Dr. Gregorio Mora Torres Mexican American Studies

MAS 205 Fall, 2011

**CHICANA/O HISTORY**

OFFICE: YUH 36

OFFICE HOURS: 5:00-6:00 PM., Tuesdays

TELEPHONE: 924-5472

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

The course will explore the historical experiences of Chicanos/as from the indigenous past to the present. It will integrate historiography grounded in the analysis of the development diverse perspectives and changes in the field of Chicana/o history.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

This course will examine major themes in Chicano history, covering several historical periods from the Pre-Colombian era to the recent past. Students will be required to critically analyze the major developments, which have shaped Chicanos and their culture. The main themes will be early Indigenous peoples, Spanish conquest of the Americas, Spanish colonial society, Spanish/Mexican Settlement of the Southwest, the Mexican American War, Mexican Americans under U.S. domination, Mexican Immigration to the United States, Mexican American Labor Movements, Mexicanismo, the Mexican American Ideology, the Chicano Movement, and U.S.-Mexico Relations. Underlying topics will be culture, gender issues, race and racism, indigenismo, mestizaje, machismo, colonialism, political disempowerment, socio-economic stratification, immigration, class conflict, Chicanismo, and the U.S./Mexico Border.

**GRADES:**

Book Critique #1 (2 pgs.): 25 points

Book Critique #2 (2 pgs.): 25 points

Individual Theme Essay and Presentation: 30 points

Annotated Bibliography (min. of 8 sources): 40 points

Research Paper (12-15pp.): 100 points

**COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:**

1. Each student will be required to lead two weekly class discussions and will make available to the class a book critique that will be served as foci for discussion. The critique should be no more than two typed pages and should provide a thorough analysis of the author's work. **(The presenter needs to provide the rest of the students with a copy of his/her book critique)** Do not provide a summary of the book but instead discuss the author's major thesis(es). Also, make sure that you point out the book's strengths and weaknesses.

2. Students, working in groups, are required to develop one "A Revision of History" Theme Presentation (**4 pp**.) which critically examine a historical theme in either Chicano or early Mexican history. Members of the class will select the topic of their choice but are encouraged to work with the rest of their group to come up with a common theme for their group presentation. Students will be expected to consult leading historical works on the topic and see if it’s possible to develop a Chicano perspective. The Group Presentations will be presented on the twelfth week of the semester. If you wish, the group can consult with the instructor if it needs assistance in selecting a common theme.

1. The term paper will be done on a topic of the student's own choosing in an area of course content. The instructor will be available to assist the student in selecting a workable topic. To improve the quality of the paper, students need to prepare a sizeable annotated biography on your topic by the required date.

**COURSE POLICIES:**

1. Late assignments will be reduced by a least one grade.
2. Any "make up" work will be done by arrangement only.
3. Incomplete grades may be awarded only if 75% of the course work has been completed with a grade of "C" or better.
4. Each student is required to actively participate in class discussions.

### *Academic Integrity Policy*

Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San José State University, and the University’s Integrity Policy requires you to be honest in all your academic coursework. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The policy on academic integrity can be found at [http://sa](http://sa/).sjsu.edu/student conduct.

*Campus Policy in Compliance with the Americans with Disability Act*

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with us as soon as possible, or see us during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with DRC to establish a record of disability.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:**

Guillermo Bonfil Batalla, Mexico Profundo, The University of Texas Press, 1996

Ignacio M. Garcia, Chicanismo: The Forging of A Militant Ethos Among Mexican Americans, The University of Arizona Press, 1997.

Colin MacLachlan and Jaime Rodriguez, The Forging of the Cosmic Race: A Reinterpretation of Colonial Mexico, University of California Press, 1990.

Manuel G. Gonzales, Mexicanos: A History of Mexicans in the U.S., Indiana University Press, 2000

Richard Griswold del Castillo, The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo: A Legacy of Conflict,University of Oaklahoma Press, 1990.

George J. Sanchez, Becoming Mexican American: Ethnicity, Culture and Identity in Chicano Los Angeles, 1900-1945, Oxford University Press, 1993,

Jacques Soustelle, Daily Life of the Aztecs, Stanford University Press, 1962.

David J. Weber, The Spanish Frontier in North America, Yale University Press, 1992.

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**WEEK 1**

August 30 Introduction

What is Chicana/o History?

**WEEK 2**

September 06 Meso-American Indigenous Civilizations

Readings: Bonfil Batalla, Part I; Soustelle, entire book.

**WEEK 3**

September 13 The Spanish Conquest of Mexico

Readings: MacLachlan and Rodriguez, Chapters 1-5.

**WEEK 4**

September 20 Colonial Mexico: the Emergence of Cultural and Racial Mestizaje

Readings: MacLachlan & Rodriguez, Chapters 6-11.

**WEEK 5**

September 27 The Northern Borderlands during the Colonial Period

Readings: Weber, Introduction, Chaps 1-3.

**WEEK 6**

October 04 The Spanish/Mexican Settlement of the Northern Territories

Readings: Weber, Chaps 4-8.

**WEEK 7**

October 11 American Imperialism and the Mexican War

Readings: Griswold del Castillo, Chaps 1-4; Weber, Chaps 5-10.

**WEEK 8**

October 18 The Colonial Labor System

**Due Date for Annotated Bibliography**

Readings: Bonfil Batalla, Part II; Griswold del Castillo 5-10.

**WEEK 9**

October 25 The Mexican Revolution and Immigration

Readings: Gonzales, Chaps 3-5; Sanchez, pp. 3-125.

**WEEK 10**

November 01 The Making of the Mexican American Ideology

Readings: Sanchez, pp 127-274; Gonzales, Chapter 7.

**WEEK 11**

November 08 The Birth of the Chicano Movement

Readings: Garcia, pp. 1-85; Gonzales, Chapter 8.

**WEEK 12**

November 15 **GROUP THEME PRESENTATIONS**

**Individual Essays due**

**WEEK 13**

November 23 Chicanos vs. Hispanics: Struggle for Control of the Community

Readings: Garcia, pp. 86-145

**WEEK 14**

November 29 Chicanos and Mexico

Readings: Bonfil Batalla, Part III; Gonzales, Chapter 9.

**WEEK 15**

December 06 Beyond Aztlan

**Due Date for Term Papers**