

ANTHROPOLOGY 3140.001**LATINOS IN THE U.S.**

Spring 2015

Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:30pm-1:50pm, Gateway 137

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Mariela Nuñez-Janes (profe)**OFFICE:** Chilton Hall 330F**TELEPHONE:** 940/369-7663**EMAIL:** Mariela.Nunez-Janes@unt.edu**OFFICE HOURS:** Tuesdays 2:30-4:30pm, or by appointment**GRADER:** Elizabeth Sidler**EMAIL:** ElizabethSidler@my.unt.edu**Course Description**

This is a course about a people known today as Hispanics, Chicanos, Tejanos, Latinos, Mexican Americans, among many other names. The course provides a foundation in: identity and resistance theories that allow the exploration of the various constructions of Latino ethnicity and race from an anthropological perspective; a review of the historical constructions of race and ethnicity and how these two categories of difference are synonymous at some times and analogous at other times; an insight into the historical and social constructions of Mexican, Mexican American, Latino identities; and a critical analysis of the social and political implications of being Mexican or Latino today.

The growth of the U.S. Latino population has prompted the recognition of the importance of understanding the various issues related to this multifaceted community. Scholars, activists, and policy makers are currently asking many questions about the present realities and future opportunities of Latinos in this country. One of the central themes among the myriad issues related to this community is the continuing categorization of this population as other, different, and in some cases not American. Indeed regardless of population size, place of birth, economic status, linguistic abilities, labor, and educational attainment Latinos are ultimately seen as strangers in a nation that has been home or has become home sometimes for generations. In this class we will explore the ways in which Latinos have been excluded from the national imaginary while maintaining and transforming their own cultural identity. We will see how this process of marginalization *a lo Americano*-“American style-” has deeply changed the racial and cultural landscape for Latinos and non-Latinos. Using the tools of anthropology and other relevant disciplines we will approach the complexities of identity formation in the Latino community by focusing on two important themes: 1) the historical formation of Latino identity and identities in the U.S., and 2) the sociocultural issues faced by the Latino community as we go about maintaining, challenging, and transforming our marginalized status.

Objectives

When you finish this class you will:

- 1) Understand how and why Latinos constitute a marginalized population.
- 2) Know the common and particular themes that contribute to categorize Latinos as a single ethno-racial group and as distinct national groupings.
- 3) Be familiar with prominent figures in Latino history and scholarship and their contributions.
- 4) Appreciate the importance of Latino studies.
- 5) Be familiar with some of the methods utilized in Latino studies and anthropology.

Course Requirements (340 total possible points)

- 1) **Class project:** You will participate in a semester class project.

The Chicano/a Latino/a Oral History Project (CLAHP). You will work in a group in order to conduct the project. Each group will find an informant to interview. The groups will produce a written transcript of the interview.

The class project will culminate in group presentations and an individual paper. The project will be both exciting and fun but will also require your commitment. You will need to take it seriously and act professionally. This is your chance to learn about ethnographic research and apply what you will learn in class.

You will perform the following tasks for the class project:

a) Transcript of mock interview (15 points):

- Each group will interview a group member for practice (the date of the mock interview is listed in the course outline).
- Each student will transcribe a total of 5 minutes of audio-recorded interview and turn in the written transcript. We will discuss transcriptions in class and I will provide you with guidelines.
- Due on 3/26

c) Scheduling and conducting the interview (1 per group, 25 points):

- Each group will contact, schedule and conduct an audio -recorded interview with a Latino/a not enrolled in the class (this is your “informant”). The informant must be someone that you know.
- Each group is responsible for providing written notice to prove of the date, place, and time of the interview.

- Due 4/2

d) Interview transcript (1 per group, 50 points):

- Each group will produce a typewritten transcript of the interview with their informant. The transcript must follow the guidelines provided in class.
- In addition, each group will turn in a manila envelope with: team #, CD-ROM or flash drive with the audio file of the interview, an MS Word formatted copy of the transcript, a printed copy of the transcript, and an original signed consent form (the consent form will be distributed in class).

