

Introduction to Chicana/o and Latino/a Studies Spring 2012  
Latino and Latin American Studies 1010, Social Sciences, sec. 001, 099  
Tuesday 5:30 to 8:10

**Instructor: Thomas Sanchez**

Office: 3830 ASH

**Phone: 554-4977** Office of Latino and Latin American Studies (OLLAS) 554-3835

Office Hours: Tuesday 10 to 11 and 4:00 to 5:00 Thursday 10-11 **AND BY APPOINTMENT**

**EMAIL: [thomassanchez@mail.unomaha.edu](mailto:thomassanchez@mail.unomaha.edu)**

### OBJECTIVES

This class will introduce you to the fields of Chican@ and Latin@ Studies. Although a broad range of Chicano/a Latina/o Studies topics will be covered, there will be a focus on certain aspects of history, culture, politics, race, gender and sexuality. Dialectical reasoning will be used to develop critical thinking skills and to teach you to weave sociological analysis into *your* history and culture using Chicano/Latino Studies as a point of departure. We will examine the similarities and differences among and between Chicano/a and Latino/a Studies while learning the basic tenets of both areas through the writings of Chicano/Latino writers, not all of who are college professors. You will be exposed to many aspects of the lives of Latinos and Chicanos in the United States including terms of identification and their significance in those lives. We will examine myths and stereotypes and look not only at how they are created, but also how we, both as individuals and in groups, come to believe in them.

### Format for the Class.

Class will be a combination of lectures, videos, guest speakers, discussion and work outside the classroom. A large portion of the class will be discussion. We will learn from each other with the readings serving as a topical guideline. **IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOU READ THE ASSIGNED READINGS BEFORE THE DATES THEY ARE TO BE DISCUSSED AND TAKE NOTES ON THOSE READINGS.** You should review your notes before each class so you can participate in meaningful discussions. I have great knowledge of the topics and some personal experiences to share with you and add to our discussions but you can also learn much from the knowledge and experiences of your classmates. You will be expected to ask relevant questions about the readings and other topics you do not understand and discuss the topics you know about and understand from the readings. You should always be thinking about your biographical relationship to the class discussion topics.

I think there will be times when you experience strong emotions in this class. If you are offended by comments made by other students or by myself and do not feel comfortable bringing those feelings up in class, **please** see me during office hours. Remember, you will not always be right and you will not always be wrong.

### Required Text

Vazquez, Francisco H. 2009.

Biography (2x 50 points each)	100 points
Exams (4 x 50 points each)	<u>200 points</u>
Total	500 points

Grades 490 to 500 points A+, 489 to 460 A, 459 to 450 A-  
 449 to 440 points B+, 439 to 410 B, 409 to 400 B-  
 399 to 390 points C+, 389 to 350 C  
 349 to 340 points D+, 339 to 300 D and below 300 is failing

**You are expected to attend every class and I will take attendance. An absence is an absence and there is no difference between excused and unexcused. Your second absence will result in a 10% reduction (50 points) of your \_\_\_\_\_ grade and YOU CANNOT PASS THE CLASS WITH THREE ABSENCES.**

**Class Participation** You are expected to complete the assigned readings prior to the day they are scheduled for class and to come to class prepared to discuss questions or make statements of educated opinion about the articles. You should take notes. **IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOU READ THE ASSIGNED READINGS BEFORE THE DATES THEY ARE TO BE DISCUSSED AND TAKE NOTES ON THOSE**

main themes or ideas.

This syllabus may be changed at the discretion of the instructor. You will be given sufficient notice of any syllabus or schedule changes.

**Class Schedule**

Week One- January 10, Introductions and syllabus, vocabulary

Week Two- January 17

**Read Latino Thought Preface, Introduction, 3-14 and 51-81**

Week Three January 24

**Read Latino Thought 15-50** Quest for a Homeland

Week Four January 31

**Read Latino Thought 83-112** Writing/biographies and

**EXAM #1**

Week Five February 7

**Read Latino Thought 113-144, 145-159**

Week Six- February 14

**Read Latino Thought 161-192, 193-204**

**Ethnic Biography due**

Week Seven-February 21

**Read Latino Thought 205-214, 223-242** *Struggle in the Fields*

Week Eight February 28

**Read Latino Thought 243-270**

**Exam #2**

Week Nine March 6

**Read Latino Thought 273-298, 299-326**

Week Ten March 13

**Read Latino Thought 327-356, 359-375** *Elian Gonzalez*

**Cultural Biography due**

March 20 - SPRING BREAK - NO CLASS

Week Eleven March 27

**Read Latino Thought 405-410** *Palante Siempre Palante*

**Exam #3**

Week Twelve April 3

**Read Latino Thought 411-438, 439-458**

Week Thirteen April 10

**22 Read Latino Thought 461-465, 491-510, 511-529**

Week Fourteen-April 17  
Mi Familia and discussion

Week Fifteen - April 24

**Read Latino Thought 531-562**

**BOOK REVIEW DUE**

Final exam Tuesday May 1, 2012 at 8:00 pm