

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Chicana/o Latina/o Studies 62 is an interdisciplinary course that serves both as an introduction to Chicana/o Latino/a culture and experience in the United States and an introduction to the academic field of Chicana/o Latino/a Studies. Presented through the eyes of writers and filmmakers, students will explore topics such as history, immigration, race and ethnicity, family, labor, education, religion, memory, access, gender, power, border, borderlands and the fantastic. The course offers a rubric for understanding not only the interconnections between diverse Latino communities but also the differences that sometimes divide them. Readings include: Demetria Martínez, Sergio Troncoso, Reinaldo Arenas.

### STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Introduce students to the interdisciplinary nature of Chicana/o Latina/o Studies through the representative artistic production of the various US Latino groups.
2. Study the history and important issues in the Chicana/o Latina/o community and how they are (re)presented in different artistic genres.
3. Identify important political, economic, social and historical movements that have affected the Chicana/o Latina/o communities.
4. Identify the roots of Chicana/o Latina/o culture including Native, African and European elements.

### REQUIREMENTS

1. Attendance at lecture and discussion sections is an essential component to succeed in this class. Attendance is mandatory and **attendance will be taken at each discussion section**. Habitual absence is justification for failing the class.
2. Active class and group participation is expected from all students.
3. Read required texts. In order to guarantee quality discussion, students must read all assigned readings before coming to class. Students are responsible for all materials on the designated day on the syllabus. Make sure you bring your books to class.
4. Prepare notes and questions about novels, chapters, essays, films, lectures and discussions for class and group discussions and assignments.
5. Assignments and Examinations:

A. A **Comprehensive Midterm** based on lecture, reading material, films and any other related material from the first half of the course.

B. **OPTION ONE: Presentation, Discussion Prompts and Responses Paper (Pages 3 to 4 Max):** Students will be assigned a book from the required reading. Students will select **TWO** topics from the topics list in the course description (history, immigration, race, ethnicity, family, labor, education, religion, memory, access, gender, power, border, borderlands and the fantastic). For each of the two topics selected provide a prompt and a response referring specifically to your assigned text. Please come to your discussion sections ready to discuss **ONE** of the two prompts and your response with the class

**OPTION TWO: Presentation, Discussion Prompts, Short Story: (Pages 3 to 4 Max):** Students will be assigned a book from the required reading. Students will select **TWO** topics from the topics list in the course description (history, immigration, race, ethnicity, family, labor, education, religion, memory, access, gender, power, border, borderlands

and the fantastic). For each of the two topics selected provide a prompt. Select **ONE** prompt and write a short story referring specifically to your assigned text. Please come to your discussion sections ready to discuss **ONE** of the two prompts and your short story with the class.

**OPTION THREE: Presentation, Group Film, Response Paper:** Students will be assigned a book from the required reading and will create a 7 to 10 minute film clip about their assigned text that demonstrates **ONE** of the topics listed in the course description. All group members must agree to take this option and agree on the topic. All members of the group must participate in the production of the video clip. Each collaborator will write a response (**Pages 2 to 3 Max**) discussing the importance of topic selected to the Chicana/o Latina/o community and how it relates to you. Please come to your discussion section ready to show the film clip and to discuss your response with the class.

For your **Presentation, Group Film, Discussion Prompts Responses Paper, Short Story:** remember to follow instructions and consider the concepts, terms and handouts presented in the readings and lectures to help develop your paper. All written assignments must be double-spaced and prepared on computer. **CONTENT** and **COMPOSITION** will be considered equally. Use MLA research paper format and documentation style. Do not forget to include a **Works Cited Page**. Don't depend solely on the internet for your sources, do outside research- visit the library! Please no late assignments. For each day that an assignment is not turned in an additional reduction in grade will take place. **Presentation, Group Film, Discussion Prompts, Responses Paper, Short Story will be due on the date of student's presentation. Individual presentations should be 7 to 10 minutes max. Don't read your response or short story.**

C. "Pop" writing opportunities will be offered during lecture.

D. A **Comprehensive Final** exam based on the readings, lectures, films and any other related material from the second half of the course.

6. No make-ups, no rewrites.
7. Absolutely no incompletes.
8. The use of electronic devices such as laptops, cell phones, recorders, Ipods, Ipads, head sets etc. are absolutely not allowed during lecture and discussion sections.
9. 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. (10)
2. Presentation, + 2 Discussion Prompts + Responses paper = Average (20)  
Presentation + 2 Discussion Prompts + Short Story = average  
Presentation + Group Film + Response = average
3. "Pop" writing opportunities (10)
4. Comprehensive Mid Term Exam (30)
5. Comprehensive Final Exam (30)

REQUIRED TEXTS:

*The Brick People* by Alejandro Morales

*Mother Tongue* by Demetria Martínez

*The Doorman* by Reinaldo Arenas

*Crossing Borders* by Sergio Troncoso

**Study Plan:**

**SEPTEMBER**

TH 26 Introduction: Review Syllabus, Text, Intertextuality, Context

**OCTOBER**

T 1 US Latino historical periods

“Quest for a Homeland” The Chicano Movement Mexico/ US

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?

