



MASC/MCLL 2301.06
Introduction to Mexican American Studies
Mondays & Wednesdays
9:25 – 10:40 AM
Main Hall 2.420

Instructor: Dr. Christopher Carmona	Office: Sabal Hall 2.418
Email: christopher.carmona@utrgv.edu	Phone: 956-882-7302

Office Hours:
MW 12:15 – 1:30 pm
M 6:00-7:00 pm

Course Description

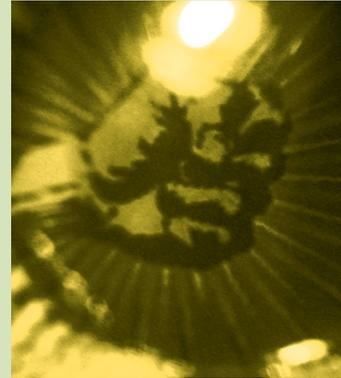
This course introduces the histories, theories, and applications of the Mexican American/ChicanX/LatinX experience in the United States, globally, but primarily in the Rio Grande Valley. This course will look at the evolution of a LatinX people from their indigenous Amerindian roots to the creole & mestizaje creation of a new people. The class begins with exploring the pre-Columbian Native histories and practices and how we still incorporate those legacies in our current post 9/11 society through the lens of Borderlands Theory and the Mexican/LatinX practices of testimonios.

Textbooks Required

1. Vigil, James Diego. *From Indians to Chicanos: The Dynamics of Mexican-American Culture*. Waveland Pr., 2011. ISBN-10: 1577667409.
2. Anzaldúa, Gloria. *Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza, Fourth Edition*. Aunt Lute Books, 2012. ISBN-10: 1879960850.
3. Paredes, Américo. *Folklore and Culture on the Texas-Mexican Border*. UT Press, 1995. ISBN-10: 0292765649.

Grade Breakdown

Critical Responses	15 %
Weekly Assignments	10%
Historical Debate Project	15 %
Matanza Project	15 %
Special Topics Blog	10 %
Borderlands Essay	15 %
Familia/Local History Project	20 %
Total	100 %



Grading Policies

UTRGV's grading policy is to use straight letter grades (A, B, C, D, or F).

Calendar of Activities

The UTRGV academic calendar can be found at <http://my.utrgv.edu> at the bottom of the screen, prior to login. Some important dates for Fall 2016 include:

August 28	First day of classes
August 31	Last day to add a course or register for fall 2017
September 4	Labor Day – NO classes
November 15	Last day to drop a course; will count toward the 6-drop rule
November 23 – 26	Thanksgiving Holiday – NO classes
December 6	Last day of classes
December 7	Study Day – NO class
December 8 -14	Fall 2017 Final Exams
December 15-16	Commencement Ceremonies

Late Papers. You are required to submit assignments to me in class and electronically on due dates listed on this syllabus. Late submission of writing assignments will result in a deduction of 10 percent of the grade per day. Papers submitted outside of class (for example, left under the door or left in the wrong office) will receive a grade of zero (“o”) if they are lost, and will have points deducted for late submission if they are late.

UTRGV Policy Statements

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Students with a documented disability (physical, psychological, learning, or other disability which affects academic performance) who would like to receive academic accommodations should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) as soon as possible to schedule an appointment to initiate services. Accommodations can be arranged through SAS at any time, but are not retroactive. Students who suffer a broken bone, severe injury or undergo surgery during the semester are eligible for temporary services. **Brownsville Campus:** Student Accessibility Services is located in Cortez Hall Room 129 and can be contacted by phone at (956) 882-7374 (Voice) or via email at ability@utrgv.edu. **Edinburg Campus:** Student

Accessibility Services is located in 108 University Center and can be contacted by phone at (956) 665-7005 (Voice), (956) 665-3840 (Fax), or via email at ability@utrgv.edu.

MANDATORY COURSE EVALUATION PERIOD:

Students are required to complete an ONLINE evaluation of this course, accessed through your UTRGV account (<http://my.utrgv.edu>); you will be contacted through email with further instructions. Students who complete their evaluations will have priority access to their grades. Online evaluations will be available:

Fall 2017 Module 1	Oct. 5 – Oct. 11
Fall 2017 Module 2	Nov. 29 – Dec. 5
Fall 2017 (full semester)	Nov. 15 – Dec. 6

ATTENDANCE:

Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes and may be dropped from the course for excessive absences. UTRGV's attendance policy excuses students from attending class if they are participating in officially sponsored university activities, such as athletics; for observance of religious holy days; or for military service. Students should contact the instructor in advance of the excused absence and arrange to make up missed work or examinations.

SCHOLASTIC INTEGRITY:

As members of a community dedicated to Honesty, Integrity and Respect, students are reminded that those who engage in scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and expulsion from the University. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to: cheating, plagiarism (including self-plagiarism), and collusion; submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person; taking an examination for another person; any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student; or the attempt to commit such acts. Since scholastic dishonesty harms the individual, all students and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced (Board of Regents Rules and Regulations and UTRGV Academic Integrity Guidelines). All scholastic dishonesty incidents will be reported to the Dean of Students.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT, DISCRIMINATION, and VIOLENCE:

In accordance with UT System regulations, your instructor is a "Responsible Employee" for reporting purposes under Title IX regulations and so must report any instance, occurring during a student's time in college, of sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, domestic violence, or sexual harassment about which she/he becomes aware during this course through writing, discussion, or personal disclosure. More information can be found at www.utrgv.edu/equity, including confidential resources available on campus. The faculty and staff of UTRGV actively strive to provide a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect that is free from sexual misconduct and discrimination.

COURSE DROPS:

According to UTRGV policy, students may drop any class without penalty earning a grade of DR until the official drop date. Following that date, students must be assigned a letter grade and can no longer drop the class. Students considering dropping the class should be aware of the “3-peat rule” and the “6-drop” rule so they can recognize how dropped classes may affect their academic success. The 6-drop rule refers to Texas law that dictates that undergraduate students may not drop more than six courses during their undergraduate career. Courses dropped at other Texas public higher education institutions will count toward the six-course drop limit. The 3-peat rule refers to additional fees charged to students who take the same class for the third time.

Course Topics & Calendar of Readings (Schedule Subject to Change)

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Required Reading</u>
Aug. 28 th	Introduction to Course	No Reading Required
Sept. 4 th	Indio Histories	From Indians to Chicanos
Sept. 11 th	The Conquest	From Indians to Chicanos
Sept. 18 th	Historical Debate Project	No Reading Required
Sept. 25 th	La Raza Begins	From Indians to Chicanos
Oct. 2 nd	Being In-between	From Indians to Chicanos
Oct. 9 th	A People's History of the RGV	Folklore & Culture on Tex-Mex Border
Oct. 16 th	Folksong & Corridos	Folklore & Culture
Oct. 23 rd	Matanza Project	No Reading Required
Oct. 30 th	Current State of LatinXs	Folklore & Culutre
Nov. 6 th	Borderlands Theory	Borderlands/La Frontera
Nov. 13 th	Towards a New Theory	Borderlands/La Frontera
Nov. 20 th	Borderlands Project	Borderlands/La Frontera
Nov. 27 th	Border Poetry	Borderlands/La Frontera
Dec. 4th	Familia/Local History Project	No Required Reading

Major Assignment Dates (Subject to Change)

Historical Debate Project (Group Project)	Due Sunday, Sept. 24th
Matanza Project	Due Sunday, Oct. 22 nd
Borderlands Essay	Due Sunday, Nov. 19 th
Familia/Local History Project	Due Sunday, Dec. 10th

*****All assignments due by on Blackboard by midnight*****