- Due 4/16

e) Group presentation (1 per group, 50 points):

- Each group will present to the class a summary of their results (see attached guidelines).
- The presentations will take place at the end of the semester. I will circulate a sign-up sheet in class.

f) Project Participation (graded by project group members, 50 points):

- Each group member will grade the participation of fellow group members in the various project tasks using the attached guidelines (see syllabus for due date).
- Sometimes projects conducted in groups turn into individual assignments rather than collaborations and groups are individually rewarded or penalized by the instructor for the actions of other group members. To avoid this, your fellow group members will be responsible for this part of your grade. They will assess your performance in the group. The purpose is to encourage responsibility and collaboration. I expect all students to be honest, respectful, and abide by the guidelines when assigning this grade.
- Each group will be given the opportunity to grade their fellow group members before turning in the project participation grades. The mock project participation grade will not be counted but will give each group member a chance to know what he/she is doing well and what needs improvement.

2) Complete discussion preparation guide and lead in class discussion (50 points):

- Sign-up to lead discussion. The discussion dates along with the available chapters are listed on the syllabus. A discussant sign-up sheet will be circulated on **1/29**

You are responsible for conducting discussion on the date you selected. If you miss the discussion and do not have a valid excuse you will not receive credit.

- Select one chapter from the ones listed for your selected date and turn in 1 completed discussion preparation guide (25 points) at the end of the class period.
- Use the guide to lead an in class small group discussion (25 points) once during the semester (you will find the discussion preparation guide attached to the syllabus).

4) Final Paper (100 points):

- Each student will turn in a final paper that analyzes the interview. The papers must be written individually and must follow the attached guidelines.
- Due 5/11
- Your final paper must be turned in no later than 10am Chilton 330 (Anthropology Department)

5) Reading:

- Complete the readings listed on the syllabus for the day they are assigned and come to class prepared to discuss them.

6) Attendance:

- I expect you to be in class having completed all assignments and ready to participate. I also expect your full participation in the class project and your collaboration with group members. Because this course requires your full commitment failure to attend class and collaborate in the project will severely affect your final grade. **4 or more unexcused absences will lower your grade by 20 points.** Please let me know ahead of time if an emergency occurs that prevents you from meeting the attendance requirement on a given day.

Grading:

- All grades will be assigned based on the following grading scheme:

100-89% = A

88-79% = B

78-69% = C

68 -59% = D

58%- = F

CLASSROOM POLICIES

- 1) Since discussion is an essential part of this course please come to class prepared and on time.
- 2) Please turn off your cell phones.
- 4) Do not come into class late or leave early.
- 5) You are responsible for tracking your own grade progress (see course requirements and grading scheme to help you keep track of available points). If you have questions about your grade come to office hours, make an appointment, or contact me via email. Do not make specific inquiries about your grade in class.
- 6) No late work will be accepted unless you have a valid documented excuse (documented illness or death in the family). **If you miss an assignment and you have a valid documented excuse notify me as soon as possible via phone or email so we can arrange a reasonable time for you to make up the missed assignment.** All work must be turned in at the beginning of class unless noted otherwise. I will not accept emailed work.
- 7) **Plagiarism and Cheating:** The department of anthropology does not tolerate plagiarism, cheating, or helping others to cheat. Plagiarism is defined as misrepresenting the work of others (whether published or not) as your own. It may be inadvertent or intentional. Any facts, statistics, quotations, or paraphrasing of any information that is not common knowledge, should be cited. Any of these will be reprimanded and can result in an “F” in the course. In addition, I reserve the right to pursue further disciplinary action within the UNT legal system, which may result in your dismissal from the university. For more information on paper writing, including how to avoid plagiarism, and how to use citations, see <http://www.unt.edu/anthropology/writing.htm>. For information on the University’s policies regarding academic integrity and dishonesty, see the UNT Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities, <http://www.unt.edu/csrr/>.
- 8) The Anthropology Department does not discriminate on the basis of an individual’s disability as required by the Americans With Disabilities Act. Our program provides academic adjustments or help to individuals with disabilities in its program and activities. Attempts will be made to meet all certified requirements.

