

History 167
Topics in Mexican American History
Professor David G. Gutierrez
Fall 2006

DIASPORA, DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE, AND THE SHIFTING POLITICS OF ETHNICITY

Over the past half century, the United States has experienced a demographic revolution that is virtually unprecedented in the history of the nation. Largely the result of migration from Mexico and other Latin American countries, the changing demographic structure of the nation raises profound questions about the future of the social structure, the trajectory of the economy, and the changing nature of national citizenship. In this course, we will explore the history of the developments over the past century, paying special attention to changes over the past four decades.

REQUIRED READINGS:

Assigned readings will be drawn from the History 167 Course Pack (available for University Readers), selected articles available on the net, and from occasional course handouts.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

This is an intensive reading and discussion course. Students are expected to complete assigned readings each week and come to class prepared to have a critical discussion of themes raised (30 percent of grade). The major course requirement is a 15-20 page term paper (70 percent of grade) on a topic of the student's choosing (after consultation with the instructor).

WEEK ONE—9/25: COURSE INTRODUCTION

READ: David G. Gutierrez, "Demography and the Shifting Boundaries of 'Community': Reflections on U.S. Latinos and the Evolution of Latino Studies," in David G. Gutierrez, ed. *The Columbia History of Latinos in the United States since 1960*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2004, 1-42 ®; Gutierrez, "Globalization, Labor Migration, and the Demographic Revolution: Ethnic Mexicans in the Late Twentieth Century, in *Ibid.*, 43-86® ; M.P. Guttman, et al. "The Demographic Impact of the Mexican Revolution in the United States," *Historia Mexicana* 50 (1) (July-September 2000) (NET); E. Skop, et al. "La Frontera and Beyond: Geography and Demography in Mexican American History," *Professional Geographer* 58 (1) (February 2006): 78-98 (NET).

WEEK TWO—10/2: POPULATION CIRCULATION AND REACTION

READ: Juan F. Perea, "A Brief History of Race and the U.S.-Mexican Border: Tracing the Trajectories of Conquest." *UCLA Law Review* 51 (1) (October 2003): 283-312 ®; Arthur F. Corwin and Lawrence A. Cardoso, "Vamos al Norte: Causes of Mass Migration to the United States," in Arthur F. Corwin, ed. *Immigrants—and Immigrants: Perspectives on Mexican Labor Migration to the United States*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1978, 38-66 ®; Mark Reisler, "Always the Laborer, Never the Citizen: Anglo Perceptions of the Mexican Immigrant during the 1920s," in David G. Gutierrez, ed. *Between Two Worlds: Mexican Immigrants in the United States*. Wilmington, DE: Scholarly Resources, 1996, 23-43 ®; Selections, from Madison Grant and Chas. Stewart Davison, eds., *The Alien in Our Midst, or "Selling Our Birthright for a Mess of Pottage."* New York: Galton Publishing Co., 1930 ®; Gilbert G. Gonzalez, "The Americanization of Mexican Women and their Families during the Era of De Jure School Segregation, 1900-1950," in Sucheng Chan, ed. *Social and Gender Boundaries in the United States*. Lewiston, KY: Edwin Mellen Press, 1989, 55-79 ®; and Emily K. Abel, "From Exclusion to Expulsion: Mexicans and Tuberculosis Control in Los Angeles, 1914-1940," *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* 77 (4) (2003): 823-49 (NET).

