MEXICAN AMERICAN CULTURE

This course seeks to develop a student’s understanding of Mexican American/Chicano culture in the United States. We will begin with the anthropological debate over the concept of Mexican American culture. After situating the role of anthropology in the study of Mexican-origin groups an overview of Mexican American history and culture will follow. We will then examine other topics, including: immigration, ethnicity, Chicano-Mexican relations, agricultural workers, U.S.-Mexico trade relations, and schooling.

Topics

August

26  TH  I. A Debate Over Mexican American Culture and the Chicano Movement
31  T

September

2  TH  Film: Chicano Vol. 3( schools)
7  T  II. The History of the Mexican American Southwest
     *Spanish Period
9  TH  Film: Cabeza de Vaca-UGLvideo
14  T
16  TH
21  T  *Mexican Period
23  TH
28  T  Film: From Mexican Indep. to the Alamo, V.
     2#7525/UGL
30  TH  *Anglo American Period

October

5  T
7  TH  Film: Lemon Grove (VC 1289)
12  T  Reading Day
14  TH  ********MIDTERM***************
19  T  Mendez v. Westminster (P)
21  TH  III. Topical Issues
     Immigration, Globalization, and U.S.-Mexico Trade Relations
     Film: The Mexican Revolution
26  T
28  TH

November

2  T
4  TH
9  T
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>TH</td>
<td>Films: The New Tijuana, Environmental Matters (Bens. 6373)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>Agricultural Issues and Ethnic Relations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>TH</td>
<td>Cultural Citizenship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>Schooling Problems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>TH</td>
<td><strong>PAPER DUE!</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>Thanksgiving!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Conclusion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>F</td>
<td><strong>Final Exam 2-5pm</strong> (check schedule!)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

**Required Readings**

There will be a series of articles available in a class reader. In addition you will be expected to read parts of the following books: Menchaca *Mexican Outsiders*, Rodriguez *Mongrels, Bastards, Orphans, and Vagabonds*, and Vigil *The Projects: Gang and Non-Gang Families in East Los Angeles*. The books are available in the University Co-op (Guadalupe St.) and the course reader is available at Speedway (Dobie Mall 2025, Guadalupe St., Suite 140/ 478-3334).

**Exams**

There will be one in-class midterm on October 14 and a final exam (essays, multiple choice). Only a doctor’s letter or a death in the immediate family will be acceptable excuses for a make-up exam.

**Grading**

Midterm - 40%, final - 50%, and a 7 pages review essay - 10% (typed essay or book report). Attendance is required and excessive absences will affect your grade. Students who have a perfect attendance record will receive a 4 point credit.

**Office Hours**

Office hours will be held on Tuesdays 1:30p to 3:30p. at E.P. Schoch, room 1.144, and by appointment.
Mexican American Culture

Reading Assignments

code: (T) Text (R) Speedway Reader

I. A Debate Over Mexican American Culture and the Chicano Movement


II. The History of the Mexican American Southwest


III. Topical Issues

Immigration, Globalization, and Mexican Trade Relations


Agricultural Workers and Ethnic Relations


Cultural Citizenship


Schooling Problems


Mexican American Culture

1. Romano, “The Anthropology and Sociology of the Mexican Americans”
3. Menchaca, “Chicano Indianism”
5. Alvarez, “Lemon Grove Incident”
7. Donato, “U.S. Policy and Mexican Immigration”
11. Inda, “The Value of Immigrant Life”