REQUIRED READING (UNT BOOKSTORE)

Delgado, Richard; Stefancic, Jean, eds.
 2010 *The Latino/a Condition: A Critical Reader. Second Edition.* New York: New York University Press. (referred to as TLC in the course outline)

COURSE OUTLINE

1/20	Course introduction	
1/22	The “imagined community”? Demographic Trends	Assignment: TLC 6
1/27	The “imagined community”? Demographic Trends (continued)	Assignment: TLC 2
1/29	The “imagined community”? Demographic Trends (continued)	Assignment: TLC 7 <i>Sign-up for student led discussion in class</i>
2/3	The “imagined community”? Demographic Trends (continued)	Assignment: TLC 5
2/5	Class Project Description	Assignment: TLC 37
2/10	Student led discussion of TLC 6, 2, 7, 5, 37	Assignment: Review TLC 6, 2, 7, 5, 37
2/12	Latinos and Race	Assignment: TLC 9
2/17	Latinos and Race (continued)	Assignment: TLC 20
2/19	The border crossed us: Colonization	Assignment: TLC 10
2/24	The border crossed us: Colonization (continued)	Assignment: TLC 12
2/26	The border crossed us: Colonization (continued)	Assignment: TLC 18
3/3	Student lead discussion of TLC 9, 20, 10, 12, 18	Assignment: Review TLC 9, 20, 10, 12, 18
3/5	Conducting and transcribing interviews	Assignment: TLC 41 <i>Groups will be selected in class</i>
3/10	Mock interview	Assignment: <i>Select a group member ahead of time to ask questions during the in class mock interview. Interview questions will be distributed in class.</i>
3/12	Activism and Movimientos Sociales	Assignment: TLC 48
3/17-3/19	NO CLASS SPRING	

	BREAK	
3/24	Activism and Movimientos Sociales (continued)	Assignment: TLC 45 <i>Film: Palante, siempre palante! The Young Lords</i>
3/26	Activism and Movimientos Sociales (continued)	Assignment: TLC 47 <u>Transcript of mock interview due in class</u> <i>Film: Chicano! Quest for a Homeland (Episode 1)</i>
3/31	Student lead discussion of TLC 41, 45, 47, 48	Assignment: Review TLC 41, 45, 47, 48
4/2	Ethnic Labels	Assignment: TLC 70 <u>interview date, place, and time due in class</u>
4/7	Immigration	Assignment: TLC 33
4/9	Immigration (continued)	Assignment: TLC 62
4/14	Student led discussion of TLC 70, 33, 62	Assignment: Review TLC 70, 33, 62
4/16	Content Analysis: Coding and discussion of group presentations	Assignment: <u>Interview transcript, CD, and consent form due (place in a manila envelope with your names and team number)</u> Sign-up for group presentations in class
4/21	Education	Assignment: TLC 68
4/23	Student-led discussion of TLC 68	Assignment: Review TLC 68
4/28	Presentations	
4/30	Presentations	
5/5	Presentations	
5/7	Presentations	
5/11		<u>Final paper due no later than 10 am,</u> <u>Anthropology office</u> <u>Chilton 330</u>

Note: this syllabus may be subject to changes and/or revisions

Discussion Preparation Guide for Student-led Discussions

Name _____ Date _____

Chapter _____

To the student:

A. You must fill out this discussion preparation guide and turn it in on the day of the discussion. No exceptions will be made for late papers. The guide will count towards half of the student-led discussion grade. (25 points)

B. Use this guide to help you formulate the issues you will like to bring up during the discussion.

C. Remember that your role as a discussion leader is to act as moderator. Thus, in addition to having particular issues that you want to address during discussion, your role as moderator also includes making sure that you do this within the class time and that the discussion moves along.