WEEK THREE—10/09: THE POLITICS OF CULTURE—WHITENESS AS AN OPTION

READ: Neil Foley, "Becoming Hispanic: Mexican Americans and The Faustian Pact with Whiteness," in Neil Foley, ed. *Reflexiones 1997: New Directions in Mexican American Studies*. Austin: CMAS Books, 1998, 53-70 ®; Neil Foley, "Straddling the Color Line: The Legal Construction of Hispanic Identity," in Nancy Foner and George Fredrickson, eds. *Not Just Black and White: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives on Immigration, Race, and Ethnicity in the United States*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 2004, 341-57 ®; Manuel C. Gonzalez, "Consoling Loyalty to the United States of America" *El Defensor*, June 6, 1931, in *Testimonio: A Documentary History of the Mexican American Struggle for Civil Rights*. Houston: Arte Publico Press, 2000: 170-71; "A Poignant Defense of the Whiteness of Mexicans," *La Prensa*, October 14, 1936, 173; "Faith in Americanization," in *ibid.*, 174-75 ®; Clare Sheridan, "Another White Race: Mexican Americans and the Paradox of Whiteness in Jury Selection," *Law and History Review* 21 (2) (Spring 2003): 109-44 (NET); Richard Valencia, "The Mexican American Struggle for Educational Opportunity in *Mendez v. Westminster*: Helping to Pave the Way for *Brown v. Board of Education*" *Teachers College Record* 107 (3) (2005): 389-423 (NET); Dara Ornstein, "Void for Vagueness: Mexicans and the Collapse of Miscegenation Law in California," *Pacific Historical Review* 74 (3) (2005): 367-407 (NET); J. Winders, J.P. Jones, and M.J. Higgins, "Making Gueras: Selling White Identities on Late Night Mexican Television," *Gender, Place, and Culture* 12 (1) (March 2005): 71-93 (NET).

WEEK FOUR—10/16: THE POLITICS OF CULTURE: ALTERNATIVE PERSPECTIVES

READ: Paul S. Taylor, "Songs of the Mexican Migration," in J. Frank Dobie, ed. *Puro Mexicano*. Dallas: Southern Methodist University, 1935, 221-45 ®; Vicki L. Ruiz, "'Star Struck': Acculturation, Adolescence, and the Mexican-American Woman, 1920-1950," in David G. Gutierrez, ed. *Between Two Worlds: Mexican Immigrants in the United States*. Wilmington, DE: Scholarly Resources, 125-147 ®; Richard Griswold del Castillo, "The L.A. Zoot Suit Riots Revisited: Mexican and Latin American Perspectives," *Mexican Studies/Estudios Mexicanos* 16 (2) (2000): 367-91 (NET); Eduardo Obregon Pagan, Los Angeles Geopolitics and the Zoot Suit Riots, 1943," *Social Science History* 24 (1) (2000): 223-50 (NET); Luis Alvarez, "Zoot Violence on the Home Front: Race, Riots, and Youth Culture during World War II," in *Mexican Americans and World War II*, ed. Maggie Rivas-Rodriguez, Austin: University of Texas Press, 141-77 ®; and Laura L. Cummings, "Cloth-Wrapped People, Trouble, and Power: Pachuco Culture in the Greater Southwest," *Journal of the Southwest* 45 (3) (2003): 329-48 (NET).

WEEK FIVE—10/23: LABOR AND THE LEFTIST TRADITION

READ: Luisa Moreno, "Caravans of Sorrow: Noncitizen Americans of the Southwest," in David G. Gutierrez, ed. *Between Two Worlds: Mexican Immigrants in the United States*. Wilmington, DE, 1996, 119-123 ®; Emma Tennayuca and Homer Brooks, "The Mexican Question in the Southwest," *The Communist* 18 (March 1939): 257-68; First Congress of Spanish-Speaking Peoples, documents ®; Douglas Monroy, "Anarquismo y Comunismo: Mexican Radicalism and the Communist Party in Los Angeles during the 1930s," *Labor History* 24 (1983): 34-59 (NET); Frank P. Baraja, "Resistance, Radicalism, and Repression on the Oxnard Plain: The Social Context of the Betebelero Strike of 1933," *Western Historical Quarterly* 35 (1) (2004), 28-51 (NET); Elizabeth McKillen, "Hybrid Visions: Working-Class Internationalism in the Mexican Borderlands. *Labor: Studies in North American Working-Class History* 2 (1) (2005): 77-107 (NET)

