each of the following:

- Identifying Information and Formatting: Identifying information as shown above (including assignment name and title of work), 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 in this order, and deduct the points below if the paper does not meet the following:

- Does it have proper spelling, punctuation, grammar, syntax, etc. (if not, -2 pts)
- Does it attempt to use literary techniques (if not, -2 pts)
- Creative content (if not, -2 pts)

FORUM DISCUSSIONS

Forum Discussion due dates alternate with the written assignments (see class schedule). The link for these assignments will appear on the week they are due. You will have all week to review the questions, do the research and/or read the appropriate text(s), and submit your response. As with all other assignments, these are due by 8 pm on Sunday night. No late assignments will be allowed. Each forum discussion is worth 2 points.

AUDIO NOTES

Purchase the CD at Tia Chucha's Centro Cultural and Bookstore: (818) 528-4511. Divide the songs on your Chicano Studies 37 Music Compact Disc into groups of 4. For each group, analyze the songs along the following lines:

Identify the Iconography and Symbolism:
Is it-
"Pre-Cuautemoc", Colonial, Early National, Revolutionary, Post-revolutionary, Chicana/o

Themes:
Provide examples of
Police Brutality, Gang Violence, History, Race, Class, Gender, Culture, Labor, Religion/Spirituality

Literary techniques:
Metaphor/simile, Imagery, Symbolism, Foreshadowing, Etc.

For each group of songs write a brief 1 – 2 paragraph report of your findings. The audio assignment is due the last week of class.

AUDIO NOTES ASSIGNMENT GRADING RUBRIC:

0: Assignment missing or fails to adequately fulfill the requirements of the assignment
5: Assignment partially fulfills the requirements of the assignment.
10: Assignment fulfills all of the requirements of the assignment.

EXTRA CREDIT

Students may submit additional work for extra credit (up to 10 points total NO MORE!) as follows:

Literary Terms Quiz: 5 points Book Report: maximum of 5 points each
Recommended Books: Yxta Maya Murray, *The Conquest*
What it takes to get to Vegas
Luis Alberto Urrea, *The Devil's Highway*
The Hummingbird's Daughter
Victor Villaseñor, *Burro Genius*
Rain of Gold
Report Community/Campus Events: 2 pts each Volunteer Hours with Proof: 1 point / Hour up to 10 hours

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will analyze the literary, social, political and historical aspects of essay, novel, drama, short story, and poetry written by Chicano writers who seek to define themselves and their communities within a social American context.

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/dsps/ 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 all directions
Follow directions
Campus Sheriff Substation: (818) 364-7843