

**LLS 1000 - Introduction to Latin American
and Latino Studies
Fall 2009
TTH 1:00-2:15
ASH 380**



students. This course satisfies three of the six hour College of Arts and Sciences requirement for course work of the Cultural Diversity requirement.

Reasonable accommodations are provided for students who are registered with Disability Services and make their requests sufficiently

Grading and Evaluation

Types of student's work evaluated include class attendance and participation, group projects, minor writing assignments, and examinations.

Distribution of points – 400 points total

50 points	Exam 1
50 points	Exam 2
100 points	Final Exam
50 points	2 Film reflection essays (25 points each)
75 points	Group Project
25 points	Topical News Folder
25 points	Participation
25 points	Hispanic Heritage Month Event

Grading Scale

A+	100-98%
A	97.9 – 92%
A-	91.9 – 90%
B+	89.9 – 88%
B	87.9 – 82%
B-	81.9 – 80%
C+	79.9 – 78%
C	77.9 – 70%
D+	69.9 – 68%
D	67.9 – 62%
D-	61.9 – 60%
F	<59.9%

Ground Rules

- Late papers and assignments are not acceptable. They are a burden to your instructors and are unfair to your colleagues who do their work on time. Therefore, we will deduct a whole letter grade for each day an assignment is late. Extensions may be given but only if they are requested well in advance of the deadline, and there is a compelling reason.
- It is not our practice to give incompletes. However, if there is a suitable reason - subject to our approval and supported with

have to register a log-in and password in order to access this important source. Other important sources include the *Wall Street Journal*, *The Miami Herald*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, *Business Week*, *The Economist*, *The New Republic*, *The American Prospect*, *Hispanic Magazine*, and *The Nation*. International newspapers add a complementary set of views not always found in U.S. media. If you read other languages, French, Italian and Latin American newspapers provide a wealth of analysis on these important issues. There are also numerous scholarly journals that will be of great assistance to you in preparing your journal article reviews. Among those most highly recommended are the: OLLAS' own, *Journal of Latino/Latin American Studies*, *NACLA Report on the Americas*, *Latin American Perspectives*, *Latin American Research Review*, *Foreign Affairs*, *Foreign Policy*, *Journal of Democracy*. Additionally, avail yourselves of the numerous UNO library on-line electronic databases such as *J-STOR*, *Project Muse* and *Lexis-Nexis* for collecting articles and information for your group research assignments.

Course Readings and Assignments Schedule

‡(Indicates in-class reading)

** (Indicates Recommended Reading Only)

Week 1 (8/25-27): Introduction to Latino/Latin American Studies.

Read:

1. Pedro Caban, (2003) "Moving From the Margins to Where? Three Decades of Latino/a Studies. pp. 1-10.

Lectures: "What Are We Talking About?" And "Why Study Latino/Latin American Studies, Part I"

Week 2 (9/1-3): The Evolution of Latino/Latin American Studies

Lecture: Why Study Latino/Latin American Studies, Part II

Guest Speaker: Lucy Garza, OLLAS Program Coordinator

Week 3 (9/8-10): A Historical and Contemporary Profile of Latino Nebraska and South Omaha.

Lecture: A Brief History of South Omaha

Film: *Crossing Arizona (2007)*

Assignment: Film Reflection Essay – due 9/17

Read: Helen Marrow, "New Destinations and Immigrant Incorporation." *Perspectives on Politics* (December 2005) , Vol3/No.4, pp. 761-799.

Week 4. (9/15-17): The Latin American Reality and the Curious Case of Cuba.

Lectures: "The Latin American Tradition and Process of Development," and "The Cuban Revolution is Dead, Long Live the Cuban Revolution!!"

Read:

1. Wiarda, Howard and Harvey F. Kline, "The Context of Latin American Politics," a in *An Introduction to Latin American Politics and Development*. Wiarda and Kline, eds. (Westview Press, 2001) pp. 1-30.;
2. Wiarda, Howard and Harvey F. Klin

Week 7 (10/6-8): Latino Politics on the Edge

Lecture: "Incorporating Latinos into the Political Mainstream,"

Read:

1. Janelle Wong, (2002) "Thinking About Immigrant Political Incorporation,";
2. Benjamin-Alvarado, DeSipio and Montoya (2008) "Latino Mobilization in New Immigrant Destinations: The Anti-H.R. 4437 Protest in Nebraska's Cities."
3. Pedro Caban, (2003) "Moving From the Margins to Where? Three Decades of Latino/a Studies. pp. 11-18.

Film: *Walkout* (2007)

Assignment: Film Reflection Essay – Due 10/15 in class!

Week 8 (10/13-15): The Questions of Language and Identity: When Does Latin American become Latino?

Lecture: Latino Identity

Guest Speaker: Dr. Tom Sanchez, OLLAS and UNO Sociology

Read:

1. Luis Fraga and Gary M. Segura, "Culture Clash? Contesting Notions of American Identity and the Effects of Latin American Immigration. (2006)
2. Samuel Huntington, "The Hispanic Challenge." (2004).
3. Ruben Navarette, "What Describes Latino Identity?" ‡
4. Richard Alba, "Mexican Americans and the American Dream." (2006)**
5. Susan Eckstein, "Cuban Emigres and the American Dream." (2006)**

Week 9 (10/20-22): Latino/Latin American Literature and Culture

Guest Speaker: Dr. Ramon Guerra, UNO English

No Class - October 20 – Fall Break

Read: Susana Cisneros "Woman Hollering Creek." (1991)

Week 10 (10/27-29): Latino Education

Guest Speakers: Dr. Juan Casas, UNO Psychology and Dr. Gigi Brignoni, UNO Education

Read:

1. Valencia, Richard, and Mary S. Black, "Mexican Americans Don't Value Education! – On the Basis of Myth, Mythmaking and Debunking," *Journal of Latinos and Education*, 1(2), 81-103.
2. Lisa Sarmiento, "Dancing With Languages." (2008) ‡

