

Chicana/o Latina/o Studies 110 is an interdisciplinary course that serves as an introduction to Chicana/o Latino/a culture and experience in the United States through poetry.

The course focuses on the following themes:

- Transnationalism/ migration related to the formation and growth of US Latino communities
- The practice of everyday life influenced by memory, experience, Identity, space, race, class, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, education, religion, myths, history etc.
- The construction of Chicano/a identities and cultural expressions brought about by expanding borderlands and heterotopia geographies.

These themes will be analyzed in the works of poets writing and publishing post Chicano Movement and into the 21st century.

Students will also have a chance to share some of their own poetry.

Reading list includes: Luis Rodriguez, Lucha Corpi, Ray Gonzalez and Thelma T. Reyna.

Course Goals:

1. Introduce students to Chicana/o poetry.
2. Study the history and importance of transnationalism/migration and other social cultural issues affecting the Chicana/o community and how they are (re)presented by Chicana/o poets
3. Study the relationship between everyday life and the construction of new identities as revealed in poetry.
4. Identify the roots of Chicana/o culture including Native, African, European, Latin American and United States hegemonic elements.

Requirements:

1. Attendance is mandatory. Habitual absence is justification for failing the class.
2. Your active class and group participation is a major requirement for this course.
3. Read required texts. In order to guarantee quality discussion students must read all assigned readings before coming to class.
4. Prepare notes and questions about poems, essays, lectures, films and discussions for class and group discussion and assignments.
5. Reading and Written Responses: Each week the students will write a reading response to a prompt or question provided. Reading response will consist of 1-2 typed double spaced paragraphs including two quotes from the readings. Bring written response to the next class meeting where instructor will initial and collect as proof of attendance and that student has read assigned text and is prepared to participate in discussion. Instructor may use student responses to initiate discussion. If student comes to class unprepared, without a completed reading response, this counts as an absence.
6. Two academic essays of 2-3 pages based on a thesis with sources to support an argument.
7. Final Exam Essay take-home assignment asks students to write 5-6 page paper selecting one prompt from several that will be distributed during the ninth week. The essay must include a thesis statement, organized into topical paragraphs, have a separate conclusion and should cite/quote from at least three outside sources. Please submit the essay IN PERSON on the day and time of the scheduled final exam.

8. All written assignments must be double-space and prepared on computer. **CONTENT** and **COMPOSITION** will be considered equal. Use MLA research paper format and documentation style.
9. **Student Poetry Readings** will begin on Thursday, October 14. At the start of class students will have an opportunity to share their own poetry.
10. No make-ups, no rewrites, no late papers, no incompletes.
11. The use of electronic devices such as laptops, cell phones, recorders, Ipods, I pads, headsets etc. are absolutely not allowed during class.
12. All dates, assignments, and readings listed on this syllabus are subject to change with notice

Note: Final grade will be based on:

1. Attendance and participation are mandatory. Habitual absence is justification for failing class. (15)
2. Reading and written responses (15)
3. Two academic essays (30)
4. Final exam essay take-home (40)

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Palabras de mediodía/Noon Words (1980) Lucha Corpi
The Concrete River (1991) Luis J. Rodriguez
Rising, Falling, All of Us (2014) Thelma T. Reyna
Soft Chaos (2009) Alma Luz Villanueva
Faith Run (2009) Ray Gonzalez

Study Plan:

October

Th 2 Introduction: Poetry -Text, Intertextuality, Context

T 7 "Quest for a Homeland" Documentary
Chicano Movement

Th 9 Chicano Movement

Student panel

What does the Chicano Civil Right Movement mean? What did the Chicano Civil Rights Movement achieve? Is the movement still alive? What needs to be done today? What significance does it have for you? Comment on the term "Chicana/o." How do you identify yourself?

"I am Joaquin" (1967) Rodolfo "Corky" Gonzales

(1960s, 1970s Quinto Sol Publications, Prize

Palabras de mediodía/Noon Words (1980) Lucha Corpi
(1980s) (ix-45)

T 14 **Student Poetry Readings Begin**

Palabras de mediodía/Noon Words (46-81)

Th 16 *Palabras de mediodía/Noon Words* (82-125)

T 21 *Palabras de mediodía/Noon Words* (126-167)
Th 23 *The Concrete River* (1991) Luis J. Rodriguez (2-50)

T 28 *The Concrete River* (52-93)
Th 30 *The Concrete River* (96-114)

November

T 4 *Rising, Falling, All of Us* (2014) Thelma T. Reyna (15-40) **1ST PAPER DUE**
Th 6 *Rising, Falling, All of Us* (43-81)

T 11 *Rising, Falling, All of US* (85-111)
Th 13 *Rising, Falling, All of Us* (Guest)

T 18 *Soft Chaos* (2009) Alma Luz Villanueva (1-74)
Th 20 *Soft Chaos* (76-123)

T 25 *Soft Chaos* (126-174)
Th 27 **Holiday**
Soft Chaos (176-229)
Faith Run (2009) Ray Gonzalez (3-35)

December

T 2 *Faith Run* (39-75) **2ND PAPER DUE**
Th 4 *Faith Run* (79-103)

T 9 *Faith Run*
Th 11 Review, Questions, Beginnings

COMPREHENSIVE FINAL EXAM ESSAY TAKE HOME DUE IN PERSON
Thursday December 18 1:30-3:30 pm, SSL 145

Professor Alejandro Morales
Department of Chicano/Latino Studies
Office: SST 393 Office Hours: T Th 9:30- 10:30am or by appointment
School of Social Sciences (949) 824-5732 Prof. Morales amorales@uci.edu
3151 Social Science Plaza (949) 824-1424 Debbie Michel (Senior Staff Administrator)
Irvine, CA 92697-5100 (949) 824-1019 Fax