*The Brick People* by Alejandro Morales (9-107)

TH 3 The Chicano Movement

Literary Context, Textual analysis: novel, short story, film

*The Brick People* (107-213)

**Student Panel: Chicano Movement**

T 8 *The Brick People* (213-318)

TH 10 "The Brick People" Documentary

*The Brick People*

T 15 *The Brick People*

*Mother Tongue* by Demetria Martinez (Chap. 1) El Salvador /US

**Student Presentations: *The Brick People***

TH 17 “Innocent Voices” (111 minutes) Feature Film

*Mother Tongue* (Chap. 2,3)

T 22 “Innocent Voices”

*Mother Tongue* (Chap. 4,5)

TH 24 *Mother Tongue*

**Student Presentations: *Mother Tongue***

T 29 “Nuyorican Dream” Documentary

Puerto Rico/ US

TH 31 “Nuyorican Dream”

Midterm Preview

**NOVEMBER**

T 5 **MIDTERM COMPREHENSIVE EXAM**

TH 7 “Nuyorican Dream”

CHICANA/O LATINA/O STUDIES 62 MORALES, A. JASSO, F. VALLE, L. TUTH 11:00-12:20 SSH 100

T 12 "Before Night Falls" (133 min) biographical film based on the memoir *Before Night Falls* by Reinaldo Arenas Cuba/ US  
*The Doorman* by Reinaldo Arenas (1-61)

TH 14 "Before Night Falls"  
*The Doorman* (62-125)

T 19 "Before Night Falls"  
*The Doorman* (126-191)

TH 21 *The Doorman*  
*Crossing Borders Personal Essays* (1-71) US/ Mexico Border/ The Borderlands  
**Student Presentations: *The Doorman***

T 26 *Crossing Borders Personal Essays* (73-138)

TH 28 **HOLIDAY**  
*Crossing Borders Personal Essays* (139-201)

## DECEMBER

T 3 *Crossing Borders Personal Essays*  
**Student Presentations: *Crossing Borders Personal Essays***

TH 5 Preview, Questions, Beginnings

**FINAL COMPREHENSIVE EXAM: TUESDAY, Dec. 10 10:30am-12:30pm SSH 100**

Professor Alejandro Morales

Department of Chicano/Latino Studies

Office: SST 393 Office Hours: T Th 10:00am-11:00pm or by appointment

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**Students with Disabilities:**

If you anticipate needing any type of an academic accommodation in this course or have questions about physical access, please discuss this with me during the first week of class AND please register with the Disability Services Center (<http://www.disability.uci.edu/>). In order for you to receive any type of academic accommodation, I will need formal notification from the Disability Services Center during the first two weeks of the quarter of the type of academic accommodations to which your disability entitles you.

**Academic dishonesty:**

University policy and unfortunate experiences compel the following statement of principle: Students who engage in plagiarism or cheating as defined by official university policy will automatically receive a ZERO as their grade on the assignment on which they plagiarized or the quiz or test on which they cheated. No exceptions. Other actions consistent with university policy may also be taken where deemed appropriate.

Additional note on plagiarism: in all of your writing, you must identify the nature and extent of your intellectual indebtedness to the authors whose work you have read, or to anyone else from whom you have gotten ideas (classmates, etc.). Failure to acknowledge and properly attribute your reliance on someone else's ideas, thoughts, words, research, theories, evidence, findings, or argument is PLAGIARISM. Failing to provide page numbers for quotations or paraphrasing in a paper, or paraphrasing or summarizing the work of others without acknowledging the source in the text of your paper is PLAGIARISM. Plagiarism is wrong, unethical and dishonest.

If you have questions, please see the UCI Academic Senate Policy on Academic Honesty ([http://www.senate.uci.edu/senateweb/default2.asp?active\\_page\\_id=754](http://www.senate.uci.edu/senateweb/default2.asp?active_page_id=754)[http://www.senate.uci.edu/senateweb/default2.asp?active\\_page\\_id=754](http://www.senate.uci.edu/senateweb/default2.asp?active_page_id=754) )

**Course Evaluations:**

Course evaluations: Please do them! Thank you