1. Note words that are unfamiliar or are used in a specific way in the reading. Define the word in the context of the phrase where you first saw it and in relation to the main points of the reading.

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

2. What ideas seem significant or puzzling to you? Prepare questions about these to ask during discussion.

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

3. State the topic of the reading in one or two sentences. What is this chapter/article about?

4. How does the reading relate to other materials you've read in this class and/or in other classes?

5. How does the reading relate to things you, friends, family have experienced and/or to events you are familiar with?

6. What is your opinion of the reading? Provide a reason for your opinion.

7. What did you learn from the reading? Please be specific.

Guidelines for completing the interview transcripts

Include the following information in the upper left-hand corner of the transcript:

Name of team members

Date and location

Informant's gender

Informant's age

Start time

End time

Transcription Conventions (use in the transcript) (Adapted from Alessandro Duranti, <http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/anthro/faculty/duranti/audvis/annotate.htm>. Based on the transcription conventions developed by Gail Jefferson for the analysis of conversational turns in English conversation -- see Sacks, Schegloff, and Jefferson 1974 or Schenkein 1978 in the References on greetings).

Number all lines consecutively. Include the line number in the left margin

Example:

1 **Informant;** I thought it was important to do

2 **MNJ;** Why do you think it was important?

3 **Informant;** Because my family kept talking about it

Use "informant" to replace the name of the person you are interviewing. Use the first name and last name initials to replace the name of the person(s) conducting the interview

Single space utterances by a single speaker and double-space utterances by different speakers.

Speakers' names should be bolded

MNJ; Of course, I am a professor in the anthropology department and I'm teaching a class on Latinos in the U.S.

Informant; Can you say a little bit more about your class?

Use three dots indicate an untimed pause.

Use words between parentheses in the transcripts to represent the best guess of a stretch of talk which was difficult to hear.

Each team member must transcribe an equal amount of audio recording. Discuss who will transcribe which segment ahead of time and indicate this in the transcript by including the name of the person transcribing at the beginning and end of the corresponding section.

Group presentation guidelines

The presentation will be conducted in class on the date selected by the group.

All group members must participate and be present during the presentation to receive full credit

The presentation cannot exceed 10 minutes and must be done using Power Point, Prezi or any other appropriate media format. For example, you can create a very short film and discuss it with the class. Be creative!

It must include the following:

Number and name of group members

A brief summary of your informant's responses

What your team learned from the project about Latinos in the U.S.

Guidelines for final paper

Your final paper will discuss the main themes you identified in the interview with your informant.

The paper must be no longer than 7 type-written pages double-spaced using 12 point font.

It must include:

- Separate title page with the title of the paper, your name, course title and number, semester (5 points)-does not count in the 7 page limit
- Thesis statement and brief biographic sketch of your informant. Remember not to include name or personally identifiable information of informant (15 points)
- A description of the methods used. This description must include: when and where you conducted the interview, who asked the questions during the interview, the procedures followed for transcribing the interview, a description of how you identified the relevant themes from the interview along with a list of all of the themes you came up with (20 points)
- Analysis that identifies the most relevant themes from the interview and relates them to ideas and information from the readings and class lectures. This analysis must include relevant citations (follow AAA's citation style http://www.aaanet.org/publications/style_guide.pdf) of the class lectures and readings that show your understanding of how the readings and class lectures apply to the relevant themes you identify. It must be written in a way that supports and develops your thesis statement (50 points).
- A page listing the references cited in your paper (follow AAA's citation style http://www.aaanet.org/publications/style_guide.pdf) along with a brief acknowledgment of your group members and the class project (10 points)

***Go to <http://www.unt.edu/honors/eaglefeather/2006issue.shtml> and read the papers listed under “Special Section: Undergraduate Scholar Articles in Anthropology” for examples of past papers written by students enrolled in the class.