WEEK SIX—10/30: ETHNIC SEPARATISM AND ITS DISCONTENTS

READ: F. Arturo Rosales, "Introduction: Chicanismo, Youth and La Raza Unida Party," in F. Arturo Rosales, ed. *Testimonio: A Documentary History of the Mexican American Struggle*. Houston: Arte Publico Press, 2000, 328-38 ®; Selected documents in Rosales, *Testimonio*®; Genaro M. Padilla, "Myth and Comparative Cultural Nationalism: The Ideological Uses of Aztlan," in Rudolfo A. Anaya and Francisco A Lomeli, eds. *Aztlan: Essays on the Chicano Homeland*. Albuquerque: Academia/El Norte Publications, 1989, 111-34 ®; J. Jorge Klor de Alva, "Aztlan, Borinquen and Hispanic Nationalism in the United States," in *ibid*, 135-63 ®; Ignacio M. Garcia, "Juncture in the Road: Chicano Studies since 'El Plan de Santa Barbara,'" in David R. Maciel and Isidro D. Ortiz, *Chicanas/Chicanos at the Crossroads: Social, Economic, and Political Change*. Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 1996, 181-203; David G. Gutierrez, "Diaspora, Displacement, and Demographic Change: Reflections on the Reorientation of Chicano and Area Studies," unpublished paper, UCSD ®; Elizabeth Martinez, "Whatever

Happened to the Chicano Movement? In Elizabeth Martinez, *De Colores Means All of Us: Latina Views for a Multi-Colored Century*. Cambridge, MA: South End Press, 1998, 198-203 ®.

WEEK SEVEN—11/06: CULTURAL NATIONALISM, CITIZENSHIP, AND THE FEMINIST CRITIQUE

READ: Benita Roth, "'We Called Ourselves 'Feministas': Intramovement Experience and the Emergence of Chicana Feminism,'" chapter four in Benita Roth, *Separate Roads to Feminism: Black, Chicana, and White Feminist Movements in America's Second Wave*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 129-77 ®; Selections from Alma M. Garcia, *Chicana Feminist Thought: The Basic Historical Writings*. New York: Routledge, 1997 ®; Aida Hurtado, "Reflections on White Feminism: A Perspective from a Woman of Color," in Chan, *Social and Gender Boundaries*, 155-83 ®; Elizabeth Martinez, "Chingon Politics Die Hard," in Martinez, *De Colores*, 172-81 ®.

WEEK EIGHT—11/13: GLOBALIZATION, MIGRATION, AND ECONOMIC INTEGRATION

READ: Cindy Hahamovitch, "Creating Perfect Immigrants: Guestworkers of the World in Historical Perspective," *Labor History* 44 (1) (2003): 26-95 (NET); Ron Mize, "Mexican Contract Workers and the U.S. Capitalist Agricultural Labor Process: The Formative Era, 1942-64," *Rural Sociology* 71 (1) (March 2006): 85-108, (NET); P.L. Martin and M.S. Teitelbaum, "The Mirage of Mexican Guest Workers," *Foreign Affairs* 80 (6) (Nov.-Dec. 2001): 117-31 (NET); Nestor Rodriguez, "Workers Wanted: Employer Recruitment of Mexican Labor," *Work and Occupations* 31 (4) (November 2004): 453-73 (NET); Alejandro I. Canales, "Mexican Labor Migration into the United States in the Age of Globalization," *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 29 (4) (July 2003): 741-61 (NET); M. Ruhs and H. Chang, "The Ethics of Labor Immigration Policy," *International Organization* 58 (1) (winter 2004): 69-102 (NET).

WEEK NINE—11/20: RESEARCH BREAK

WEEK TEN--11/27: CITIZENSHIP AND THE FUTURE

READ: Marcelo M. Suarez-Orozco, "California Dreaming: Proposition 187 and the Cultural Psychology of Racial and Ethnic Exclusion," *Anthropology and Education Quarterly* 27 (2) (June 1996): 151-67 (NET); Jose Itzigsohn, "The Formation of Latino and Latina Panethnic Identities," in Foner and Fredrickson, eds. *Not Just Black and White*: 197-216 ®; M.P. Smith, "Nationalism, the State, and Extraterritorial Citizenship," *Politics and Society* 31 (4) (December 2003): 467-502 (NET); Nestor Rodriguez, "The Battle for the Border: Notes on Autonomous Migration, Transnational Communities, and the State" *Social Justice* 23 (3) (1996): 21-37 ®; Arturo Santamaria Gomez, "Politics without Borders or Postmodern Nationality: Mexican Immigration to the United States," *Latin American Perspectives* 30 (2) (2003): 66-86 (NET).